News Release:

Family Festival coming to Akron-Fulton Airport, August 13th & 14th, 2022



Akron, Ohio (Dec 19, 2021), Once again, a family-oriented air show is returning to Akron-Fulton Airport this summer. The Props and Pistons Festival, **August 13-14**, offers an affordable and fun experience for the entire family. You will see flying demonstrations, aircraft on display, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math) activities, and even a car show.

The Props and Pistons Festival gives visitors a chance to get up-close and personal through airplane tours, warbird, biplane and helicopter rides. The dozens of displays range from WWII warbirds to current military, commercial, and specialty aircraft. At this show you can see a massive Air Force transport plane, the C-17 Globemaster, parked next to something as simple as a Piper Cub. There will also be FREE Flight Simulators, a FREE Kids' Zone, live music, and food trucks.

For the first time in over a decade aerobatic military aircraft will perform over the skies of Akron. The United States Air Force premier attack aircraft, the A-10 Thunderbolt aircraft better known as the "Warthog", is coming to Akron! This aircraft, that was originally designed to deter a Cold War tank invasion, has become the iconic aircraft of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. It is one of the most recognizable and feared aircraft in the world. Come meet the pilots and watch the aerial demonstration of this amazing aircraft! Akron beat out hundreds of airshows and was selected as one of 20 shows in North America to host this premier demo team.

This fun filled weekend is designed to be educational. Inspire Aviation, through partnerships with the City of Akron, Akron Public Schools, Camp Quality, area businesses, and a variety of child-oriented organizations is producing the festival. This is an opportunity for the public to learn more about aviation, historic aircraft, and potential career pathways through motivational speakers, and engaging children's activities.

"What we'd really love to see come out of this festival, too, is the inspiration of the next generation of pilots, mechanics, engineers, scientists and military members," said Mike Bowser (USAF ret.) of Inspire Aviation and the Festival Vice-Chairman, "This is a safe, yet exciting event where the public can enjoy what aviation has to offer everyone."

This all-volunteer organization conducts hundreds of hours in year-round outreach with local schools and youth groups. Behind the scenes they host the Pilot for a Day experience where dozens of kids fighting childhood cancer, or other terminal diseases, and their siblings will get a special sightseeing flight from local pilots who donate their time and personal aircraft to give these rides.

During Saturday only, there will be a car show. On Sunday during the festival, a special tribute to our military will be celebrated with a local veteran's motorcycle ride and remembrance ceremony. All proceeds from this ride goes to the non-profit SAM (Serving Area Military) Center in Massillon, OH.

FREE parking and shuttle busses are available at the marked parking lots near Derby Downs.

For more detailed information on the Festival please visit the following websites: www.flyohio.org or Facebook.com/flyohio

For further inquiries contact: Mike Bowser, Vice-Chairman, Props & Pistons Festival

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Inspire Aviation is an Ohio based 501(c)(3) nonprofit charity. Their mission is to help educate the general public in areas of Aviation and other STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math) related topics.



2018 Props and Pistons: Photo from Inspire Aviation



US Air Force C-17: Photo from Inspire Aviation



WWII era B-25 Bomber: Photo from Inspire Aviation

A-10 Demonstration team (provided by US Air Force)





