

## **Maryland Aviation Administration Named to USO-Metro's Circle of Stars**

### **BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport Honored for Support of USO**

The USO of Metropolitan Washington-Baltimore (USO-Metro) has named the Maryland Aviation Administration (MAA) to its 2015 Circle of Stars. USO-Metro established its Circle of Stars program to recognize outstanding businesses and organizations that support the USO's important programs, events, and services.

“The USO does incredible work on behalf of our service members and military families, and we are honored to host the USO International Gateway Lounge here at BWI Marshall,” said Ricky Smith, Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer of the Maryland Aviation Administration. “We are very grateful for this Circle of Stars recognition. The entire airport community has supported the USO and its mission for many years.”

The MAA is a long-time partner and supporter of USO-Metro. The USO International Gateway Lounge at BWI Marshall was first opened in 1999. The 5,000 square-foot USO International Gateway Lounge is among the busiest USO facilities around the globe, serving thousands of military service members and families each year. The MAA spent \$1.1 million to design, build, and furnish the lounge at BWI Marshall. The MAA has worked over the years to help update the USO International Gateway Lounge to provide a comfortable environment for traveling military service members.

USO-Metro recognized the MAA at the Four-Star level in the Circle of Stars—reserved for the most-elite, generous supporters.

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