

PHOTOGRAPHING THE AIRSHOW



By Bruce Soifer and Mike Shirk

TOPICS

1. PLANNING

2. LOCATION

3. EQUIPMENT

- CAMERAS
- LENSES
- TELE-CONVERTERS
- FILTERS
- MEDIA CARDS

TOPICS (CONT.)

4. CAMERA SETTINGS

- PROPELLER AIRCRAFT
- JET AIRCRAFT

5. PHOTOGRAPHING THE SHOW

- GROUND-TO-AIR
- AIR-TO-AIR
- STATIC DISPLAYS

6. POST-PROCESSING

1. PLANNING

- **WHO IS PERFORMING**
USE SOCIAL MEDIA AND YOUTUBE FOR IDEAS
- **GET A PROGRAM SCHEDULE OF THE SHOW**
- **BUILD RELATIONSHIPS – VERY IMPORTANT**
REACH OUT TO PILOTS, AVIATION PERSONNEL, OTHER PHOTOGRAPHERS

UNITED STATES NAVY

Blue Angels

FIRST DAYTON DEMO WITH THE NEW SUPER HORNETS!

CenterPoint
Energy
DAYTON
AIR SHOW
PRESENTED BY Kroger

JULY 30-31, 2022
DAYTON INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT



Gates Open 9am and Close at 6pm

Feature Shows 12pm to 4:15pm

Show schedule is the same for both days

- Flag Drop and National Anthem
 - U.S. Army Golden Knights
 - Kevin Coleman
- U.S. Air Force F-16 Viper Demo
 - Vampire Airshows
 - Tora! Tora! Tora!
 - USMC Fat Albert
- U.S. Navy Blue Angels



U.S. Navy Blue Angels



U.S. Marine Corps C-130 "Fat Albert"



U.S. Air Force F-16 Viper Demo Team



Next slide-11

U.S. Army Golden Knights



TORA! TORA! TORA!



U.S. Air Force C-17 Globemaster III



Kevin Coleman



Vampire Airshows



Air Show Announcers:
Rob Reider
and
Danny Clisham



Relationships with other photographers, pilots, media connections, and support personnel

2. LOCATION

- ARRIVE EARLY
- CHOOSE LOCATION TO GET DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES
- MOVE AROUND
- STATIC DISPLAYS AND CROWD

CATEGORY I SHOW

CATEGORY III SHOWLINE

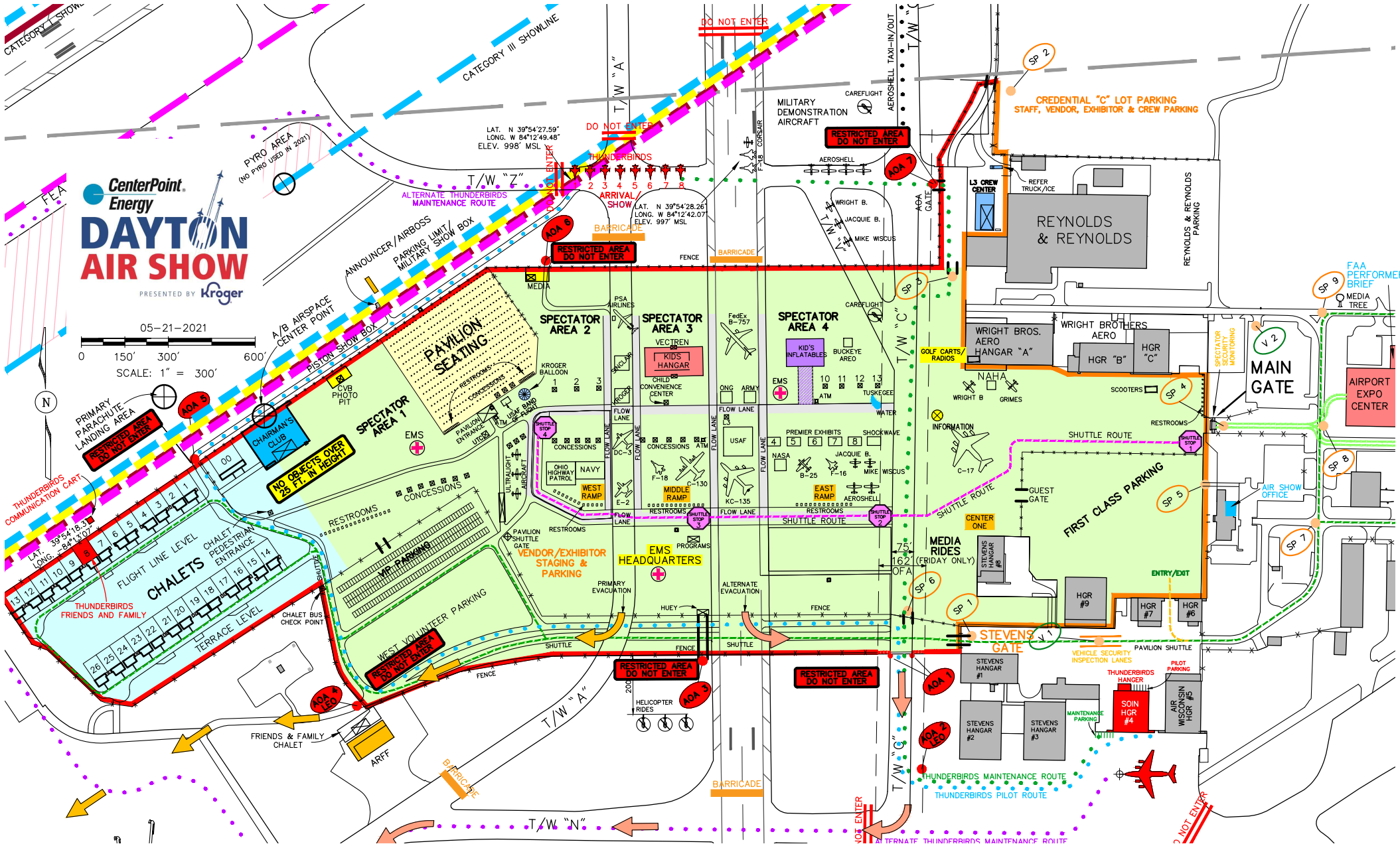
CenterPoint Energy DAYTON AIR SHOW

PRESENTED BY Kroger

05-21-2021
SCALE: 1" = 300'

LAT. N 39°54'27.59"
LONG. W 84°12'49.48"
ELEV. 998' MSL

LAT. N 39°54'28.26"
LONG. W 84°12'42.07"
ELEV. 997' MSL

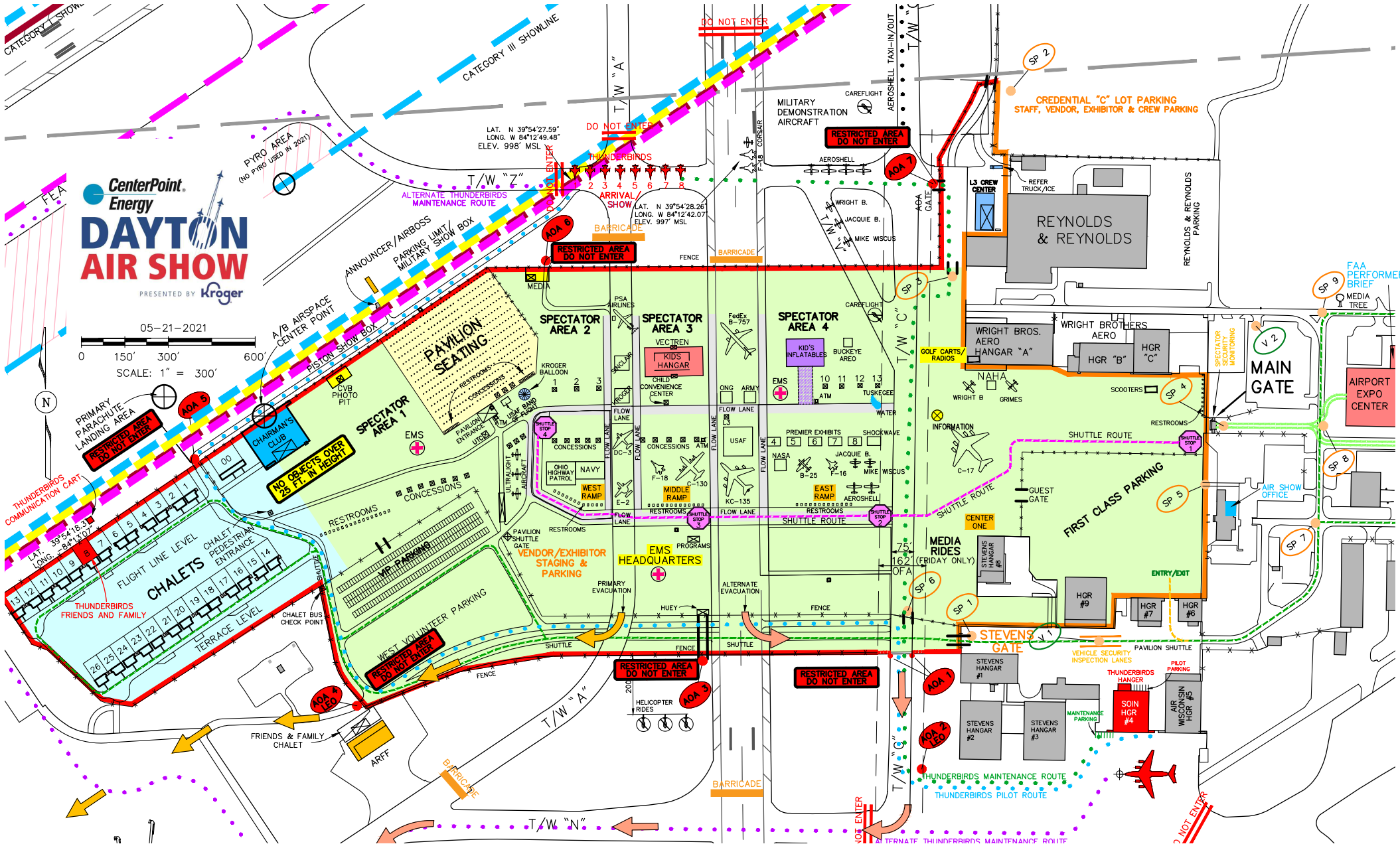


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SCALE: 1" = 300'

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What a media pass will get you!





3. EQUIPMENT

- **CAMERAS**
 - LESS EXPENSIVE POINT AND SHOOT
 - CANON SX740, 40X OPTICAL ZOOM @\$399
 - LUMIX FZ80, 4K, 60X 20-1200mm @\$347
 - LUMIX FZ300 W/LEICA 24-600mm F2.8 @\$447
 - MULTIPLE CAMERA BODIES, IF POSSIBLE
 - DIFFERENT LENS ON EACH BODY

3. EQUIPMENT (CONT'D)

- **LENSES**

- WIDE ANGLE ZOOM: 17-35mm (for static display and air to air)
- MID-LEVEL TELEPHOTO: 70-200mm (for portrait, mid-distance group ground to air, and isolating the subject)
- LONG TELEPHOTO: 150-500mm, 300mm, 500mm, 600mm (for filling the frame of ground to air and isolating the subject)
- TELE-CONVERTERS: 1.4 OR 2.0

- **FLASH AND FILTERS**

- FILL FLASH (for softening of shadows)
- POLARIZER (for eliminating reflections and enriching saturation)

- **MEDIA CARDS**

- FAST, LARGE, HIGH SPEED READ
- TAKE OUT SLOWER SD CARDS (DUAL SLOT)

4. CAMERA SETTINGS

- **INITIAL SET-UP**

- AI SERVO MODE
- HIGHSPEED CONTINUOUS SHUTTER
- 3-D TRACKING OR CONTINUOUS FOCUS TRACKING
- SHUTTER PRIORITY
- AUTO ISO
- CENTER WEIGHT MEETERING ADJUST AS NEEDED FOR CONDITIONS

- **PROPELLER AIRCRAFT**

- CHOOSE HIGHEST SHUTTER SPEED FOR PROPELLER BLUR
- HIGH PERFORMANCE AIRCRAFT – 1/250 TO 1/300 SEC
- WAR BIRDS – 1/25 TO 1/60 SEC
- AUTO ISO
- PANNING WITH HIGH SPEED SHUTTER RELEASE



1/80 f8 ISO 100



1/100 f10 ISO 100



1/250 f11 ISO 100



1/320 f11 ISO 200



1/4000 f8 ISO 1250

4. CAMERA SETTINGS (CONT'D)

- **JET AIRCRAFT**
 - GROUP POINT CONTINUOUS FOCUSING
 - APERTURE PRIORITY
 - AUTO ISO

Next slide-Play Jet Flyover

Start Passenger jet Takeoff



1/1000 f8 ISO 250



1/1250 f9 ISO 800



1/1250 f10 ISO 320



1/2500 f9 ISO 640



70-200mm w/2x converter @400mm
1/2500 f9 ISO 800

5. PHOTOGRAPHING THE SHOW

- **GROUND-TO-AIR**
- **AIR-TO-AIR**
- **STATIC DISPLAYS**



GROUND-TO-AIR



GROUND-TO-AIR



GROUND-TO-AIR



GROUND-TO-AIR



GROUND-TO-AIR



GROUND-TO-AIR



GROUND-TO-AIR

Next slide-45

GROUND-TO-AIR





GROUND-TO-AIR



GROUND-TO-AIR



GROUND-TO-AIR



GROUND-TO-AIR





GROUND-TO-AIR



GROUND-TO-AIR



GROUND-TO-AIR



Creative ground-to-air using cropping and rotating
giving the feeling of air-to-air



GROUND-TO-AIR



GROUND-TO-AIR



GROUND-TO-AIR

AIR TO AIR
WIDE ANGLE LENS @ 27MM



AIR TO AIR
MEDIUM TELEPHOTO LENS @ 70MM



**AIR TO AIR
ZOOM FROM 24MM TO 85MM**







UNITED STATES ARMY



AFRC

WRIGHT-PATT

30603





**Pick dramatic angles for static display
to tell the story**









6. POST-PROCESSING

- **PLUGINS**
- **NOISE REDUCTION**
- **SHARPENING**
- **MASKING**
- **REMOVE DISTRACTIONS**



ORIGINAL RAW CAPTURE

1/200 f7.1 ISO 100



EDITED POST LIGHTROOM-TOPAZ DENOISE

EDITS

LIGHTROOM: Select sky Mask-used preset:

Exposure +.25, Shadows -13, Texture +33, Clarity +12, Dehaze +2

Duplicate Mask, Duplicate Mask and Invert Mask, Create new mask,

Linear Gradient, set to Burn -30 Exposure, Slight Crop

TOPAZ: DeNoise AI: Auto Standard



ORIGINAL RAW CAPTURE

1/1000 f11 ISO 160



EDITED POST LIGHTROOM-TOPAZ

EDITS

LIGHTROOM: Select Sky Mask-Preset Darken Sky 01,

Exposure $-.49$, Contrast -4 , Dehaze $+5$

Duplicate Sky Mask and invert, Exposure $+.27$, Contrast $+5$,

Shadows $+16$, Clarity $+5$, Saturation $+19$

TOPAZ: DeNoise AI: Auto Standard

LIGHTROOM: Exposure $+.11$, Highlights -66 , Shadows $+42$,

Whites $+32$, Blacks -24 , Vibrance $+9$, Saturation -2

SOCIAL MEDIA

- Blue Angles Facebook Page:
- [\(1\) The Blue Angels - United States Navy Demonstration Squadron | Facebook](#)
- The US Army Golden Knights:
- [\(1\) the us armythe golden knights - Search Results | Facebook](#)
- U.S. Air Force F-16 Viper Demo
- [\(1\) U.S. Air Force F-16 Viper Demo - Search Results | Facebook](#)
- Vampire Airshows
- [\(1\) Vampire Airshows - Search Results | Facebook](#)

SOCIAL MEDIA (CONT.)

- Tora! Tora! Tora!
- [\(1\) Tora! Tora! Tora! - Search Results | Facebook](#)
- USMC Fat Albert
- [\(1\) USMC Fat Albert - Search Results | Facebook](#)
- U.S. Air Force C-17 Globemaster III
- [\(1\) U.S. Air Force C-17 Globemaster III - Search Results | Facebook](#)
- Kevin Coleman
- [\(1\) Kevin Coleman - Search Results | Facebook](#)

SOCIAL MEDIA (CONT.)

- For additional information on the 2022 performers, visit their websites below:
- U.S. Navy Blue Angels, www.blueangels.navy.mil
- U.S. Army Golden Knights, www.goarmy.com/events/golden-knights
- F-16 Viper Demonstration Team, www.acc.af.mil/Home/Aerial-Events/F16-Viper
- TORA! TORA! TORA! www.toratoratora.com
- Kevin Coleman, <https://www.facebook.com/TheKevinColeman>
- Vampire Airshows, <https://vampireairshows.simdif.com>

INFORMATION ON WEBSITE

- AIR SHOW WEBSITE:
- [Schedule | 2021 CenterPoint Energy Dayton Air Show](#)
- REQUEST MEDIA CREDENTIALS :
- [Media Credentials | 2021 CenterPoint Energy Dayton Air Show](#)
- Photo Tour/Photo Pit TICKETS
- [CenterPoint Energy Dayton Air Show at Dayton International Airport - Photo Tour/Photo Pit Tickets \(etix.com\)](#)