



Evergreen Aviation Museum
The Captain Michael King Smith Educational Institute

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An Evening With Howard and “Oscar[®]”

***Evergreen Aviation Museum celebrates “The Aviator,” the Oscars[®]
and the achievements of Howard Hughes.***

MCMINNVILLE, Ore.— On Sun., Feb. 27, 2005, the Evergreen Aviation Museum will host an Oscar[®] Party and celebrate the 11 Academy Award[®] nominations that *The Aviator* has received. Ironically, Feb. 27 is also the historic day that the legendary *Spruce Goose* arrived in McMinnville 12 years ago.

The event, “An Evening with Howard and Oscar[®],” will begin at 5:30pm on Sun., Feb. 27. The event is open to the public and tickets must be pre-purchased by calling 503-434-4007.

Guests will cast their Oscar[®] votes, walk the red carpet, enjoy beverages and appetizers, tour the museum, watch a live-feed of the Academy Awards[®] and enjoy a special behind-the-scenes presentation by *The Aviator’s* special effects production team. Event patrons will have the unique opportunity to meet representatives from the New Deal Studio’s team and learn about the behind-the-scenes action that created *The Aviator’s* flying and crash sequences. Cost for the Academy Award[®] Package is \$40.00 per person and \$30.00 per member.

The Museum will also offer a limited number of Flight Deck Tour Packages for \$250.00 per person and \$200.00 per member. Those who purchase the Flight Deck Package will be able to enjoy all the amenities of the event in addition to being able to tour the *Spruce Goose*, view the flight deck, leading edge and interior of the wings, as well as receive a photo souvenir in Howard Hughes’ pilot seat.

The Academy Award[®] nominated film, *The Aviator*, depicts the life of famous millionaire Howard Hughes and his contributions to modern aviation. The movie includes Evergreen Aviation Museum’s largest attraction, the famous *Spruce Goose*, built during World War II and later flown by Howard Hughes. The Hughes Flying Boat, or *Spruce Goose*, was a forerunner of modern aviation, an American icon that blazed a

new trail in mechanical and engineering designs and led the way to large capacity aircraft. The film includes its inception as well as its famous, brief flight over the Long Beach Harbor on Nov. 2, 1947.

The film has a star-studded cast including Leonardo DiCaprio as Howard Hughes, Cate Blanchett as Katharine Hepburn, Kate Beckinsale as Ava Gardner, Alec Baldwin as Juan Trippe, Gwen Stefani as Jean Harlow, and Alan Alda as Sen. Ralph Owen Brewster.

The Evergreen Aviation Museum provided technical consulting about the *Spruce Goose*. During multiple visits with the Museum's Director of Collections, Katherine Huit, *The Aviator's* production company created reproductions of engineering drawings and photographs, which resulted in props and miniature models in the movie. The production crew took photographs of the interior of the *Spruce Goose* and the Museum provided technical consulting for paint color and aircraft details during the production stage. Additionally, a portion of the film features the Museum's exclusive archival color film. The featured footage shows the large sections of the *Spruce Goose* fuselage and wings moving from Culver City to Long Beach, CA. The Museum also provided engine sounds and the historical James MacNamara radio broadcast audio.

"Our involvement with *The Aviator* is a testimony to production companies becoming involved with non-profit museums to create films," said Huit. "The Evergreen Aviation Museum has been really honored to be a part of this process. It's wonderful for tourism and terrific for preserving history for future generations."

The museum is in the process of releasing its own *Dream to Fly* documentary narrated by Walter Cronkite, which chronicles the fascinating journey of the Hughes Flying Boat from conception to its final home at Evergreen Aviation Museum. It includes Hughes' struggles and ultimate triumphs in aviation design. The documentary will air on the Military Channel (formerly called Discovery Wings) throughout 2005, and distribution on DVD will begin soon.

The Evergreen Aviation Museum is best known as the home of the world's largest wooden airplane, the *Spruce Goose*, SR-71 *Blackbird* and Grumman F6F-3 *Hellcat*. In addition, there are more than 60 historic aircraft and exhibits on display, along with artwork, traveling displays, the newly remodeled Spruce Goose Café and the museum store. The Evergreen Aviation Museum's hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., daily except when it is closed for Thanksgiving, Christmas Day, New Year's Day and Easter. The Museum is located at 500 NE Captain Michael King Smith Way, across the highway from the McMinnville Airport and about three miles southeast of McMinnville, Ore., on Highway 18. Regular visitor admission is required. Call (503) 434-4180 for more information, and visit www.sprucegoose.org.

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SPECIAL EVENT ADVISORY

An Evening With Howard and “Oscar®”

WHAT: In celebration of the Academy Awards® and *The Aviator*'s 11 nominations, the Evergreen Aviation Museum will be hosting a unique fundraising event on Sunday, Feb. 27 at 5:30 p.m. Patrons can purchase tickets at two levels and proceeds from the event will further the maintenance and restoration of the Hughes Flying Boat, as well as support the facility that houses it. Limited tickets are available. Tickets must be pre-purchased by Thursday, Feb. 24, 2005 via phone at 503.434.4007 or via email at melody.elerath@sprucegoose.org. The Evergreen Aviation Museum is a 501(c)3 Oregon Nonprofit Institution.

Academy Award® Package:

Cost: \$40/individual \$30/Evergreen Aviation Museum member

- 5:30 p.m. Reception at the Museum
- Red Carpet Photos
- Cast ballots and win prizes
- Behind-the-Scenes of *The Aviator* –A Presentation by the Special Effects Team
- Guided tour of Museum gallery
- Live-feed broadcast of the Academy Awards®
- Complimentary appetizers and beverages
- Full service no-host bar & Espresso bar

Flight Deck Tour Package:

Cost: \$250/individual \$200/Evergreen Aviation Museum member

- Academy Award® Package +
- Tour the *Spruce Goose*, view the leading edge, and interior of wings
- Photo souvenir in Howard Hughes' seat

WHEN: Sunday, February 27, 2005 at 5:30 p.m.

WHERE: Evergreen Aviation Museum
3 miles SE of McMinnville on Highway 18

CONTACT: Melody Elerath, Development Department, (503) 434-4007