

Piedmont Airlines To Significantly Enhance NGPA Sponsorship in 2018

World's Largest LGBT Aviation Organization Welcomes First Diamond-Level Regional Airline Sponsor

WASHINGTON ([PRWEB](#)) January 16, 2018 -- Today, the National Gay Pilots Association (NGPA) announced that Piedmont Airlines will expand their 2018 sponsorship commitment, becoming the Association's first regional airline in the Diamond-level category.

As part of the agreement, Piedmont Airlines will be NGPA's official 2018 Pride Sponsor and will also participate in the Association's flagship west coast events, the Palm Springs Winter Warm-Up and Industry Expo presented by United Airlines, which will be held in February.

"Piedmont's increased level of commitment is providing many new opportunities for strength and growth at the NGPA," said President David Pettet. "Their dedication to diversity and inclusion is evident by their continued support of the NGPA and we are happy to recognize them as the first regional airline to join at the Diamond level. Providing a safe and inclusive environment for LGBT employees is at the forefront of Piedmont's values and this change makes that mission clear."

"Piedmont, and our parent company American Airlines, believe that our workforce should reflect the culture and diversity of the customers and communities we serve," said Lyle Hogg, president and CEO of Piedmont Airlines. "Piedmont is proud to sponsor the NGPA at the Diamond level, but more important, proud to work with an organization that promotes inclusion, equality and safety within the aviation community."

In the last few years, the NGPA has received more support from airlines, aviation organizations, and members than ever before in its 28-year history. Since its founding in 1990, donations have supported programs and scholarships to further LGBT equality within the aviation community, including education and careers in aviation. This year, the NGPA is pleased to announce that over \$100,000 in scholarships will be awarded.

Current sponsors include several airlines, aviation corporations, and flight institutions that provide year round support of the NGPA's mission. The association expanded globally in 2017, and now supports the LGBT aviation community in more than 14 countries and growing.

About the NGPA

Founded in 1990 in Washington D.C., the National Gay Pilots Association (NGPA) is an organization of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) pilots and other aviation enthusiasts from around the world. Through education, outreach programs, and social events the organization encourages members of the LGBT community to begin piloting careers; fosters equal treatment of LGBT aviators through advocacy and outreach; promotes aviation safety, and provides an affirming social and professional network for LGBT aviators. Follow the NGPA on Facebook and Twitter. More information is available via the association's website, www.ngpa.org.

About Piedmont

Piedmont Airlines, Inc. is a wholly owned subsidiary of the American Airlines Group (AAG).



Piedmont traces its roots to 1931 and a small company called Henson Flying Service, a fixed-base operator based in Hagerstown, Maryland. Today, Piedmont operates nearly 400 daily departures to 55+ cities throughout the eastern United States with a fleet of Embraer 145 regional jets and deHavilland DHC-8 turbo prop aircraft. Piedmont's award winning ground handling team works in nearly 80 airport locations from coast to coast.

Piedmont corporate headquarters can be found in beautiful Salisbury, Maryland between the Atlantic Ocean and the Chesapeake Bay. Piedmont employs more than 7,000 aviation professionals who share common goals of safety, excellence and superior customer service.

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