

Southeast Tourism Society Selects Florida International AirShow as a “Signature Event of the Southeast” Award Winner

PUNTA GORDA, FL. (August 14, 2024) – Southeast Tourism Society (STS) has named the Florida International Airshow one of the *Signature Events of the Southeast* for 2024.

This year’s Florida International AirShow is November 2-3, 2024 held in Punta Gorda, FL. *Signature Events of the Southeast*, formerly known as “Top 20 Festival and Event Awards”, was launched as part of the 40th Anniversary celebration of Southeast Tourism Society in 2023. STS has recognized events and festivals around the Southeast since 1985.

Travel industry experts select top events to be highlighted for the year, and STS publicizes them throughout the United States. The complete list is published on both the Travel Media Press Room and Escape to the Southeast® websites and recognized on all Southeast Tourism Society’s social media platforms.

The AirShow will celebrate its 43rd year of presenting exciting entertainment to residents and visitors of Charlotte County on the grounds of the Punta Gorda Airport. Beginning as a single day event, the show has grown to a three day event with fan-friendly activities, a large variety of acts, interactive displays, and much more. “If you’ve not been to an AirShow before, it’s like taking Nascar, pizza, baseball, hotdogs, fireworks, football and Lynyrd Skynyrd and rolling it all into one giant rodeo” says Denise Dull, President of the Florida International AirShow. “There’s something for everyone in the family.” The Florida International Airshow also received a USA TODAY 10Best Readers Choice Award this year for their November 2023 AirShow, which featured the USAF Thunderbirds and was a record attendance year.

“For more than 40 years, STS has been spotlighting the best festivals and events in the Southeast. Our goal is to highlight the efforts of devoted event organizers and provide additional media exposure and accolades for their events,” said Monica Smith, President and CEO of Southeast Tourism Society. “The Southeast offers so many unique, year-round, opportunities for tourists and festival goers to create memories and support the tourism industry—a vital economic generator for communities.”

Events considered for the STS *Signature Events of the Southeast* recognition must be at least three years old and have an attendance of at least 1,000. Nominations open in early spring. Members and non-members are eligible to apply. Winning submissions are automatically judged in the Festival or Event of the Year category for STS’s *Shining Example Awards*.

About Southeast Tourism Society

The Southeast Tourism Society (STS) is a not-for-profit membership association dedicated to the development of travel and tourism professionals and organizations within the southeast region. The association's mission is to empower a diverse network of tourism professionals through Education, Advocacy, Recognition, and Networking. Member states include Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia, plus the District of Columbia.

About Florida International Air Show

The Florida International AirShow is a Florida 501(c) 4 nonprofit organization staffed entirely by volunteers. The Airshow is a multi day event showcasing nationally known performers and exciting static displays of aircraft and vehicles. The Airshow offers attendees the opportunity to learn more about aviation, space, and military service. FIAS events provide beneficial exposure to the community and Punta Gorda Airport as a significant economic asset has donated over \$3.6 million in contributions to local Southwest charities since its inception. For more information visit

www.floridaairshow.com

Florida International AirShow

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