



THE AIR FORCE MUSEUM FOUNDATION, INC.

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First Annual Reel Stuff Film Festival of Aviation lifts off at Air Force Museum Theatre on April 11-14, 2013

Cinematic celebration features acclaimed filmmakers, renovated giant screen theatre



The Air Force Museum Theatre announced its inaugural Reel Stuff Film Festival of Aviation will take place in Dayton on April 11-14, 2013. The cinematic celebration of flight also serves as the public grand re-opening of the Museum's 400-seat giant-screen theatre, currently undergoing an \$800,000 renovation.

The First Annual Reel Stuff of Aviation offers a diverse lineup of flight-related feature films, documentaries, and broadcast programming, each presented by a filmmaker or historian closely associated with its production. An audience question-and-answer session with the filmmaker will follow each showing, offering a unique interactive educational opportunity for fans of filmmaking and of aviation history, alike.

Among the ten screenings confirmed thus far will be the Midwest premier of *First in Flight*, producer Tara Tucker and director Brandon Hess's Wright Brothers dramatization; the first film to win a Best Picture Oscar, the late William Wellman's 1927 silent classic, *Wings*, a digitally re-mastered version presented by his son, actor and historian William Wellman, Jr.; and Paramount Pictures' *Top Gun 3D*, presented by the film's aerial cinematographer, Clay Lacy, and Barry Sandrew, founder and CCO/CTO of Legend3D, which recently converted the 1986 blockbuster film into spectacular high-definition, giant-screen 3D format.

Additionally, producer Catherine Wyler will present her 1990 Warner Brothers film, *The Memphis Belle*, as well as the acclaimed documentary of the same name by her late father, Oscar winning director William Wyler, which he produced during World War II. The original *Memphis Belle*® B-17 Flying Fortress featured aircraft in Wyler's 1944 film is currently at the National Museum of the United States Air Force® undergoing a full restoration. These and other featured Reel Stuff Film Festival films and filmmakers are listed with screening schedules at www.airforcemuseum.com/reelstuff.

Patrons of Reel Stuff Film Festival will be among the very first to enjoy a new state-of-the-art theatre experience featuring a digital image projection system, an amped up 7.1 surround sound system with 20 speakers, and a towering new six-story screen. One of only a handful of theatres nationwide with this new technology, other improvements festival goers will notice include new seats, carpeting and a presentation stage ideal for Reel Stuff's interactive screening format.

“We've put together an unforgettable weekend, not only for aviation buffs and students of history, but also anyone who loves the art of the cinema or is fascinated by learning the

technical, ‘behind-the-scenes’ aspect of filmmaking,” said Mary Bruggeman, Chief of Theatre Operations for the AFMF. “It’s a rare opportunity to meet and mingle with the talented filmmakers responsible for some of our favorite aviation movies, and get a sneak-peak at some new projects being shared for the first time.”

Tickets and passes will go on sale February 15, available by contacting theatre@afmuseum.com or by calling (937) 253-4629. General admission tickets for individual daytime screenings are \$8 per person, and \$15 per person for evening shows. Full day discount passes, good for all screenings on that day, are also available; \$35 for Friday, \$45 for Saturday, and \$25 for Sunday. Full Festival passes are available for \$90, providing admission for one person to each screening on Friday through Sunday, a savings of more than \$25 over general admission prices.

Corporations and individuals interested in festival sponsorship opportunities should contact Reel Stuff Film Festival Director Ron Kaplan at (937) 212-8847 or director@reelstufffilmfest.com, or Air Force Museum Foundation Chief Development Officer Lin Erickson at (937) 656-9258 or lerickson@afmuseum.com.

For more Reel Stuff information and festival updates visit www.airforcemuseum.com/reelstuff or www.reelstufffilmfest.com.

The Air Force Museum Theatre is operated by the Air Force Museum Foundation, Inc. Proceeds will allow the non-profit 501(c)(3) foundation to bring this world-class festival to Dayton and help support entertainment and educational programs for patrons throughout the year. The Foundation was established in 1960 as a philanthropic, non-profit organization to assist the Air Force in the development and expansion of the facilities of the National Museum of United States Air Force®. The Foundation raises funds through its Museum Store, Air Force Museum Theatre, membership program, flight simulators, and Valkyrie Café, as well as from direct donations. For more information about the Foundation, visit www.airforcemuseum.com.

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