



“Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian” Donates Aircraft

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Media Contact: Daniel J. Ryan 310-398-2500 dryan@museumofflying.com
Santa Monica, CA

The Museum of Flying at the Santa Monica Airport is pleased to announce the acquisition of two aircraft through a donation from the recently released Twentieth Century Fox feature film *“Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian.”* The *replica Wright Flyer aircraft* and the *replica Lockheed Vega aircraft* that were built for the movie will be on permanent display in the soon to be reopened Museum of Flying at the Santa Monica Airport.

“We are delighted with the addition of these aircraft to the Museum’s permanent collection,” stated David G. Price, Chairman of the Board of the Museum of Flying. “We are very pleased that Twentieth Century Fox reached out to the Museum with this opportunity.” The Wright Flyer and Lockheed Vega will complement two other aircraft in the Museum collection that have a Hollywood lineage. The BD-5 Microjet was seen in the James Bond thriller “Octopussy” and the Museum’s Boeing Stearman was featured in the movie “Spacecamp.” “The two newly donated aircraft are of Museum quality and look fantastic,” commented Museum of Flying Managing Director, Daniel J. Ryan. “They will complement the exhibit that we are developing on Hollywood in Aviation.”

The Museum of Flying was originally founded as The Donald Douglas Museum and Library of Santa Monica, Inc. in 1974 by Donald Douglas Jr. to ensure the preservation of the Douglas Aircraft legacy. The Museum was moved to the north side of the Santa Monica Airport in April 1989 and re-established as the Museum of Flying. The Museum temporarily closed in July 2002 due to economic challenges. The Museum recently signed a new lease with the City of Santa Monica for the site located at 3100 Airport Avenue, Santa Monica, 90405. The new Museum project will cost approximately \$2 million to complete and construction on the site should begin in the next few weeks. The Museum plans to reopen as early as December 2009.

The Museum of Flying is a 501(c)(3) non-profit California corporation – tax ID#23-7412316. Charitable contributions toward the Museum of Flying building fund may be considered tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law. Contributions may be sent to: Museum of Flying Building Fund, 2425 Olympic Blvd. Suite 650E, Santa Monica, CA 90404.