

Behind the Scenes Tour of DIA
January 9, 2016

Today I received a behind the scenes tour of DIA. Although I have been there many times, I never realized just how cool and amazing it was. I saw so many things! For starters, Scott and Cameron set this whole thing up for us. They are awesome!

First, we went to Fire Station 31. Their firetrucks were beyond imaginable. Then we went to see Ben Massey, who, the day before, caught a great horned owl. He was able to keep it for us to see. Wow! Ben Massey is one of people who gets to control all of the wildlife within the airport area. That's a lot of responsibility! We learned from experience that the wildlife controllers have special fireworks that can scare away birds and wildlife. These keep them from harm. The controllers let us check out the airport from the top of the control tower. That was unbelievable!!! Desmond took us out to a runway and we could see a plane taking off. Literally just 100 yards away from us. That was thrilling. Heather, Kristin and Chris are airside operations and they also made this tour awesome. DJ was our bus driver and there is no way we could have gotten where we needed to go without him. We put fifty miles on the bus that day. That just tells you how big this place is. They even have more land so that they can expand this airport. By the year 2050, DIA plans to build six more runways. Cool!

I love aviation and astronomy so this was really an opportunity of a lifetime. I am going to keep working hard, studying hard, playing sports and volunteering, so that I can be an engineer and possibly help design these things someday.

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