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Solano County Fair Association Presents 16th Annual Youth Ag Day

Donations and volunteers sought to bring this unique experience to local third-graders

Solano County, CA – Thousands of excited third-graders are expected to descend on the Solano County Fairgrounds on Tuesday, March 20, 2018 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. for the 16th annual Youth Ag Day. The Solano County Fair Association hosts this free interactive event as part of its ongoing efforts to educate Solano County’s youth about the county’s rich agricultural heritage and about the crucial role agriculture plays in our daily lives.

Youth Ag Day is one of the Fairgrounds’ largest, community-serving events second only to the annual Solano County Fair. “This is one of the highlights of our year-round calendar of events,” stated Board of Directors President, Mike Coakley. “We get to share the agricultural history that is at the heart of what fairs and fairgrounds are all about. Ag Day does this in a fun and educational way and leads up to the bigger line up of entertainment and attractions found at the annual Solano County Fair.”

Youth Ag Day is expected to bring more than 3,000 third-grade students from across Solano County, along with their teachers and chaperones, to the Fairgrounds for this one-of-a-kind educational field trip. The fun and exciting format allows students to gain first-hand experiences through more than 25 learning stations showcasing a diverse range of agricultural activities and exhibits.

“I’ll never forget my first year coordinating Youth Ag Day,” recalls Marcia Coffman, Special Projects Coordinator. “I was watching one of the 4H students show their dairy cow. A third-grade boy came running up and very excitedly said ‘WOW! What is that?’ I explained to him that it was a dairy cow, realizing that he had only seen a cow in a book or from a distance



driving along the freeway, never up close and in person. That's when I knew just how important Ag Day is to teaching our county third graders about agriculture. I'm so proud of how much the event has grown over the years and my hope is that we can reach 100% participation by our third grade classes in the years to come."

Youth Ag Day is presented by the Solano County Fair Association in collaboration with the Solano County Department of Agriculture and Solano County 4-H and Future Farmers of America (FFA), along with many other presenters, volunteers, sponsors and donors from our community.

The popularity of this event has continued to grow each year thanks to the generous financial support of local businesses and individuals. Many third-grade classes would not be able to attend without financial assistance from donors to cover the increasing cost of transportation. Youth Ag Day is seeking sponsors of any level to help allow this priceless opportunity to continue and grow for Solano County third-graders. Bus sponsorships in the amount of \$500 are especially important to the event's success in order to serve the transportation needs of classrooms from throughout the county.

Volunteer opportunities exist to greet arriving classes, assist at registration, direct classroom groups through the learning stations, coordinate group flow within the exhibit buildings, and assist the presenting organizations. Volunteers are integral to the success of Youth Ag Day and are encouraged to sign up early to be a part of this rewarding event.

School registration, presenter, sponsor and volunteer information and online sign-up forms are all available on the Youth Ag Day page of the Fairgrounds' web site at SCFair.com. For additional information, email AgDay@SCFair.org or call 707-551-2002.



Established in 1949 to produce the annual County Fair, the Solano County Fair Association is a non-profit agency that is governed by a Board of Directors which is appointed by the Solano County Board of Supervisors. The Solano County Fair Association has been providing educational, cultural, artistic, commercial and recreational programs to the residents of Solano County for over 65 years. The mission of the Solano County Fair Association is “to ensure a positive experience for the public by providing a year-round multi-purpose venue that showcases and celebrates the wide variety of resources and activities available to our diverse community.”

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