

MINNESOTA STATE FAIR

NEWS RELEASE

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Minnesota State Fair Encourages Everyone to Join in the Tradition of Competition at the Fair

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St. Paul, Minn. – The Minnesota State Fair invites all to join in the tradition of competition by putting their best to “Minnesota's Blue Ribbon Test” at the 2023 Great Minnesota Get-Together. As part of this annual competition ritual, entrants will compete in hundreds of different State Fair competitions for ribbons, trophies, more than \$1.5 million in total prize money and just good old-fashioned bragging rights.

Competition entries are now open with the exception of open class and FFA livestock competitions, which will open on June 26. The State Fair encourages perennial competitors and those who have never entered in the past to become part of the showcase of the very best our great state has to offer in categories including creative activities, fine arts, talent, school projects, flowers, vegetables, fruits, wine, livestock, farm products and more.

This year marks the 50th Annual Amateur Talent Contest, which is a competition as legendary as corndogs and cotton candy. Over the past 50 years, more than 17,000 acts have auditioned and from that more than 5,500 acts have gone on to compete for the right to be Minnesota’s top talent, from singers to dancers to instrumentalists to every type of performer in between. The contest has awarded more than \$250,000 in cash prizes. Registration is currently open, and auditions begin at the end of July. To learn more about the Amateur Talent Contest visit: mnstatefair.org/competitions/amateur-talent-contests/

Those interested in putting their best to “Minnesota's Blue Ribbon Test” can visit mnstatefair.org/competitions to learn how to enter. Deadlines for entering Minnesota State Fair competitions are as follows:

Interactive Exhibits/Demonstrations (FFA)	June 15
Landscape Design & Construction (FFA)	July 14
Fine Arts	July 17
Horses	July 24 (mail entries); Aug. 4 (online entries)
Amateur Talent Contest	July 26
Beef and Dairy Cattle (Open Class and FFA)	July 31 (mail entries); Aug. 2 (online entries)
Sheep (Open Class and FFA)	July 31 (mail entries); Aug. 2 (online entries)
Swine (Open Class and FFA)	July 31 (mail entries); Aug. 2 (online entries)
Poultry & Rabbits (Open Class and FFA)	July 31 (mail entries); Aug. 2 (online entries)
Dairy, Boer and FFA Meat Goats	July 31 (mail entries); Aug. 2 (online entries)
Llamas	July 31 (mail entries); Aug. 2 (online entries)
Stock Dogs	July 31 (mail entries); Aug. 2 (online entries)
Creative Activities (baked products, canned & preserved food, special contests, needlecraft, garment making, work of senior citizens, handcrafts and collections)	Aug. 1
K-12 Competition (school projects)	Aug. 1
Minnesota State Fair Scholarship	Aug. 1
Agriculture Technology (FFA)	Aug. 2
Vegetable & Potato (FFA)	Aug. 2
Christmas Trees	Aug. 9
Crop Art & Scarecrow	Aug. 9
Farm Crops	Aug. 9
Minnesota State Fair Flower Show	Aug. 10
Fruit & Wine	Aug. 10
Bee & Honey	Aug. 10
Vegetable & Potato (Open Class)	Aug. 10
Crops (FFA)	Aug. 11
Judging Contests (FFA)	Aug. 21
Safe Tractor Operators Contest (FFA)	Aug. 21

Minnesota 4-H members can visit <https://extension.umn.edu/4-h-events/4-h-minnesota-state-fair> for the 2023 4-H competition premium book and deadlines.

The Minnesota State Fair is one of the largest and best-attended expositions in the world. Showcasing Minnesota's finest agriculture, art and industry, the Great Minnesota Get-Together is 12 Days of Fun Ending Labor Day. Follow along on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and TikTok @mnstatefair for year-round Minnesota State Fair updates. The 2023 Minnesota State Fair will run Aug. 24 through Labor Day, Sept. 4. Visit mnstatefair.org for more information.

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