For media flights, interviews, photos & video:
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Follow Sean D. Tucker at:
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HE’S FLOWN FORMATION WITH THE U.S. NAVY BLUE ANGELS, THE U.S. AIR FORCE THUNDERBIRDS AND MANY OTHER LEGENDARY PILOTS AND PERFORMANCE TEAMS. NOW, SEAN D. TUCKER IS TAKING TO THE SKIES WITH ANOTHER INCREDIBLE ACT, ESTEEMED AVIATRIX JESSY PANZER.

So, fasten your seat belts and hold on tight. The 2019 Team Oracle air show season is underway. It’s time for some heart-charging, high-performance power aerobatics from the new Team Oracle featuring Tucker and the only civilian female formation airshow pilot in the United States, Jessy Panzer. It is filled with awe-inspiring moments, thrills and adrenaline.

While the team welcomes Panzer, it prepares to say farewell to the one-of-a-kind dream machine, the Oracle Challenger III. At the end of the 2019 season, the Oracle Challenger III is headed to a place of honor in Smithsonian’s National Air and Space Museum for the Thomas W. Haas We All Fly gallery scheduled to open in 2022.

Join us to experience aerobatic flight, get an up-close look at the Oracle Challenger III one last time and meet our newest team member, Jessy Panzer.

Contact Suzanne Herrick at 612-247-3079 or suzanne@fedorukinc.com for interview and flight options.
SEAN D. TUCKER

- Sean D. Tucker has flown more than **1,600 performances** at upwards of **575 air shows** in front of over **155 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.

JESSY PANZER

- Highlights of Panzer’s air show career to date include being a member of the **2005 Stars of Tomorrow** formation aerobatic team and performing solos at **Sun ‘n Fun Fly-in** and **EAA AirVenture**. She has also performed in Pittsburgh, Pa., Muskegon, Mich., and in Dayton, Ohio.

- She is a former member of the **U.S. Advanced Aerobatic Team** (2011-2012) and competed in the World Advanced Aerobatic Competition in Hungary.

- In addition to her aerobatic competition and performer background, Panzer is also a **certified Air Racer** in the Sport Class at Reno, Nev., flying the fastest and normally aspirated Glasair III. She won third in the Silver Category in Sept. 2018.

- Panzer graduated from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in 2001 with a Bachelor of Science degree in **Aeronautical Science**. She has more than **7,800 hours** of total aircraft flight time.

- Panzer has **multiple aircraft ratings** in many types and categories of aircraft including: Aircraft Single Engine and Multi Engine Land, Single Engine Sea and Rotorcraft. She has **multiple type ratings** in jets and turbine aircraft. She is a **Certified Flight Instructor** for Aircraft Single Engine, Multi Engine Land, Single Engine Sea and Rotorcraft.

FAST FACTS
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 55,000 volunteer pilots who have flown millions of Young Eagles since the program began. In 2018, NFL tight end Jimmy Graham joined Tucker as the co-chair of EAA Young Eagles. Graham has embraced the role, reaching out to at-risk youth and encouraging them to see their world from new heights.

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 instructing 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.

ACCOLADES AND HONORS

**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’s 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

TEAM ORACLE IS PRESENTED BY ORACLE

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Reverent, precise and passionate; for Jessy Panzer flying power aerobatics excites the senses, engages the mind and empowers audiences to challenge what they believe possible.

Panzer, a graduate of Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University and a certified flight instructor in airplanes, rotorcraft and seaplanes, began flying competition aerobatics in 2000. In 2012, she made the U.S. Advanced Aerobatic Team.

**ACCOMPILISHED PILOT**

While actively pursuing her passion for aerobatic flight, Panzer has been successfully employed as a corporate pilot. Panzer is type-rated in impressive business aircraft including Gulfstream, LearJet, Sabreliner, Falcon, Astra and King Air. For more than 18 years, Panzer was a contracted flight instructor for the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Spring, Colo.

Near to her heart is her performance, Pitts Special biplane in which she has been able to share her passion for flight with airshow fans across the country. On occasion, she considers herself lucky enough to fly a P-51 Mustang. She has more than 7,800 hours of total aircraft flight time.

Panzer was raised in Colorado Springs, Colo., where her father was a corporate pilot. She credits his passion for aviation as sparking her curiosity and wonder for flight.

When not flying, the pilot and equestrian enjoys her horse named Double Shot – a black and white American Paint horse. She also enjoys dancing – competition of course! She won her category in Country Western couples in Nashville, Tenn., in 2001. Panzer currently resides in the greater Lincoln, Neb., area.

“**It’s a skill to listen to what truly motivates you. Sometimes, it seems crazy and defies logic – there’s something that resonates and you don’t know how it will work out. But you realize it’s what you need to do. Flying aerobatics and particularly on a team is everything I’ve been working for. For me, it’s part of learning to live in my purpose.**” – JESSY PANZER
“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

Challenging imaginations and taking audiences to the edges of their seats, Sean D. Tucker and Jessy Panzer bring formation flight to a new level. For a thrilling 15-minutes, Team Oracle expertly performs precision maneuvers including the Cluster Hammer, Stagger Hammer, Clover Loop and Heart. It’s part poetry, part heart-pounding and full-on aerial magic.

Awe-inspiring and adrenaline pumping, Panzer enters the box at the controls of the Oracle Extra 300L hovering just off the wing of Tucker’s Oracle Challenger III. The poetry unfolds as the duo dance through a series Barrel Rolls, Wing Overs, a Cluster Hammer and finally a Half-Cuban Break. Then the chase ensues with a Loop and a Clover Down split into opposing solos.

Now here’s when the sky gets electrifying as Tucker takes the front stage pulling out all the stops with signature maneuvers including 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. Then, Snaps Down, Front Flips, an Inside-Outside Loop and Tucker Upper keep the speeds up and energy high before Tucker performs another signature maneuver, the 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.”

Simultaneously, Panzer performs her aerial genius in a choreographed, intricate and harmonizing fashion that audiences just have to see to believe. While the roar of the Oracle Challenger III engine cuts through the sky, the Oracle Extra 300L soars through the sky, dancing through a Hammerhead, then a Reverse Half-Cuban and an Avalanche. The fast-paced action continues with another Hammerhead, Humpty, Cuban 8 and Immelmann Turn in which Panzer set up for level flight in the opposite direction at a higher altitude for a Torque Roll. The team then rejoins while “America the Beautiful” plays as a tribute to our great country. They paint the sky with one gigantic heart in honor of America, leaving the audience with the three best words in the English language: “God Bless America!”

“Joy is contagious. I hope the joy I experience flying the Oracle Extra 300L as part of Team Oracle brings joy and inspiration to others.” – Jessy Panzer
THE SKY DANCE PARTNER:
ABOUT THE ORACLE EXTRA 300L PILOTED BY JESSY PANZER

Like a great dance partner, the Oracle Extra 300L is light on her feet and elegant in the arena. But don’t be deceived – this one is pure muscle, pure power. Piloted by the only civilian female formation airshow pilot in the United States, the Oracle Extra 300L is guaranteed to thrill.

- Bright red with a checkerboard cowling, the Oracle Extra 300L is a production FAA certified 10 positive, 10 negative g-force aircraft. It's one of the world's premier aerobatic aircraft.
- The “L” configuration is a two-seat, tandem design ready to introduce flying enthusiasts to aerobatic flight with a certified pilot.
- Known for being light on the stick controls, it was designed by German aerobatic pilot Walter Extra.
- It awes audiences with outstanding performance including a 400-degree per second roll rate. It’s agile, powerful and eager to dance with the Oracle Challenger III.
- The Oracle Extra 300L aircraft have been produced than any other Extra model.

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.

THE LEAD:
ABOUT THE ORACLE CHALLENGER III PILOTED BY SEAN D. TUCKER

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 has pulled more than 14 heart-charging positive g-forces and thrilled millions of fans each year.

This venerable aircraft will become a part of the Smithsonian’s National Air and Space Museum collection and featured – inverted – in the Thomas W. Haas We All Fly gallery opening in 2022.

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“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 excelling 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.

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.
Since 1992, the world’s largest volunteer air force of 55,000 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, free of charge. 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. In 2018, NFL tight end Jimmy Graham joined as co-chairman of EAA Young Eagles. The team shares the honors, inspiring volunteer pilots and flying Young Eagles at local airports.

**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 2019, an impressive 2.1 million kids between the ages of 8 and 17 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 scholarships, 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.