

Heroes of the Sky Exhibit

Description: 1-Story, 19,397 SF Exhibit +
2,890 SF Raised Viewing Platform

Location: Dearborn, Michigan

Cost: \$3,500,000

Completed: 2003



Henry Ford Museum

Heroes of the Sky Exhibit

Located in the center bays in the world renowned Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn, MI, the New Heroes of the Sky Exhibit was necessitated with the Owner's decision to create a new permanent museum exhibit featuring vintage airplanes (Ford and Forker Tri-Motor airplanes, a refurbished 1939 DC-3 airplane flown by Northwest Airlines, several vintage bi-planes, an early Sikorsky helicopter, a replica of the Spirit of St. Louis airplane flown by Charles Lindberg, vintage air speed record holder airplanes, etc.) in 2003 to commemorating 100 years of flight since the first airplane flight by the Wright Brothers in Kitty Hawk, NC on December 17, 1903. Entry is first underneath the DC-3 airplane through the First Flight Gallery honoring the Wright Brothers. Five additional exhibit areas radiate from the First Flight Gallery honoring the Entrepreneurs, the Inventors, the Barnstormers, the Explorers and the Record-Breakers in the first 40 years of flight.

Kelly / Tinker Architects was the project's Architect-of-Record, working closely with Academy Studios of Novato, Ca, the exhibits designer and fabricator. KTA reviewed all plans for Life Safety, ADA accessibility, fire egress pathways, emergency lighting and audible emergency alarms, structural obstruction / fit conditions, and worked with the Structural Engineers (Robert Darvas & Associates, Ann Arbor, MI) and the Electrical Engineers (Neal Adams & Associates, Dexter, MI).

Exhibit Attributes

- Display of Historic Aircraft and Expedition / Aviation Event Artifacts
- Protection of Historic Aircraft and Expedition / Aviation Event Artifacts
- Energy Efficient Lighting