



**NEXT YEAR
THE BEST
GETS EVEN BETTER**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEDIA CONTACT

Sabrina Rodriguez, Media Director

Cell: (510) 378-0822

Office: (916) 263-1599

srodriguez@calexpo.com

**FRIENDS OF THE CALIFORNIA STATE FAIR OFFER THOUSANDS IN
COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS**

(SACRAMENTO, CA) - Friends of the California State Fair will begin accepting scholarship applications today for the 2017-2018 academic school year. The application is available at CAStateFair.org. Scholarships will be awarded in the following areas: academic achievement, agriculture, business, the arts, culinary/hospitality/event planning, fair industry, international agricultural trade, State Fair past exhibitor/student assistant, viticulture/enology, teacher preparation, and Trade School.

This program seeks to motivate well-rounded and high academic achievers that will be enrolled in a four-year accredited college/university, community college or trade school program in the state of California for the 2017-2018 school year. Applications are due Thursday, March 2, 2017. Applicants will be evaluated on the basis of personal commitment, goals established for their chosen field, leadership potential and civic accomplishments. The overall outstanding candidate will receive an additional \$5,000 from the Ironstone Concours Foundation/Friends of the California State Fair.

The Friends of the Fair Scholarship Program was initiated in 1993 and is a collaborative project of the California State Fair, the California Agricultural Advisory Council, the State Fair Gala Committee, and the Friends of the California State Fair. The recipients of the scholarships will be honored at the Friends of the California State Fair Gala in June 2017.

Information about categories, eligibility, and the application process can be found at CAStateFair.org. Additional questions can be directed to Natalie Minas at (916) 263-3277 or scholarship@calexpo.com

About the Friends of the California State Fair

The Friends of the California State Fair is a charitable, non-profit, volunteer organization that supports programs and education initiatives at the California Exposition State Fair. For nearly three decades the Friends of the California State Fair have supported California students through their scholarship program. In 2016, 22 students representing 21 California cities were awarded \$46,500, including a \$5,000 scholarship from Ironstone Concours Foundation/Friends of the California State Fair awarded to Brandon Ho from Napa, California.

About the California State Fair

For more than 160 years, the California State Fair has showcased the best of the Golden State. During the 2016 State Fair at Cal Expo nearly 675,000 people experienced the best and made memories that will last a lifetime. Cal Expo was dedicated as a place to celebrate California's achievements, industries, agriculture, diversity of its people, traditions and trends that shape the Golden State's future.

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