

SOARING ON IN THE ORACLE CHALLENGER III

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PHOTO BY Mike Killian

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**FASTEN YOUR SEAT BELTS
AND HOLD ON TIGHT. IT'S TIME
FOR SOME HEART-CHARGING,
HIGH-PERFORMANCE POWER
AEROBATICS FROM THE LEGEND
HIMSELF, MR. SEAN D. TUCKER.
THE 2018 TEAM ORACLE AIR SHOW
SEASON IS UNDERWAY, FILLED
WITH AWE-INSPIRING MOMENTS,
THRILLS AND ADRENALINE.**

This season marks Tucker's last as a solo performer with exciting plans in store for a performance team. If you haven't had the opportunity to interview Tucker or better yet, **experience flight** with Team Oracle, **this is the year.**

Contact Suzanne Herrick at 612-247-3079 or suzanne@fedorukinc.com for times and options.



PHOTO BY
Peter Tsai

SOARING WITH **THE DREAM MACHINE**

- More than half of Tucker's **power aerobatic maneuvers are unique** making Tucker's performance an unforgettable, awe-inspiring experience.
- During the 13-minute Sky Dance performance, Tucker will pull more than **nine positive g-forces** and more than **seven negative g-forces**.
- The Sky Dance begins with a breathtaking **three-quarter loop** with **eight to 10 snap rolls** in which Tucker reaches speeds up to **280 miles** per hour at more than **400 degrees** per second and **six positive g-forces**.
- Tucker is the **world's only pilot to perform the Triple Ribbon Cut** in which he flies just 20 feet above the ground, cutting ribbons on poles placed a mere 750 feet apart.

AIR SHOWS AND TRAINING

- He has flown more than **1,300 performances** at upwards of **540 air shows** in front of over **145 million fans**. He has been thrilling air show fans since 1976.
- Tucker practices his air show routine as many as **three times every day** during the air show season.
- To endure the extreme physical demands of the performance and remain g-tolerant, Tucker maintains a **rigorous physical training schedule**, working out more than 340 days per year.
- Tucker has summited **four of the legendary Seven Summits**: Mt. Kilimanjaro in Africa twice (2012 and 2013); Mt. Aconcagua in Argentina in 2014; Mt. Elbrus in Russia in 2014; and, Puncak Jaya (Carstensz Pyramid) in Indonesia in 2016.



FAST FACTS





PHOTO BY
Peter Tsai

BIO

SEAN D. TUCKER IS MORE THAN A REMARKABLE AVIATOR AND INDUSTRY LEADING AEROBATIC PILOT.

He's celebrated by his peers, adored by his fans and recognized as a legend. He is advancing flight safety, inspiring countless pilots and making millions stand in astonishment with his awe-inspiring, one-of-a-kind power aerobatic performances.

LEGENDARY AVIATOR, INSPIRING THE NEXT GENERATION

"I've been given a lot of gifts in my life – being able to live a dream and be successful at it," says Tucker. "It's my time to pay back and I really enjoy paying it back."

Tucker has been called the "Ambassador of Aerobatics" by the National Aviation Hall of Fame in which he was enshrined in 2008. In 2003 Tucker was selected as one of 25 Living Legends of Flight by the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum.

Among many industry honors, he is a recipient of both the Crystal Eagle Award and the General Charles E. Yeager International Aeronautical Achievement Award. In 2017, Tucker was awarded the R.A. "Bob" Hoover Trophy for exhibiting the kind of airmanship, leadership and passion for aviation exhibited by Bob Hoover during his long and distinguished aviation career. It was Hoover himself who nominated Tucker before Hoover's passing in 2016.

Tucker is the co-founder and president of the California-based non-profit, the Bob Hoover Academy. The Academy facilitates transformative life experiences in education and aviation. It creates opportunities for at-risk and underserved teens to get engaged in STEM education. The program uses aviation as a metaphor for the deeper mission: to capture students' minds, to focus their energies and to cultivate success in the classroom and in life.

In 2013, the Experimental Aircraft Association named Tucker as the chairman of EAA Young Eagles, aviation's flagship program to introduce children to flight. Tucker has assumed the responsibility with great fervor, engaging kids in aviation and recognizing the more than 50,000 volunteer pilots who have flown millions of Young Eagles since the program began.

In 1997 Tucker established the Tutima Academy of Aviation Safety with the goal of setting the highest standard for aviation safety training. Through the use of cutting-edge courses utilizing aerobatics and ground-breaking academics, his academy's world-class instructors help pilots of all experience levels increase their confidence, improve their skills and exceed their goals. Whether it be a brand new pilot or an entire corporate flight department, the academy is dedicated to increasing safety and awareness while providing the most professional and fun training available.



ENGAGING INTERVIEWS, DYNAMIC MEDIA PRESENCE

Tucker's enthusiasm for aviation is apparent during media interviews. He is an **articulate, authentic and high-energy resource** for print, broadcast and online interviews. He has been tapped for his expertise by CNN, The Weather Channel, The Discovery Channel, *The Oprah Winfrey Show*, countless local news programs, dozens of aviation magazines and newspapers.

ADVENTURER, MENTOR AND PATRIOT

Whether climbing one of the Seven Summits, heli-skiing, cave SCUBA diving or flying his one-of-a-kind dream machine, Tucker's list of accomplishments would fill pages. To start, Tucker has summited four of the legendary Seven Summits. When not flying, climbing, diving or skiing Tucker is **actively involved in his hometown and aviation communities**.

He is extremely passionate about every aspect of the Team Oracle program. His self-proclaimed goal is to "share the magic of flight with air show and Team Oracle's guests by inspiring and thrilling them. I want them to go away saying that the airshow was one of the most engaging days of their lives." His enthusiasm is contagious. It's evident in the way he undertakes any challenge – with gusto and fervor.

Tucker is a **patriotic American who often expresses his gratitude for the men and women who serve this country**. His signature closing statement during air shows and conversations is "God Bless America."

Tucker resides in Salinas, Calif., with his wife Colleen. His son Eric Tucker and daughter Tara Tucker Hess are also active in the aviation community.

Sean D. Tucker is **presented by Oracle**. With more than 420,000 customers and deployments in more than 145 countries, Oracle offers a comprehensive and fully integrated stack of cloud applications, platform services and engineered systems. More at www.Oracle.com.



ACCOLADES AND HONORS

**Honorary Thunderbird,
Blue Angel, Canadian
Snowbird, Brazilian Smoke
Squadron and Golden Knight**

2017: R. A. "Bob"
Hoover Trophy

2017: The Ninety-Nines
Award of Merit

2017: The Aerospace
Museum of California Bob
Hoover Dreams Take Flight Award

2017: Planes of Fame Museum Achievement in Aviation Award

2016: Lloyd P. Nolen Lifetime Achievement in Aviation Award

2015: International Aerobatics Hall of Fame

2014: Wings Over the Rockies, Spreading Wings Award

2013: President and Founder of the Bob Hoover Academy (formerly Every Kid Can Fly)

2013: Named International Chairman of EAA Young Eagles

2011: Living Legends of Aviation, Aviation Inspiration & Patriotism Award

2010: General Charles E. Yeager International Aeronautical Achievements Award

2010: EAA's Freedom of Flight Award

2009: International Aviation Air and Space Hall of Fame Inductee

2008: National Aviation Hall of Fame Inductee

2007: Living Legend in Aviation Award

2007: International Council of Airshows Hall of Fame Inductee

2006: National Aeronautics Association Crystal Eagle Award

2003: Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum, 25 Living Legends of Flight

2001: USAF Gathering of Eagles Inductee

2000: World Airshow Federation Champion

2000: International Council of Airshows Sword of Excellence

1998–2001: Undefeated Champion of the Championship
Airshow Pilots Association Challenge

1992: The Art Scholl Memorial Showmanship Award

1992: The Bill Barber Award for Airshow Showmanship

1988: U.S. National Advanced Aerobatic Champion



TAKING AUDIENCES TO THE EDGES OF THEIR SEATS AND LIMITS OF THEIR IMAGINATIONS,

Sean D. Tucker and Oracle Challenger III race across the sky, captivating millions of airshow fans each year. More than half of Tucker's aerobatic maneuvers are unique making Tucker's performance an unforgettable, awe-inspiring experience.

For a thrilling 13 minutes Tucker expertly performs one-of-a-kind and precision maneuvers with intriguing names such as **Centrifuge**, **Double Hammerhead**, **Alley Oop**, **Forward Flip**, **Harrier Pass** and the **Triple Ribbon Cut**. Sometimes flying backwards – straight down, tail first – other times catapulting across the skies then descending in a controlled “tumble,” the Sky Dance performance is among the **best in the world**.

The Sky Dance begins with a breathtaking three-quarter loop with **eight to 10 snap rolls** in which Tucker reaches speeds up to **280 miles per hour** at more than **400 degrees per second** and six positive g-forces. Then, after every boundary of flight seems to have been pushed, Tucker and the Oracle Challenger III perform the Triple Ribbon Cut just 20 feet above the ground with ribbon poles placed a mere 750 feet apart. Tucker is the **world's only pilot to perform the Triple Ribbon Cut**.



ORACLE



PHOTO BY
Dennis Biela

THE SKY DANCE

“Flying in the Oracle Challenger III has this magical ability to get us to ponder what’s possible. With the Sky Dance performance, I hope to inspire others to challenge what they think is possible in their own lives.”

– Sean D. Tucker

SIGNATURE MANEUVERS

With decades of experience, constant training and the custom-built Oracle Challenger III, Tucker is able to perform aerobatic maneuvers that seem impossible:

ALLEY OOP: Imagine an inside loop in which the airplane canopy is always facing the interior of the circle. Now, make it smaller and you have the Alley Oop – it is the smallest in the industry.

THE CENTRIFUGE: At speeds up to 230 miles per hour, Tucker dances Oracle Challenger III in eight to 10, controlled, nose-over-tail tumbles while withstanding at least negative seven g-forces.

DOUBLE HAMMERHEAD: Beginning with the airplane in a vertical climb, then appearing to “sit” in the air with the nose up, Tucker then rudders Oracle Challenger III over not just once, but twice. This maneuver is often referred to as a “wing over.”

FORWARD FLIP: As if doing a nose-over-tail cartwheel, Tucker maneuvers Oracle Challenger III into a forward flip.

THE HARRIER PASS: Tucker duplicates the awesome power and capabilities demonstrated by the U.S. Marine Corps AV-8B Harrier. While using only 70% of his available horsepower, Tucker brings the Oracle Challenger III to a perfect hover at show center with the wings generating virtually zero lift and the aircraft appearing to stand on its tail. He rapidly uses all of the flight controls to maintain this precision balancing act.

TRIPLE RIBBON CUT: With audience help, Tucker races Oracle Challenger III through three sets of ribbons just 20 feet off the ground. Audience members gleefully volunteer to hold the poles 75 feet apart across the show runway. Tucker decelerates to 210 miles per hour, just 20 feet above the runway and rolls the airplane into right knife-edge flight cutting the first ribbon. Then, he immediately maneuvers 180 degrees left, knife-edge and cuts the second ribbon. Finally, Tucker inverts the airplane and cuts the third ribbon. It is truly a unique experience to behold.

"I LIKE TO THINK THAT I BRING THE FANS' DREAMS OF FLYING INTO THE PLACE WITH ME. AND, THERE'S NOWHERE I'D RATHER BE THAN IN THE COCKPIT." – SEAN D. TUCKER

Those dreams come true in one legendary machine. Sean D. Tucker's striking red and white Oracle Challenger III is one of the **most recognizable aerobatic airplanes** in the sky. It is a **high-performance biplane**, capable of precision maneuvers, boldly commanding respect as it takes to the sky. In the Oracle Challenger III, Tucker pulls up to **nine heart-charging positive g-forces** and thrills millions of fans each year.



ORACLE CHALLENGER III: **SOARING WITH THE SKYDANCE DREAM MACHINE**



The custom-built airplane utilizes the latest technology from aerobatics, drag racing and sailing, along with five different aircraft so Tucker can turn aerobatic flying into art.

- A revolutionary set of wings on the Oracle Challenger III features **eight ailerons instead of four**, allowing Tucker to make precise aerobatic movements.
- It features a **400+ horsepower**, custom-built Lycoming AEIO-540 engine that turns a composite Hartzell three-blade propeller.
- The engine features aluminum, **drag racing pistons**, a cold-air induction system and state-of-the art fuel injection. It is **inspected and rebuilt** after roughly 400 hours of flying to maintain peak engine performance.
- **'The Claw' propeller** is the only certified advanced composite propeller available for aerobatic use. It is made of a **unique combination of carbon fiber and Kevlar™**, with an **electroformed nickel leading edge erosion shield**. It is co-molded on an integral stainless steel shank that accommodates **bolt-on counterweights** needed for aerobatic performances.
- It is a tube and fabric airplane, consisting of a steel frame and special fabric skin from the cockpit back to the tail. The vertical fin is covered in carbon graphite.
- The **rudder alone has more than five square feet** of surface area.
- The aircraft weighs just over 1,200 pounds and can **reach a top speed of 300 miles per hour**.
- The cockpit features a **custom instrument layout** including: an airspeed indicator, altimeter, two-way radio, Electronics International MVP-50 engine analyzer and systems monitor, and a moving map GPS for ferrying the aircraft.
- A custom **Oregon Aero seat** provides added comfort.
- The Oracle Challenger III undergoes **regular inspection** by Airframe & Powerplant (A&P) / Inspection Authorization and A&P **certified specialists** who travel with the airplane as part of Team Oracle.
- Before each air show season, the Oracle Challenger III is **disassembled, inspected and rebuilt** according to exact specifications. It's a detailed process that takes months.



PHOTO BY Marc Howard / TGO Photography

THE BOB HOOVER ACADEMY

BobHooverAcademy.org

“A TRULY **REVOLUTIONARY** MODEL FOR EDUCATION.”

– **CHRIS DEVERS** *Principal of Alternative Education, Monterey County Office of Education*

From the pioneers who first took flight to the 16 year-old who just yesterday soloed her Cessna 152, the mystique, the science and the adventure of **piloting an airplane is one of the most satisfying, confidence-building and unique achievements life has to offer.** This transformative premise is the basis for the Bob Hoover Academy. Sean D. Tucker, co-founder and chairman of the Bob Hoover Academy, ensures the spirit and the legacy of aviation and aerospace icon R.A. “Bob” Hoover, lives on through the Academy and the many lives it touches.

The Bob Hoover Academy, a 501(c)(3), co-founded with Tucker’s son Eric Tucker, creates opportunities that **inspire at-risk and underserved teens** to get engaged in STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Mathematics) education and to take flight in aviation. It is the first private public partnership with a school district in state of California using flight and aviation to inspire and enable kids to redefine themselves to become viable productive citizens.

Each student earns admission into the flight training program by exceling in ground training curriculum. From there, the **ultimate transformative experience** is to leave the instructor on the ground, take an airplane into their own hands and

fly solo. Students become accountable to themselves and their teammates, challenging themselves in order to participate in an endeavor that can have a **measurable impact on their future.** Ultimately, students develop the skills and confidence to launch themselves out of their current orbit towards a course as a dynamic and contributing member of society.



PHOTO BY Marc Howard / TGO Photography

HELPING KIDS SUCCEED

The Bob Hoover Academy works. Graduates have gone on to enroll in collegiate level aviation mechanics programs, to pursue internships, to begin college, to enlist to serve in the armed forces, to secure gainful employment and most importantly, to become leaders within their communities.



EAA YOUNG EAGLES

YoungEagles.org



PHOTO BY Emmanuel Canaan

SINCE 1992, THE **WORLD'S LARGEST VOLUNTEER AIR FORCE OF 50,000 PILOTS** HAS FREELY GIVEN OF THEIR TIME FOR A SINGULAR PURPOSE: **TO INSPIRE THE NEXT GENERATION THROUGH AVIATION.**

Each year, these dedicated pilots and countless volunteer crew gather at local airports to provide a **meaningful flight experience in a general aviation aircraft** for young people. This movement, created by the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA), is called EAA Young Eagles.

The program took flight during the 1992 EAA Fly-In Convention in Oshkosh, Wis. EAA President Tom Poberezny and Academy Award winning Actor and Pilot Cliff Robertson flew the first Young Eagles on July 31, 1992. Robertson served as the program's founding chairman. Other past chairmen include **Gen. Chuck Yeager**, Actor **Harrison Ford**, US Airways flight crew **Chesley "Sully" Sullenberger** and **Jeff Skiles**. In 2013, **Sean D. Tucker** was entrusted with the honor of being chairman.

2 MILLION KIDS AND COUNTING!

The initial goal of the program was to fly one million children prior to the 100th anniversary of flight celebration (Dec. 17, 2003). That goal was achieved on November 13, 2003. As of March 5, 2018, an impressive **2,085,116 kids** between the ages of 8 and 17 years, have flown as Young Eagles. The program introduces approximately 80,000 kids to aviation each year.

TO THE NEXT LEVEL: SCHOLARSHIPS AND MORE

In addition to being a meaningful flight experience, a teaching opportunity and encouraging kids to challenge their boundaries, Young Eagles includes **aviation scholarship** possibilities to prestigious educational institutions such as the University of North Dakota, EAA Air Academy and other accredited aeronautical colleges and universities.

Once a Young Eagle has taken his or her first flight, he or she is invited to become an EAA Student Member. Membership includes access to **free flight training**, online resources such as the Sporty's Learn to Fly course, free student membership to the Academy of Model Aeronautics, free access to more than 300 science and technology museums, plus discounts on clothing, books and more.



ORACLE



PHOTO BY John Minchillo

SOAR WITH SEAN D. TUCKER MEDIA FLIGHT OPPORTUNITIES

CREDENTIALLED MEDIA ONLY | HURRY – FLIGHTS ARE LIMITED!

TO SHARE THE **PASSION FOR AVIATION**

with media audiences, Tucker and his team welcome **credentialed** media for a flight with his crew. Availability is dependent upon Tucker, his team and the air show schedule. **Flights are offered in select airplanes at the discretion of the Team Oracle ground crew.**

OPTION ONE: PHOTO FLIGHT OF THE ORACLE CHALLENGER III

While it takes the expertise, passion and skill of a remarkable aviator to perform precision maneuvers, it takes the mechanics, engineering and the finesse of the Oracle Challenger III to make magic in the sky.

Take advantage of this opportunity to fly alongside this legendary aircraft in the Seneca photo airplane for **photos and/or video** of Tucker flying this beautiful one-of-a-kind, extreme performance machine over scenic landmarks.

OPTION TWO: YOUNG EAGLE FLIGHT: WITNESS THE MAGIC OF A CHILD'S FIRST FLIGHT

As chairman of EAA Young Eagles, Tucker flies a lucky, local child at each air show. It is an excellent opportunity to capture the magic of a child experiencing his or her first flight. Media are welcome to cover the take-off and return of this monumental moment, or **join the flight** from the Seneca photo airplane and fly alongside.

OPTION THREE: SOAR WITH SEAN

One seat is available for a reporter to experience aerobatic flight with Tucker in the aerobatic Oracle Extra 300 L. The flight is **recorded via an onboard camera**. Footage will be made available following the flight. The Seneca photo airplane is available for air-to-air of this flight as well.

What to Bring

- Cameras with straps to ensure it remains with the videographer/photographer in flight
- A/V line cord
- A flash/thumb drive of 64 MB or higher is recommended

To schedule a flight, contact Suzanne Herrick in advance at 612-247-3079 or suzanne@fedorukinc.com.



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