



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Battle Creek Field of Flight Ranked Among the Best in the Country AND  
Aiming for an Amazing 2018 Event  
June 28th - July 4th**

BATTLE CREEK, Mich - The Battle Creek Field of Flight Air Show & Balloon Festival is flying high after an extremely successful 2017 event and ranking among the best air shows in the United States. According to [USA Today's 10Best](#), the 2017 Battle Creek Field of Flight was voted the third best air show in the United States, being beaten only by the mecca's that are EAA AirVenture at Oshkosh and the Reno Air Races. "This is a huge deal for us", says Bretten Bailey, Media Director for the event. "We feel strongly that the direct tie to our success is we offer our fans such a unique and different approach to air shows. To finish right behind these two events is a true honor and should make everyone proud to have such a nationally recognized event in their community". Bailey says the Top Three prove that air shows are continually evolving and that Battle Creek is proud to be a part of the innovative pack.

The 2017 event also drew in very impressive attendance numbers that rank among some of the events best. Over 143,400 spectators attended the 2017 event. Introducing new air show acts and more entertainment on the ground helped bring in those numbers. The United States Air Force F-22 Raptor Demo Team, and TORA, TORA, TORA were cited as the major draws by the majority of the spectators that attended the event. "Of course, the concerts, carnival rides, motorcycle stunt shows, timber shows, SpeedFest and the overall plethora of ground entertainment truly kept us steady each day" stated Barb Haluszka, Executive Director of the Battle Creek Field of Flight.

Following the success, organizers have decided to up the ante for 2018, which will include all the amazing entertainment and some things never before seen or done in Battle Creek. "We'll include a lot of everyone's favorites but also introduce some new and exciting things", stated Haluszka. What is known, is that there will be TWO different types of air shows held during the event, one highlighting warbirds and veterans on June 30th & July 1st, and yet a different show highlighting the fast and the furious on July 3rd & 4th. "Like us on Facebook and you'll receive the latest updates" says Bailey.

The Battle Creek Field of Flight Air Show & Balloon Festival is the largest Air Show & Balloon Festival in North America. It is globally recognized as being one of the best aerial events in the world, ranking the Third Best Air Show of 2017 according to USA Today readers. The event is one of the longest running annual air shows & balloon festivals in the state as well as being Battle Creek's largest festival. The event is always held over the 4th of July holiday in Battle Creek, Michigan and has been innovating in the aerial events industry since 1980. The event is organized by the Battle Creek Hot-Air Balloon Championships Inc. (501c4 Nonprofit), and the event helps benefit numerous area non-profit organizations all while providing a significant economic boost to the region. For more information on the event, visit [www.bcballoons.com](http://www.bcballoons.com) or call 269-962-0592.

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