

Since 1986, the Nebraska Department of Aeronautics has participated in the sponsorship of an annual Aviation Art Contest for the benefit of youth.

The program goal is to motivate and encourage young people to become more familiar with and participate in aeronautics, engineering and science.

The 2011 theme is “50 Years of Human Space Flight”. One hundred years ago, great-great-grandparents read about traveling through space in science fiction books. Fifty years ago, grandparents listened to the radio or watched on television when the first human orbited the earth.

Today a small crew of astronauts can be seen from around the world share living and research quarters at the International Space Station. The public may know a future astronaut who will see things no human being has ever seen before; or a future tourist who will take vacations into space, leaving a spaceport just as today’s families take vacations that start by going to the airport or train station.

This is an opportunity for youth to grab their favorite artist’s tools and create an image that celebrates 50 years of human flight.

Entries for the contest need to be submitted to the Department of Aeronautics and postmarked by January 14, 2011. An awards ceremony will be held during April 2011, recognizing the winning students for their accomplishments.

The winning art will be displayed for everyone to enjoy as well as an aircraft static display and refreshments. For more information and an entry brochure contact David Morris at 402-471-2371 or e-mail David.Morris@nebraska.gov