

Sabrina Gonzalez Pasterski was born June 3, 1993 and is a freshman at M.I.T. She has been flying out of KPWK since February of 2003. Her Chicago Public School essay, "On My Way to Mars," caught the FAA's attention in 2005 and resulted in her first PIC time at age 12, in FAA1 no less.

The New England Regional Administrator encouraged Sabrina to build an experimental aircraft during Air Venture 2005 and Sabrina began construction of a Zenith 601XL standard kit in March of 2006.

On June 3, 2007, Sabrina soloed in her Cessna 150L in Sarnia, Ontario. Because she soloed more than 12 hours before her birth hour, Transport Canada officials deemed her the youngest U.S. born person to solo in Canada—at 'age 13 turning 14.'

Sabrina appeared on WTTW's Chicago Tonight in August of 2007 and completed her aircraft on weekends while attending IMSA. She presented the airplane to her dad for his 46th birthday present on October 6, 2007.

By January 11, 2008, Sabrina had certified her aircraft as airworthy and a team of FAA MISO inspectors agreed. It flew on January 15, 2008. Sabrina would conduct her first U.S. solo in that same aircraft on August 24, 2009. Between the time she started the kit and her first U.S. solo, no less than 10 souls had perished during in flight breakups of the kit.

Sabrina has just completed designing, building and installing (with a lot of expert help) struts to compensate for the under-design the FAA found when reviewing the kit designers numbers for the 601XL main spar.

Sabrina was recently featured on the front page of the May 2nd Chicago Tribune with the caption "Top of the World." Sabrina is the 2010 recipient of the IATA Industry Achievement Award. Sabrina will continue her study of Aerospace and Physics at M.I.T.