



May 7, 2001

For Immediate Release

2001 State Fair of Virginia:

Same location and traditions

New competitions and policies

The State Fair of Virginia, set for September 27 through October 7 at the Richmond Raceway Complex in Richmond, will again feature animals and agricultural presentations as the core component of the Fair experience. This year's Fair offers over 30 youth programs that in recent years have drawn over 5,000 student participants from throughout the commonwealth.

Atlantic Rural Exposition, Inc., the private, non-profit presenter of the State Fair, announces that with the reaffirmation of traditional programs comes a new fee structure for exhibitors and competitors.

Starting in 2001, all competitors in youth contests and shows must have a participant ticket to enter the Fair. Student participant tickets, good for one day, cost \$5. All advisors, leaders and bus drivers will be provided a complimentary ticket when accompanying the participating students to the Fair. This ticket is good for that specific day only. Complimentary tickets must be requested before September 17 through the State Fair Ticket office. No complimentary tickets will be offered at the Gate. Complete information is available by calling the State Fair of Virginia ticket office at 800.588.3247 extension 212.

Competitions held for FFA members include Aquaculture, Agriculture Engineering, Horticulture, Small Engines Troubleshooting, Tractor Troubleshooting, Forestry Field Day Championships, and Student Gardens.

Skills USA/VICA host skill competitions in Air Conditioning, Automotive, Collision Repair, Carpentry, Cosmetology, Job Skills Demonstrations, Masonry, Total Quality Management and Residential Wiring.

Exhibitors in the Youth shows will be charged a \$5 entry fee **for each competition area in which they participate**. Those competition areas include shows held for youth in Beef, Dairy, Dairy Goats, Poultry, Sheep, and Swine. Monies collected support the State Fair youth programs. **Exhibitors in shows will not be charged the fee to participate in contests that are held**

during the same time period. Contests held for members of 4H and FFA include Crops Judging, Junior Dairymen, Junior Stockmen, and Junior Forester.

Students participating in most Fair competitions are eligible to win State Fair Scholarships. Since 1989, over \$480,000 has been awarded to 777 student winners from throughout Virginia. We look forward to recognizing the winners from the 2001 Fair.

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