



# Festival Media Advisory

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## National Cherry Festival Welcomes U.S. Navy Blue Angels in 2027

**Traverse City, MI (December 9, 2025)** - Ready for takeoff! National Cherry Festival officials are thrilled to announce the **U.S. Navy Blue Angels will return in 2027!** The prestigious jet team will be bringing their breathtaking aerial mastery back to Northern Michigan on July 3 & 4, 2027.

The U.S. Navy Blue Angels unveiled their schedules for the next two years at the International Council of Air Shows (ICAS) Conference in Las Vegas today. The National Cherry Festival is honored to be selected as a featured show site.

“We look forward to welcoming the Blue Angels back to Traverse City in 2027,” said **Kat Paye, Executive Director of the National Cherry Festival**. “Their precision, power, and unmatched skill make them a Festival favorite, and their return underscores the strong partnerships we’ve built and our standing as a premier destination for world-class aerial performances.”

Festival officials also learned at the ICAS Conference that the Air Combat Command F-16 Viper Demo Team will be performing at the 100th National Cherry Festival on July 4 and 5, 2026. As we continue building an incredible 2026 airshow, stay tuned for more exciting announcements leading up to the Festival’s milestone celebration, taking place July 4–11, 2026.

Each year, the Festival applies for jet teams through the required United States Department of Defense Form 2535, making these selections a significant achievement. The Festival will begin the application process for the 2028 airshow season in the coming months.

The Blue Angels’ return builds on their longstanding connection with the Festival, dating back to 1988. Having captivated audiences many times over the years, their upcoming performance will be another highlight in the Festival’s rich history of precision flight demonstrations. Their 2027 appearance upholds the Festival’s tradition of hosting one of the U.S. military’s premier aerial teams.

Visitors can look forward to the extraordinary skill and dedication of the U.S. Navy Blue Angels in 2027, an appearance that continues to elevate the Festival’s legacy as a must-see destination for breathtaking aerial showcases.

For more information on the National Cherry Festival and upcoming air show announcements, please visit [www.cherryfestival.org](http://www.cherryfestival.org).