



MEDIA CONTACTS:

Eloise E. Rodriguez
Bristol PR & Communications
Cell. 786-326-2221
eloise@bristolpr.com

Kimi Hurtado
Bristol PR & Communications
Cell. 786-302-9177
kimi@bristolpr.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

World of Agriculture & Exhibits Are Wilder & Bigger Than Ever At The 2016 Miami Youth Fair

MIAMI, FL – March 2016 – Now in its 65th year, The Miami-Dade County Youth Fair & Exposition’s longstanding tradition of impressive exhibits continues from March 17-April 10. Exhibits this year will feature the return of academic and art exhibitions from talented Miami-Dade County students.

The Youth Fair’s goals are to share South Florida agriculture with guests while offering different ways of interacting with nature and science, and showcase youth achievement in the fine arts, crafts, education, agriculture, and science and technology. Fairgoers will be able to enjoy more than 53,000 exhibits.

“This year’s World of Agriculture and indeed all of the exhibits will be sure to amaze with larger than life anniversary-themed attractions plus talented work by Miami-Dade students,” said Bob Hohenstein, president and CEO.

New Exhibits in 2016:

- **VEX IQ** - Robotics platform, which transforms STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) learning for young students. Participants snap together VEX IQ parts and build a simple, powerful robot to explore open-ended challenges, which are designed to enhance their STEM skills. Teams will love driving their robots in 60-second Teamwork Challenge matches and testing their skills in two optional 60-second Robot and Programming Challenges.
- **LEGO® Construction Contest** - Children will be able to show off their building talents and use their imagination to create an original LEGO® construction creation using their own LEGO® bricks. The goal of this competition is to bring the concept of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (S.T.E.M.) to life.
- **Poster Contest** - Children grades 2-5 will answer the question, “How do you celebrate an important event?” allowing them to illustrate their understanding of the phrase “Let’s Celebrate!”

- more-

- **65th Year Anniversary-themed Butter Sculpture** - Handcrafted by professional competitive sculptors, using real butter, guests are invited to watch the process as it unfolds, live, during limited dates of The Youth Fair.
- **Cowtown USA** – Back in 2016 offering one-of-a kind experiences, guests can observe and learn the process of making butter, ice cream, cheese and soap directly from professional farmers. Guests can also learn how to milk a cow through interactive demonstrations. This year’s additions at Cowtown include traditional broom making and custom leather craft demonstrations.

Arnold Hall

On display inside Arnold Hall are exhibits from students attending pre-kindergarten to 12th grade. Every entry receives an award; each student earns a 1st, 2nd, 3rd or 4th place ribbon.

More than 40 divisions ranging from Crafts to Fine Arts, Posters to Popsicle sticks, Robotics to “Renew, Reuse and Recycle.”

Community Stage in the Mary E. Reilly Coliseum: Both school and community groups will take the Community Stage to perform. Every day will bring something different and exciting to center-stage.

- Dance Performances
- Magic Shows
- Award Ceremonies
- Fantasy Theatre Performances
- Gospel Showcases
- Derby Race
- Fashion Shows
- Jazz Showcase
- Variety of Entertainment

Competitions in the Mary E. Reilly Coliseum

- Robotics - VEX IQ
- BattleBots
- Metric 500 Race
- Bridge Design Competition
- Lego League Robotic Competition
- LEGO® Construction Contest
- Poster Contest

- more-

Performing Arts at FIU's Wertheim Performing Arts Center:

There will be a variety of competitions and other exciting presentations taking place March 30 through April 6.

- Vocal
- Piano
- Dance
- World Language Drama

The World of Agriculture Tent:

- Landscaping Displays
- Cattle
- Poultry
- Cavies
- Rabbits
- Hogs
- Horses

Hen House: The popular hatching chick exhibit boasts an incubator where visitors can watch the miracle of hatching chicks peck their way out of an egg every day of The Youth Fair.

Youth & Open Cattle Competitions: The Youth Fair is a premium competition show for cattle in Florida. Purebred cattle are professionally shown. Some weigh in at more than 2,000 pounds. Agriculture exhibit programs help to promote our local agriculture community and educate students on the principles of developing, implementing, and managing agricultural based businesses.

March 17, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Market Steer Fitting & Grooming

March 17, 5 to 8 p.m. Market Steer Show and Showmanship

March 19, 5:30 to 7 p.m. Market Reception

March 19, 7 to 10 p.m. Market Auction and Sale

March 20, 6 to 9 p.m. Angus Open Show

March 23, 6 to 9 p.m. Limousin Show

March 26, 6 to 9 p.m. Brangus Show

March 30, 3 to 6 p.m. Open Red Brahman Show

March 30, 6 to 9 p.m. Open Gray Brahman Show

April 2, 4 to 9 p.m. Dairy Show

April 6, 6 to 9 p.m. Simmental Show

April 6, 3 to 6 p.m. Santa Gertrudis Show

April 9, 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Ranch Sorting

April 10, 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Ranch Sorting

Swine, Lamb, Rabbit and Cavy Competitions:

March 18, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.	Market Swine Show, Showmanship, Fitting & Grooming
March 18, 4 p.m. to 49p.m.	Market Lamb Show, Showmanship, Fitting & Grooming
March 19, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.	Rabbit & Cavy Breed ID & Showmanship
March 19, 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.	Rabbit & Cavy Ask Me Talk

Equestrian Events:

March 21, Saturday

- 12:30 p.m. – South Florida Trail Riders Parade
- 1 p.m. – “How to Show and Win with your Horse In-Hand” clinic for the Halter Show Class with Samantha Raulerson
- 2 p.m. – “Reining Without a Bridle” demonstration with Juan “Tato” Rodriguez
- 2:15 to 4 p.m. – “Another Perfect Horse” clinic with Ginger Krenz

March 24, Thursday

- 7 p.m. - Homestead Everglades Posse Mounted Drill

March 25, Friday

- 7 p.m. - Horse Soccer Team Competition
- 8 p.m. - Escudero Paso Fino Riding School USA, honoring Jaime Escudero
- 8:30 p.m. - Homestead Rodeo Association Queen, Nicole Walker

March 27, Sunday

- 5 p.m. – Hippico Nicaraguan Folkloric Dancers and Parade of Horses

April 7, Thursday

- 12 - 10 p.m. – Homestead Everglades Posse Mounted Drill Team

April 8, Friday

- 7 p.m. – Championship Cutting Competition,

April 9 & 10, Saturday & Sunday

- 9 a.m. – 10 p.m. – Ranch Sorting: An event that pits a team of two riders on horseback against the clock. The sport is sanctioned by the Ranch Sorting National Championships (RSNC) and is guided by the rules and judges from the RSN, which has 19,000 members strong. Its goal is to preserve the heritage and integrity of the ranching lifestyle while providing a family oriented, competitive riding experience at the grassroots level.

Howdy Program Tours – April 4 and 5 – 9:00 a.m.:

The Youth Fair invites third graders to learn about agriculture and how it affects their community – from the food they eat to the clothing they wear. With the assistance of volunteer Miami-Dade County high school Ag Ambassadors and the cooperation of our agriculture community, youngsters experience all the ‘World of Agriculture’ has to offer, including horticulture projects, cows, hogs, lambs, cavies, poultry and rabbits that students have entered for exhibition and are judged for awards. Their tour includes a visit to Cowtown USA. Each year, approximately 500 third graders participate in the special tours.

The Youth Fair runs from March 17 – April 10, 2016, except March 28-29 and April 4-5 at Tamiami Park, which has been its home for 44 years, located at Coral Way (SW 24th Street) & SW 107th Avenue.

Gates open at 3:00 p.m. March 17, 18, 30, 31, April 1, 6 & 7. Gates open at 12, noon all other operating days. Admission at the gate is \$14 with free admission all day, every operating day for guests 5 years and younger and 65 years and better. Admission is also free all day for active duty and retired military personnel (with valid military ID) on Opening Day, March 17 and each Wednesday. Returning in 2016 is The Youth Fair 21-Day Admission Pass, which allows guests to pay \$25 for one admission each operating day and includes one free Souvenir Cup. Additional discount offers and coupons are available at www.FairExpo.com. Parking is free every day, all day. The Pay One Price Unlimited Ride Card is \$28 weekdays, \$35 on weekends at the fairgrounds.

The Youth Fair offers many amenities for families including stroller and wheelchair rental, lost and found, paved walkways, convenient sitting areas, lush landscaping, restroom and diaper changing facilities and more. Sponsors include Coca-Cola, South Florida Ford and Sedano’s Supermarkets. For more information, visit www.FairExpo.com or call (305) 223-7060.

About the Miami-Dade County Youth Fair & Exposition

The Miami-Dade County Youth Fair & Exposition (The Youth Fair) is the largest charity event in South Florida. The not-for-profit association is dedicated to promoting education and agriculture while showcasing and rewarding youth achievement and providing quality family entertainment, all without taxpayer dollars. The annual Youth Fair exhibits more than 53,000 student projects to more than 650,000 Youth Fair guests and awards more than \$300,000 annually in college scholarships, cash premiums and awards to students. To date, The Youth Fair has presented well above \$10 million to the Miami-Dade community. It was recognized as the 2015 Leisure & Entertainment Services Firm of the Year by the Latin Builder's Association, was named as the 2015 Non-Profit Organization of the Year by the South Florida Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and was awarded the 2015 Diamond Award for Outstanding Hospitality Entity by the Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce. The Fair Exposition Center, which is the second largest convention center in Miami-Dade County, hosts an additional 70 community events each year. Visit fairexpo.com or call 305-223-7060.

###