Follow Sean D. Tucker at:

facebook.com/SeanDTucker  instagram.com/TeamOracle

twitter.com/SeanDTucker & twitter.com/TeamOracle

The Team Oracle Airplane Channel on YouTube

Book a media flight, get photos & video:
Suzanne Herrick, Fedoruk & Associates, Inc.,
612-247-3079  suzanne@fedorukinc.com
SOARING WITH THE SKY DANCE

• More than half of Tucker’s power aerobatic maneuvers are unique and have never been duplicated by other pilots, 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

• Tucker has been thrilling air show audiences **since 1976**.

• He has flown more than **1,275 performances** at upwards of 525 air shows in front of over **135 million fans**.

• During airshow season, Tucker practices his air show routine as many as **three times every day**.

• To endure the extreme physical demands of each routine and remain g-tolerant, Tucker maintains a **rigorous physical training schedule**, working out more than 340 days per year.

• His cross training includes mountaineering, mountain biking and heli-skiing.

• 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.

HELPING KIDS AND THE INDUSTRY SOAR

• He has been called “The Ambassador of Aerobatics” by the **National Aviation Hall of Fame** after he was inducted in 2008.

• In 1997, he established **Sean D. Tucker’s Tutima Academy of Aviation Safety**.

• Tucker is recognized by Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum as a **Living Legend of Flight**.

• 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 Sean before Hoover’s passing in 2016.

• He has won dozens of aerobatic competitions and is the recipient of the industry’s top awards. He was awarded both the **Crystal Eagle Award** and the **General Charles E. Yeager International Aeronautical Achievement Award**.

• Tucker is the founder and president of the California-based, non-profit the **Bob Hoover Academy**.

• In 2013, the Experimental Aircraft Association named Tucker as the **chairman** of aviation’s flagship program to introduce children to flight, **Young Eagles**.

• Young Eagles is celebrating its **25th Anniversary**. Since its inception in 1992, more than 2 million kids have flown as Young Eagles.
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 is the 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 Young Eagles, aviation’s flagship program to introduce children to flight.

Tucker has assumed the responsibility with great commitment, engaging kids in aviation and recognizing the more than 45,000 volunteer pilots who have flown more than two million Young Eagles since the program began.

He has been called the “Ambassador of Aerobatics” by the National Aviation Hall of Fame. In 1997, he established Sean D. Tucker’s Tutima Academy of Aviation Safety to set the standard for aviation and aerobatic safety. With cutting-edge programs focusing on aerobatics and confidence training, the academy’s world-class instructors help students improve techniques and exceed their goals.

Tucker was selected as one of 25 Living Legends of Flight by the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum (2003). He has been inducted into the National Aviation Hall of Fame and the 2001 USAF Gathering of Eagles. 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 Sean before Hoover’s passing in 2016.
Tucker’s enthusiasm for aviation is apparent during media interviews. He is an articulate and engaging resource for print, broadcast and online interviews. His comments are thought-provoking and authentic. 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 airshow 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 D. 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
- 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
- 2001: USAF Gathering of Eagles Inductee
- 2000: World Airshow Federation Champion
- 2000: International Council of Airshows Sword of Excellence
- 1992: The Art Scholl Memorial Showmanship Award
- 1992: The Bill Barber Award for Airshow Showmanship
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 and **have never been duplicated** by other pilots, 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**.

“**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 withstand 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 25 feet off the ground. Audience members gleefully volunteer to hold the poles 750 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.
The striking red and white Oracle Challenger III is one of the most recognizable aerobatic airplanes in the sky. 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.

**ORACLE CHALLENGER III FACTS**

- 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 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.
- The motor is **inspected and rebuilt** after roughly 400 hours of air show season flying to maintain peak engine performance.
- 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.
- Custom **Oregon Aero** seats provide added comfort.
- The engine features aluminum, **drag racing pistons**, a cold-air induction system and state-of-the-art fuel injection.
- The aircraft weighs just over 1,200 pounds and can reach a **top speed of 300 miles per hour**.
- 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 has more than **five square feet** of surface area.
- 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 lengthy process that takes months.
Since 1992, a rather silent movement has been underfoot, spirited by the world's largest volunteer air force of 45,000 pilots and countless volunteer ground crew. Their mission: to provide a meaningful flight experience – free of charge – in a general aviation aircraft for young people. This movement created by the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA), is called Young Eagles, and is celebrating its 25th Anniversary in 2017.

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. Past chairmen include Gen. Chuck Yeager, actor Harrison Ford, US Airways flight crew Chesley “Sully” Sullenberger and Jeff Skiles. Tucker was named chairman in 2013.

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, they are invited to join the Young Eagles community by becoming an EAA Student Member. It includes access to free flight training, online resources, 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.

For more information about the EAA Young Eagles Program, contact Suzanne Herrick at 612-861-7807, suzanne@fedorukinc.com, or call EAA headquarters at 877-806-8902 or (920) 426-4831; youngeagles@eaa.org. More at www.youngeagles.org.
Through a partnership with the Monterey County Office of Education, the Bob Hoover Academy offers:

- A full high school curriculum geared towards STEM and aviation with a focus on cultivating critical life skills, leadership, self-learning and team building.
- Full access to flight training under optimal wind and weather conditions.
- STEM engagement at the NASA SEMAA Lab.
- 105+ hours of paid internships. Hands on courses in welding and diesel engine mechanics.
- College courses at Hartnell Community College. Counseling for continued education and job placement.
- Computers for every student and all transportation logistics provided. Regular sessions with a psychotherapist.

HELPING STUDENTS SUCCEED

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

For more information about the Bob Hoover Academy, contact Suzanne Herrick at 612-247-3079, suzanne@fedorukinc.com, or contact Stacey Wilson at 831-320-0945, stacey@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 spirit and the legacy of aviation and aerospace icon R.A. “Bob” Hoover, lives on through the Bob Hoover Academy, a 501(c)3.

Tucker is founder and Chairman 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 engage in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) education and to take flight in aviation. 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. Upon graduation from the program, each student will have earned an accredited high school diploma, an average of nine college credits and completed their applications to college.
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 airshow schedule.

**Flights are offered in select airplanes at the discretion of the Team Oracle ground crew.**

**YOUNG EAGLE FLIGHT:**
**WITNESS THE JOY OF A CHILD’S FIRST FLIGHT**

In addition, Tucker will fly a Young Eagle at each airshow. 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.

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

*Hurry – flights are limited!*

---

**WHAT TO EXPECT**

**Camera Airplane:** Three seats are available for videographers and photographers to get prime photos of the Oracle Challenger III over local landmarks from the non-aerobatic Seneca camera airplane.

**Oracle Extra 300 L:** One seat is available for a reporter to experience aerobatic flight. The flight is recorded via an onboard camera. Footage will be made available following the flight.

---

**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 GB or higher is recommended

---

Follow Sean D. Tucker at:
- [facebook.com/SeanDTucker](https://www.facebook.com/SeanDTucker)
- [instagram.com/TeamOracle](https://www.instagram.com/TeamOracle)
- [twitter.com/SeanDTucker](https://twitter.com/SeanDTucker)
- [twitter.com/TeamOracle](https://twitter.com/TeamOracle)
- The Team Oracle Airplane Channel on YouTube