



Media Release

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For Immediate Release

Sonoma County Fair Cancelled Amid COVID-19 Concerns

SANTA ROSA, Calif. (April 28, 2020) – The cancellation of the Sonoma County Fair was announced at this evening’s monthly Sonoma County Fair Board of Directors meeting held virtually.

“Making the decision to cancel this year’s Fair was not taken lightly” said Board President Max Mickelsen. The Fair is truly a labor of love that our Board of Directors, staff, vendors, sponsors, exhibitors, community members and volunteers pour many months of planning into. However the decision to cancel the Sonoma County Fair was made today following the determination from the County Health Officer that there cannot be any mass gatherings through the end of the summer.

“We are deeply saddened about the need to cancel the 2020 Sonoma County Fair, however the health and safety of our community takes precedence during this unprecedented time of crisis,” said Becky Bartling, CEO of the Sonoma County Event Center at the Fairgrounds. “The Sonoma County Fair is a beloved family tradition for our community, as well as a source of livelihood for many individuals and businesses. Our hearts go out to all our partners in the Fair, the exhibitors and especially the youth that will miss the Fair experience this year.”

For many junior livestock exhibitors the Fair represents a culmination of many months to years of work. Through livestock projects youth members not only gain animal science knowledge; but valuable skills such as responsibility, time management and problem solving that last a lifetime. The Fair recognizes these young people’s hard work and is committed to assisting with a process for youth market livestock exhibitors to complete their projects. Please watch for more

updates in the weeks ahead as to how our community can help support young people with market livestock projects.

We are so thankful to the healthcare workers and first responders who are keeping our communities safe, the teachers who keep our children learning and the countless community heroes who are going to extraordinary efforts to help others during this great time of need. We salute you!

Please stay healthy and strong Sonoma County!! We will be back to celebrate with you all in 2021 at the Sonoma County Fair!!! #FairStrong

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