



Emily Sims/WDN

The Thomas Stafford Air and Space Museum Co-Director Lynne Thurman, with the RedBud Award, Katie Yeager, museum coordinator and Co-Director Chuck Dougherty show off their most popular attraction, the computer flight simulator room.

Stafford wins tourism award

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For the past six months Stafford Air and Space Museum Co-Directors Lynne Thurman and Chuck Dougherty have watched their guests zip through the skies and engage in air combat “dog fights” in the museum’s new flight simulation exhibit.

Thurman and Dougherty said the exhibit quickly became the most popular attraction at the museum and they noticed more and more visitors were coming in to experience the flight simulator for themselves.

On Monday they learned the new exhibit has not gone unnoticed – the museum’s flight simulation expansion received a RedBud Award for Outstanding New Attraction.

Entries for the RedBud Award are evaluated by out-of-state judges based on criteria including customer service, marketing effectiveness, media relations, variety of audiences reached, value, and overall creativity.

The Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department partners with the Oklahoma Travel Industry Association to present the annual RedBud Awards.

“We were so excited about receiving the award,” Thurman said. “It’s really an honor to be considered for something like this, and of course, we hope this will compel others to come to the museum and see the flight simulator as well as everything else we have to offer.”