

Press Contact:
Maureen McElroy
marketing@sonoma-marinfair.org
707.490-5079



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And That's a Wrap!

Music, Carnival Rides, Farm Exhibits, Fair Food, and the World's Ugliest Dog Conclude The 83rd Sonoma-Marin Fair

PETALUMA, CALIF (June 30, 2023) -- The 2023 Sonoma-Marin Fair, held from June 21-25 concluded with remarkable success, attracting a multitude of enthusiastic attendees from near and far. The week-long celebration of community, agriculture, and entertainment featured a captivating concert series, exhilarating carnival rides, the spirited Farm Olympics, and the internationally renowned World's Ugliest Dog contest.

"We are delighted with the success of the 2023 Sonoma-Marin Fair," said Tawny Tesconi, Sonoma-Marin Fair CEO. "This year's fair truly embodied the spirit of our community and showcased the vibrant culture that defines us. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who attended and participated, making this event truly unforgettable."

The Exhibitors took center stage with a total of 734 exhibitors and a staggering 3,289 exhibits. This remarkable participation underscores the fair's commitment to fostering growth, learning, and community engagement through agricultural showcases and youth development programs.

The concert series rocked the fairgrounds each evening featuring a lineup of incredibly talented artists who delivered heart-pounding performances. Headliners Gavin DeGraw and Randy Houser enthralled the audience with their exceptional vocals and contagious energy. Concertgoers joined in singing along to their chart-topping hits, creating an unforgettable atmosphere that resonated throughout the fairgrounds. The concert series also showcased Switchfoot, Pride & Joy and concluded with Latin American music with Banda Poterero, Sonora Santanera and La Gran Sonora.

Highlighting the fair's deep agricultural roots, the Farm Olympics brought forth the talents and skills of the local agricultural community competing in various entertaining challenges. Spectators cheered on as participants showcased their agility, strength, and expertise in events such as hay bucking, wild cow milking, pig scramble and much more. The Farm Olympics not only celebrated the region's rich agricultural heritage but also paid tribute to the hard work and dedication of the farmers who contribute to the local community.

Undoubtedly, one of the most highly anticipated events of the fair was the World's Ugliest Dog contest, which drew a massive crowd of 1000 spectators and garnered international media attention. While the contest celebrated the individuality and charm of beloved pets, emphasizing the importance of acceptance and inclusivity, one pup reigned supreme – Scooter, the 7-year-old Chinese Crested owned by Linda Elmquist from Tucson, Arizona took first place. Four-time contestant, Wild Thang a 7-year-old Pekingese owned by Ann Lewis took second with Harold Bartholomew, a 16-year-old Chihuahua owned by Sabrina Impelido, taking both the Spirit Award and third place. The media coverage of the contest reached audiences worldwide, further solidifying the Sonoma-Marín Fair's reputation as a global destination for extraordinary events.

The Sonoma-Marín Fair continues to be a shining example of community unity, highlighting the region's rich traditions, talents, and unique offerings. The fair concluded with a great turnout and widespread recognition, once again bringing the community together for another remarkable celebration.

The Sonoma-Marín Fair is an annual event that celebrates the rich traditions of agriculture, youth development, and community engagement. With a focus on showcasing livestock, arts, and crafts, as well as providing entertainment for all ages, the fair aims to bring together communities and foster a sense of appreciation for rural heritage. The Sonoma-Marín Fair has operated continuously since 1936 except during World War II (1943-1945) and the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. For more information, visit www.sonomamarinfair.org.

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