

June 30, 2025

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

St. Louis Regional Airport host of Air Race Classic in 2026

East Alton, IL – St. Louis Regional Airport was selected by Air Race Classic, Inc. to host the 49th Annual Air Race Classic Start event in June 2026. Occurring annually, the Air Race Classic is an all-female piloted aviation race which provides upwards of 60 teams from around the country the opportunity to fly a pre-determined route over a four-day period. Competitors are judged on their cross-country flying skills as they visit ten different airports enroute to the Terminus. Averaging around 100 participants each year, teams consist of two to three pilots flying in single engine, general aviation aircrafts. As a result, this event brings an estimated direct economic benefit of \$180,000.

Directed by all volunteers, the Air Race Classic, Inc. is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization dedicated to: encouraging and education current and future women pilots; increasing public awareness of general aviation; demonstrating women's roles in aviation; preserving and promoting the tradition of pioneering women in aviation.

As the host and Start airport for the event, race officials and participants will descend upon St. Louis Regional Airport and the surrounding communities for several days of pre-race preparations which include detailed event briefings, aircraft safety inspections, and celebratory gatherings all leading to the take-off event on the morning of Tuesday, June 23, 2026. Look for future information to be shared on public viewing opportunities during the take-off event.

Sponsorships are available for promotion during the event. Any media wishing to cover the Air Race Classic at St. Louis Regional Airport are encouraged to contact Danny Adams (dadams@stlouisregional.com) or 618-259-2531.

For more information about Air Race Classic Inc. or the Air Race Classic event, visit www.airraceclassic.org

About St. Louis Regional Airport:

The St. Louis Regional Airport (ALN), classified as an FAA Reliever Airport, provides more than 1,500 jobs with an annual economic impact of \$480 million. With two runways capable of handling a variety of aircrafts, the Airport serves a diverse clientele from private aviators to Fortune 500 companies, and regional aircraft maintenance, repair, and overhaul customers. For more information, visit www.stlouisregional.com or follow on Facebook: St. Louis Regional Airport.

