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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Youth on the Air Americas to Expand Camp Programs
ARDC grant will fund annual summer camps in 2023, 2024, and 2025.

April 19, 2023—Youngsters on the Air (YOTA) was founded in 2011 by a small group of young radio amateurs in IARU Region 1. Together, they created the world's first YOTA camp, which was nothing more than a few friends getting together for a weekend to play ham radio. This effort got the attention of IARU Region 1, and shortly thereafter, YOTA became an officially supported advocacy organization for youth in amateur radio.

This idea has now spread to the Americas, where Youth on the Air Americas began conducting camps for and by young hams in 2020.

A $125,000 grant from Amateur Radio Digital Communications (ARDC) will fund YOTA Americas summer camps through 2025. In addition, the grant will allow the group to increase the number of campers from 30 to 50 in 2024 and 2025.

The 2023 camp will take place in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada from July 16-21, 2023. For more information, and to apply for the camp, go to https://youthontheair.org/ottawa2023/.

About YOTA Americas

Youth on the Air Americas is a program for and by young amateur radio operators in the Americas, closely modeled after the Youngsters on the Air program in IARU Region 1 (Europe, Africa & Middle East). The goal of the program is to build skills and foster lasting friendships with younger hams. For more information on YOTA Americas, go to https://youthontheair.org.

About ARDC

Amateur Radio Digital Communications (ARDC) is a California-based foundation with roots in amateur radio and the technology of internet communication. The organization got its start by managing the AMPRNet address space, which is reserved for licensed amateur radio operators worldwide. Additionally, ARDC makes grants to projects and organizations that follow amateur radio's practice and tradition of technical experimentation in both amateur radio and digital communication science. Such experimentation has led to advances that benefit the general public, including the mobile phone and wireless internet technology. ARDC envisions a world where all such technology is available through open source hardware and software, and where anyone has the ability to innovate upon it. To learn more about ARDC, go to https://www.ardc.net.

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