



Michigan Fair and Exhibition Industry Offers Scholarships

for immediate release

Community volunteers and youth have always been the backbone of Michigan fairs and festivals. In addition to youth involved with fairs, there are a number of partners such as carnivals, concessionaires and entertainers that support the Michigan fair industry. Beyond the annual fair event, there are insurance providers, equipment providers and a multitude of companies that provide support to fairs, festivals and exhibitions throughout the state. The Michigan Association of Fairs and Exhibitions (MAFE) is a member organization of these fairs, festivals and industry partners founded in 1885.

MAFE is excited to announce that scholarships for youth involved with a MAFE member fair, festival or associate will be offered this year and presented at the annual convention banquet on Saturday, January 11, 2025, at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel in Grand Rapids. Up to six \$1000 scholarships will be awarded based on an application due November 2. The MAFE scholarships are a coveted award with over 100 applicants annually. Applications are available on the [MAFE website](#). The applications are reviewed by a committee of industry volunteers with winners notified in December.

“Supporting the next generation of fair leaders through scholarships and post-secondary education is vital to our industry’s sustainability,” shared John Schut, MAFE Executive Director. “In addition to leadership and growth opportunities at the annual convention, Michigan youth are also able to network with leaders in the fair and exhibition industry.” MAFE was established in 1885 and is a voice for the Michigan fair and festival industry. MAFE member fairs and festivals serve all 83 Michigan counties.

Michigan agricultural fairs are an economic and social asset to their communities and the state. They are the ultimate showcases of Michigan agriculture. With a normal attendance of nearly 4.5 million attendees, which is roughly half the population of the state, people of all ages come to enjoy the fun, food, and entertainment they provide of the state, people of all ages come to enjoy the fun, food, and entertainment they provide.

For more information please contact the Michigan Association of Fairs and Exhibitions office at 517-317-4544 or mifairs@gmail.com.

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