



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**2017 VIRGINIA MOTOR INTERNATIONAL AUTO SHOW ROARS
INTO RICHMOND FEBRUARY 17-19**

New Model Vehicles, Test Drives, Family Fun and More

RICHMOND – (February 9, 2017) The 2017 [Virginia Motor Trend International Auto Show](#) takes over Richmond Friday, February 17 through Sunday, February 19. For three special days, the Greater Richmond Convention Center will transform into a car aficionado’s dream featuring hundreds of the latest cars, trucks, crossovers, SUVs and hybrids, as well as test drives, specialty vehicles and more.

From car buyers to car lovers, everyone is invited to check out all the latest vehicles in a non-selling environment, talk to product specialists, inspect engines and experience the latest automotive technology. Several new models will turn heads on the show floor including the **Chevrolet Bolt EV, Ford Super Duty, Mercedes-Benz GLC, Motor Trend Car, Truck and SUV of the Year** and more.

“Whether you want to go fast or save the planet, consumers now have more choices than ever,” said Motor Trend Associate Editor Scott Evans. “Crossovers are burning up the marketplace, they just passed family cars in terms of popularity.”

Take the show floor experience to the next level and test drive a lineup of Toyota vehicles at the auto show. Licensed drivers are invited to get a feel for the performance and handling of several new models at the **Toyota Drive Center**, all show days.

Always popular with Virginia’s auto aficionados is the **duPont REGISTRY LIVE** showcase featuring a rare collection of ultra high-end exotic vehicles. Don’t miss this rare opportunity to snap a photo of these dazzling gems! To complete this spectacular showcase, the show will also host three classic automobile and hot rod displays courtesy of the Central Virginia Mustang Club, Victory 7 Mustang Club and Oldies But Goodies Cruizers.

Dare Devil Dogs return to the Virginia Motor Trend International Auto Show! Award-winning trainer Laura Moretz and her dogs will dazzle showgoers with fast-paces, high-flying tricks on Friday, February 17 at 2:30 p.m., 5 p.m. and 7:30 pm; Saturday, February 18, at 12 p.m., 2:30 pm, 5 p.m. and 7:30 pm; and Sunday, February 19, at 11 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 4 p.m.

Richmond Animal Care & Control (RACC) will be on site with adorable dogs looking for loving homes Friday, February 17, 3-6 p.m., Saturday, February 18 and Sunday, February 19, from 12-3 p.m. Attendees are invited to visit with the dogs. **2016 Mrs. Virginia Shena Mason Dixon** will be on hand to assist visitors find their new forever furry friends on Sunday, February 19, from 12 – 3 p.m. Established in 1902, RACC was the first city pound and is the only open admission public shelter, (no animal is ever turned away), in the City of Richmond. Last year RACC cared for more than 3,200 animals. Additionally, **Bandit's Adoption and Rescue of K9's (BARK)**, a dog rescue and adoption non profit organization will be on site with dogs looking for forever homes on Sunday, February 19, from 12 – 3 p.m.

Stop by the **Virginia State Police Display** to learn about Help Eliminate Auto Theft (H.E.A.T.), a program that educates the community on how to prevent the theft of vehicles and vehicle parts. This special display will also feature a H.E.A.T. sponsored vehicle, as well as a new Virginia State Police patrol car.

Special events and appearances at the Virginia Motor Trend International Auto Show:

- **2016 Miss Virginia Meet & Greet** – The reigning 2016 Miss Virginia Michaela Gabriella will make a special appearance on Saturday, February 18, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., *courtesy of Citgo*.
- **Citgo Gas Cards** – The first 100 lucky showgoers on Friday, February 17 (opening day) will receive a \$10 Citgo gas card, *courtesy of Citgo*.
- **Face Painting & Balloon Art** – Children are invited to enjoy face painting and colorful balloon art on Sunday, February 19, from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

The Virginia Motor Trend International Auto Show will be open to the public Friday, February 17 through Sunday, February 19, at the Greater Richmond Convention Center, located at 403 North Third Street, in Richmond. Show hours are Friday and Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$5 for senior citizens (62 and older) and military (w/any DOD/ID) and free for children (12 and under). For additional information, visit www.VirginiaAutoShow.com or follow www.facebook.com/VirginiaMotorTrendInternationalAutoShow, [@VAAutoShow](https://twitter.com/VAAutoShow) on Twitter and [@VAAutoShow](https://www.instagram.com/VAAutoShow) on Instagram. Hashtag: #VAAutoShow

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