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June 12, 2020

I am writing to express my support for the International Women's Air and Space Museum (IWASM). As a historian, I know firsthand about the value of collections such as those held by the IWASM.

I recently sought the staff's assistance with a research project pertaining to aviator Harriet Quimby, a Michigan native and the first woman in the United States to earn a pilot's license. Quimby was a true "New Woman" of the early 20th century who traveled the world as a feature writer for *Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*, wrote motion picture screenplays (and appeared in one movie), drove her own automobile, and was the first woman to fly the English Channel.

Sources from the IWASM helped me write a short article for *Michigan History* magazine, a publication with about 19,000 subscribers and 100,000 readers. I also used the information in creating a PowerPoint program about Quimby that I have presented at the Historical Society of Michigan's conferences and lecture series and to other groups around the state. I am indebted to the IWASM for helping keep the story of this remarkable woman alive.

Sincerely,

Robert C. Myers
Director of Education