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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Miami-Dade Youth Fair wins big at international competition Takes home 24 awards from International Association of Fairs and Exposition

MIAMI, Fla. – Dec. 23, 2015 – The Miami-Dade Youth Fair & Exposition representatives walked onto the stage 24 times to receive awards this month at the 125th International Association of Fairs and Exposition (IAFE) Convention in Las Vegas.

“We are proud to come home from the IAFE competition with more than twice the awards we won last year, including a ‘Best of Division’ award. It is humbling to know that our peers continue to rank us among the top fairs in the United States and Canada,” said Robert Hohenstein, president and chief executive officer.

The Youth Fair staff, in going up against nearly 1,200 fairs from around the world, accepted the **‘Best of Division in Competitive Exhibits’ award plus** eight first-place awards, six second-place awards and nine third-place awards. Industry leaders from across the United States and Canada judged the entries.

In addition to the awards ceremony, The Youth Fair attendees used the opportunity to showcase winning exhibits, attend educational seminars and evaluate new entertainment and vendors.

The 24 awards are as follows:

- Best of Division in Competitive Exhibits
- First Place:
 - Overall Program for Competitive Agricultural Exhibitors
 - Competitive Exhibit Display – Single photo
 - Competitive Exhibit Display - Photo series
 - Newspaper Ad - Black & White
 - Single Brochure or Flier
 - Electronic Newsletter
 - Website
 - Mobile Web
- Second place:
 - New or Unique Division of Competitive Exhibits
 - Single Photo of a General Display
 - General Display Photo Series
 - Web Advertisement
 - Unique Advertising Specialties/Merchandise/Souvenirs

- Promotional Event
- Third place:
 - Overall Agricultural Program for the Non-Agricultural Fair-Going Public
 - Agriculture Photo – Fair Agriculture Photo
 - Agriculture Photo – Fair Agriculture Series
 - Radio
 - Newspaper Ad – Color
 - Magazine Ad
 - Miscellaneous Marketing/Promotional Display or Piece
 - Overall Social Media Campaign
 - Best Marketing Campaign

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 in 2015 as the Leisure & Entertainment Services Firm of the Year by the Latin Builder's Association, the Non-Profit Organization of the Year by the South Florida Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, and was the Diamond Award Winner 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.

The International Association of Fairs and Expositions (IAFE), based in Springfield, Mo., is a voluntary, nonprofit corporation, serving state, provincial, regional, and county agricultural fairs, shows, exhibitions, and expositions. Its associate members include state and provincial associations of fairs, non-agricultural expositions and festivals, associations, corporations, and individuals engaged in providing products and services to its members, all of whom are interested in the improvement of fairs, shows, expositions, and allied fields. (<https://www.fairsandexpos.com>)

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