

## Welcome to NewsFLLash Issue #42

In this edition: More routes on tap for the new year, United's Fantasy Flight takes off, fiber artwork debuts in Terminal 2, FLL welcomes Porter Airlines, and more.



### **Mark E. Gale**

CEO/Director of  
Aviation  
Fort Lauderdale-  
Hollywood International  
Airport (FLL)

## A Message From the CEO

Dear Friends,

Welcome to NewsFLLash No. 42, the fifth-anniversary edition of our airport's official monthly newsletter. We hope you had a wonderful holiday season, and the Broward County Aviation Department (BCAD) looks forward to staying connected with you through this newsletter in 2024.

Over the 17-day Christmas/New Year's Day holiday season running Thursday, December 21 through Saturday, January 6, FLL expects to serve just over 2.01 million passengers throughout its facility. Yes, we were a very busy place! The year-end holiday passenger forecast reflects a 14% uptick versus the same 2022 period. For 2023 overall, FLL anticipates total passenger traffic to reach 35 million. When combined with employees and meeters/greeters, over 100,000 people traversed our terminals daily.

As we ring in a new year, it is appropriate to reflect on some significant accomplishments of the past year. The BCAD team and its airport partners did stellar work during 2023, and here are some noteworthy highlights:

- FLL welcomed three new international airlines: [BermudAir](#), [EL AL](#), and [Porter](#)
- We broke ground on our new [Terminal 5](#) project, slated to open in mid-2026
- Concession partners opened seven new retail and dining options, including the first Bonefish Grill restaurant to land in a U.S. airport; The Market on Las Olas, the first retail store in a Florida airport to debut Amazon's checkout-free technology; and the first dual-branded MAC Cosmetics and Jo Malone London shop in the U.S.
- Showcased FLL's 10th "I Bet You Didn't Know" Employee Art Exhibition
- New Public Art exhibits opened in Terminal 2, along with a first-time gallery in Terminal 1, Concourse C

For 2024, FLL is poised for more growth in passenger activity with the arrival of additional air service, including [year-round nonstop flights to Tel Aviv, Israel, via EL AL](#). More dining options are also in the pipeline, such as a food court in Terminal 3's Concourse E. So, stay tuned for more exciting airport news in the new year.

From our family to yours, best wishes for a safe, happy, and healthy 2024!

*Mark*

## In This Issue:

- A Message From the CEO
- New Year, More Routes
- North Pole VIPs
- New T2 Art Exhibit Opens
- Holiday Thanks to Volunteers
- Consul General Pays Visit
- United Hosts Fantasy Flight
- 3rd Menorah Lighting Ceremony
- Traveling With a Firearm?
- Spreading Holiday Cheer
- 6th Miramar Aviation Expo
- Porter Takes Off
- Stay Connected

[FLL.net](#)

[Contact Us](#)

[Subscribe Now](#)



Photo Credit: Andre Chambers

## New Year, More Routes

### More U.S. and overseas flights set for 2024

FLL is ringing in the new year with some new air service. On January 4, [JetBlue](#) will begin nonstop jet service with a daily flight between FLL and Tallahassee International Airport.

Also, in the near future, passengers can fly with [Spirit](#) from FLL to Tulum, Mexico, starting on March 28. Meanwhile, on May 27, [Allegiant](#) will begin service between FLL and Cherry Capital Airport in Traverse City, Mich.



## North Pole VIPs

### Airport hosts merry visitors

Santa and Mrs. Claus stopped by FLL with some of their helpers from the North Pole on December 19-20 to spend time with passengers traveling for the holidays. Mr. and Mrs. Claus know traveling during this busy time of year can be stressful, so they helped spread some holiday cheer before heading out to complete their special deliveries in time for Christmas Day.



## New T2 Art Exhibit Opens

### Fiber artist featured

A [new art exhibition](#) launched on December 20 in the Terminal 2 Art Gallery located post-security in Concourse D. Miami-based fiber artist [Evelyn Politzer](#)'s *Felt Dreamscapes* depicts South Florida's landscapes and seascapes in a way that mimics the visuals one sees before falling asleep. Politzer uses yarn, thread, and fabric to communicate this perception in her artwork. *Felt Dreamscapes* is on view until June. The Terminal 2 Art Gallery exhibits rotate every six months.



## Holiday Thanks to Volunteers

### Showing our appreciation

On December 18, FLL held its annual volunteers' holiday lunch appreciation at Boatyard Restaurant in Fort Lauderdale. Several members of the [Airport Ambassadors](#), ADA Access Committee, and [FLL AmbassaDogs](#) volunteer programs and their guests were in attendance.

FLL CEO/Director of Aviation Mark Gale was the keynote speaker and expressed his gratitude to all the airport volunteers who help make FLL special every day.



## Consul General Pays Visit

### Key airport updates

On December 15, Canada's Consul General in Miami, [Sylvia Cesaratto](#), visited FLL and met with CEO/Aviation Director Mark Gale for an airport update. FLL currently has five airlines serving Canada with year-round or seasonal service. Overall, South Florida enjoys strong tourism, business, and trade connections with Canada. Currently, Canada ranks as the airport's No. 1 international market with Toronto and Montreal in its top 10 international cities served.





## United Hosts Fantasy Flight

### Wheels up to the 'North Pole'

United Airlines hosted its first Fantasy Flight at FLL on December 12 in partnership with BCAD and other sponsors. Dozens of children and their families from Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital and Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center boarded a United Boeing 737 aircraft for a short flight to a South Florida-style 'North Pole' destination at nearby [Jetscape](#). Upon arrival to the hangar, fully transformed into a winter wonderland, the children were greeted by Santa Claus, elves, superheroes, and Miami Dolphins players and cheerleaders. Each child received a gift and enjoyed games and holiday treats.



## Third Menorah Lighting Ceremony

### Unity shines bright

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Menorah Lighting and Chanukah Celebration took place at FLL pre-security in Terminal 3 on December 10. In partnership with the [Chabad of Dania Beach](#), members of their community, as well as airport guests and employees, joined in on the festivities to celebrate the Chanukah holiday. The program included remarks from FLL CEO/Director of Aviation Mark Gale and Broward County Mayor Nan Rich, followed by the lighting of the menorah led by Rabbi Eli Eckstein. Broward Commissioner Michael Udine also attended the ceremony.



## Traveling with a Firearm?

### Tips to travel with guns the right way

On December 8, the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) invited local media to FLL to help educate travelers on how to properly pack a licensed firearm for travel. BCAD Assistant Director of Security Lowell Dimoff reminded everyone of FLL's "Pack the Fun, Not the Gun" campaign and shared its importance. TSA Federal Security Director for FLL Jason Martin and Broward County Sheriff's Office Sgt. Toni Hopkins also shared remarks. Afterward, Mark Howell, a TSA Public Affairs regional spokesperson gave a full demonstration and answered questions.



## Spreading Holiday Cheer

### Local students perform at airport

The 35<sup>th</sup> Winter Festival of Music was held December 4-8 from 9AM to Noon. More than 630 students from 14 Broward County public elementary, middle, and high schools participated in the annual FLL holiday tradition. The festivities included performances from bands, choirs, dancers, and even carolers who filled the terminals with holiday spirit.



## Sixth Miramar Aviation Expo

### Fun for the whole family

BCAD participated in the City of Miramar's 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Aviation Expo on December 2 at the Miramar Regional Park Amphitheater. Attendees participated in numerous aviation-related activities while learning about careers in the industry. BCAD's booth also provided guests with updates about FLL and North Perry Airport.



## Porter Takes Off

### FLL adds new Canadian carrier

Porter Airlines celebrated its inaugural flight with a ceremony at FLL on November 30. FLL CEO/Director of Aviation Mark Gale and Broward County Commissioner Michael Udine gave remarks and thanked the airline for their partnership. Later, a water salute was provided to welcome the aircraft. Porter also held a raffle post-security for a free trip to one of their destinations for two lucky travelers. At FLL, passengers can now fly nonstop with Porter to Toronto and Ottawa.



## Stay Connected

### Subscribe to NewsFLLash

In each issue of NewsFLLash, our goal is to share the latest news on airport developments, improvements, and key employee accomplishments in a mobile-friendly, easy-to-read format. We encourage you to sign up for NewsFLLash and stay connected. We know you'll enjoy it.

[Subscribe Now](#)



Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport | 100 Terminal Dr., Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33315