



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum Welcomes Matt Voight as
Director of Restoration and Large Artifact Collections**

HONOLULU, Hawai'i - (August 18, 2026) - Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum is proud to announce the appointment of Matt Voight as its new Director of Restoration and Large Artifact Collections, bringing more than four decades of aviation maintenance, restoration, preservation and museum leadership experience.



Voight joins the Museum from the world-renowned Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum, where he most recently served as Museum Specialist Supervisor for the Preservation and Restoration Unit. Leading a team of 14 museum specialists, he oversaw artifact conservation, restoration, installations and collections support across hundreds of aviation and space artifacts.

Earlier at the Smithsonian, Voight served as a Senior Museum Specialist, leading complex preservation, conservation, rigging and restoration projects. His work included relocating a B-17G Flying Fortress, restoring and suspending the Star Wars X-Wing starfighter, and developing innovative mounting and display solutions for historic aircraft and spacecraft.

Voight also brings nearly two decades of aviation museum leadership as Director of Aircraft Maintenance for the National Museum of World War II Aviation and the Palm Springs Air Museum. In those roles, he led major restoration projects and managed the maintenance, preservation and readiness of historic aircraft supporting flight demonstrations, airshows, exhibitions and educational programming.

Before entering the museum sector, Voight served 20 years in the U.S. Navy as an Aviation Structural Mechanic, supporting multiple aircraft platforms and holding numerous supervisory leadership positions. His naval career included service with the renowned Blue Angels flight demonstration squadron.

"Matt brings a rare combination of hands-on aviation experience, restoration expertise, museum professionalism and leadership," said John Hiltz, CEO of Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum. "He has spent his career caring for historic aircraft at some of the world's premier aviation institutions, and he understands that stewardship is about more than preserving machines. It is about preserving the stories they carry. As we continue to enhance our exhibits, strengthen care of our collection and raise professional standards across the Museum, Matt is exactly the kind of leader we want helping us move forward."



"I've dedicated my career to preserving aviation history and helping people connect with the stories behind these remarkable aircraft," said Voight. "Ford Island and Pearl Harbor hold a unique place in American aviation history, and I am honored to join the Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum team and contribute to preserving these artifacts and their legacy for future generations."

In his new role, Voight will lead the preservation, restoration and exhibition readiness of the Museum's aircraft and large artifacts, helping ensure the collection is maintained to the highest professional standards while supporting exhibit installations, collections stewardship and the Museum's overall mission.

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About Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum

Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum is more than a museum - it's a place where history, innovation, and inspiration come together. Located on Historic Ford Island, the site of the December 7, 1941 attack, the Museum stands on America's World War II aviation battlefield. Visitors can walk through bullet-scarred hangars, see legendary aircraft like the Japanese Zero and B-17 *Swamp Ghost*, and hear the powerful stories of the heroes who changed the course of history. Beyond preserving the past, Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum is committed to shaping the future. Through youth programs, scholarships, and workforce development initiatives, the Museum educates and empowers the next generation. From signature events like PHAMily Fun Day to hands-on STEM experiences, flight simulators and more, the Museum connects people of all ages with the wonder of flight and the importance of history. A 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, the Museum relies on donations, volunteers, and members to fulfill its mission: to steward America's WWII aviation battlefield and inspire future generations through education and remembrance. Join us, support our work, or plan your visit at [PearlHarborAviationMuseum.org](https://www.PearlHarborAviationMuseum.org).

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