



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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**Contact: Jennifer Lacy
405-285-8404
jlacy@mindseyeads.com**

STAR SPANGLED SALUTE AND AIR SHOW – A COMMUNITY EVENT HONORING AMERICA’S SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN

MIDWEST CITY, Okla. _ Daredevil aerobatics, historic recreations and breathtaking displays of speed will be on display Saturday, May 24, for the 2008 Star Spangled Salute Air Show at Tinker Air Force Base.

Aerospace America is proud to partner with Team Tinker AFB and Eastern Oklahoma County Tourism Council to present the all-day, family friendly event, which is free and open to the public. Gates open at 9 a.m.

Young and old alike will be amazed by the legendary U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds Demonstration Team. The Thunderbirds will be joined by the breathtaking speed of the Air Force Jet Car as it reaches 400 mph in about 8.5 seconds. Another must-see act is “Tora, Tora, Tora,” the Air Force’s commemorative recreation of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. Described as a living history lesson, the act is intended as a memorial to all the soldiers on both sides who gave their lives for their countries. From the Red Eagle dual bi-plane stunt team to the Air Force Cadet Jump Team, this show will provide plenty of great photo opportunities. Another photo highlight will be Miss America 2007 Lauren Nelson, who will pose for pictures with the P-51 “Miss America Mustang” before it takes flight.

Create. Educate. Recreate. Always a festival favorite, a special children’s area will feature arts and crafts, a variety of games and the always-popular inflatables.

Do you know how fast an F-16 Fighting Falcon can fly? Find out with a tour of the static displays at this year’s show. Not only will these displays be accompanied by interesting fast facts, many will offer a true hands-on experience as you take a tour inside these awesome aircraft.

As the day winds down, a brand-new event – “Twilight on the Tarmac” – will feature the world-renowned Tops in Blue, a touring ensemble composed of active duty Air Force members and one of the most widely traveled entertainment groups of its kind. In addition to this power force group, there will be early evening flying and amazing technical stunts as both military and war bird planes demonstrate the power of military might, strafing runs and bombing pyrotechnics.

Other performers include:

Randy Ball - MIG
The Flying Babe
Hilterman
Team Tinker E-3, E-6, KC-135
American DC-3
B-52 Yellow Rose
P-47
P-51 Miss America
F4U Corsair
F-4 Phantom
F-15 Eagle
FA-18 Super Hornet
CV-22 Osprey
L-39C Albatross
AD-5 Skyraider
C-17
HH-60
T-1/T-6/T-37/T-38

The schedule for the 2008 Star Spangled Salute:

9 a.m.: Gates open to the public (children's activities, ground demonstrations, Air Force Honor Guard performances, static displays, vendors and exhibits)

Noon: Aerial demonstrations begin

4:30 p.m.: "Twilight on the Tarmac"

7 p.m.: Tops in Blue

9 p.m.: Star Spangled Salute ends

Public access to the air show is through the Lancer Gate and designated gates off Douglas Boulevard. There is very limited free parking on base, so visitors are encouraged to arrive early. Overflow parking is available at the General Motors facility off I-240 exits Sooner Road or Douglas Boulevard. A free shuttle is offered from the GM plant parking and provides the least amount of walking. Tinker officials encourage the public to arrive early and bring blankets and lawn chairs as seating is extremely limited. People should also remember to wear sun screen and hats to protect against sun burn. Spectators may also want to consider bringing personal earplugs to protect against some of the louder aircraft demonstrations. Coolers or ice chests **will not** be allowed onto the midway area and smoking near or around the aircraft is prohibited. Absolutely no weapons (including toy weapons) of any kind are allowed on base and will be confiscated.

For more information about the Star Spangled Salute, please visit the official websites www.aerospaceokc.com or www.starspangledsalute.com.

Aerospace America is a not-for-profit 501 (c) all-volunteer organization. All donations are tax deductible.