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## Chicago Auto Show Highlights Crowd Pleasers and Aftermarket Stars

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The Chicago Auto Show is a welcome February distraction from winter and the sobering news surrounding coronavirus. Although CES is creeping into the auto show lineup, the Chicago Auto Show is now the first large auto show of the year and is known for its consumer appeal and Midwestern focus. It is also one of the largest auto shows in the world.

The trucks, vans, and specialized aftermarket products are always crowd pleasers at the Chicago Auto Show. This year, Mercedes debuted a <u>Weekender pop up camper</u>, with a pop up top providing a bed for two, and more camping-ready details in the van (inspiring many #vanlife posts). RAM also showcased <u>a Rebel truck</u> outfitted with camping gear, including a tent.

We had also heard about the <u>GMC Sierra Denali HD All Mountain</u>, a tricked out GMC Sierra on tank tracks. Visitors were treated to an up close view of the specialized Sierra, and it thrilled guests and <u>bloggers alike</u>.

Other popular modified trucks included a pinstripe painted <u>Silverado HD Carhartt</u>, race ready <u>Nissan Frontier</u> and an off-road <u>Kia Seltos</u>.

Perhaps the biggest draw at the Chicago Auto Show this year is a Ford GT Liquid Carbon Edition, manufactured out of a single batch of carbon fiber. At only \$750,000, it is a crowd favorite and generating buzz, with critics lauding it as "breathtaking" and "drool worthy".

On the more practical (and attainable) end of the spectrum, the VW Atlas SUV debuted its MY 2021 update, with a longer length and standard 2.0 liter four-cylinder turbocharged engine. Chrysler also debuted an AWD version of the Chrysler Pacifica that includes its popular Stow 'N Go seating, gaining oohs and aahs from the minivan crowd. It will go on sale in fall 2020.

The Chicago Auto Show may not boast the glam factor of the Detroit or Geneva auto shows, but it is a great place to check out updates to favorites and a few wow-factor debuts.

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