



SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEWS RELEASE



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*****NOTE: This release contains a link to AUDIO*****

South Dakota's Largest Classroom Held During the SD State Fair

HURON, S.D. – This school year might be winding down but the South Dakota State Fair is looking ahead to the 2017-2018 school year. Registration forms are now available for South Dakota's Largest Classroom at the 2017 South Dakota State Fair Thursday, Aug. 31 and Friday, Sept. 1.

While attending the fair and participating in activities, students will be able to watch "The Great Bear Show," visit the Noah's Way Exotic Animal Petting Zoo and take part in other specialized programming. The FFA Ag Adventure Center, a one-room schoolhouse, the Dakotaland Museum and 4-H and open class exhibits are also part of the classroom agenda.

"Over 500 students participated in the South Dakota's Largest Classroom in 2016. It's always fun to see the kids enjoying all the educational opportunities the fair has to offer," said Peggy Besch, South Dakota State Fairgrounds manager. "It's a wonderful opportunity for schools to take advantage of, especially since the program is free for schools to participate in."

(*[Download classroom audio here](#)***)**

The classroom is open to public, private and home schools and teachers are encouraged to register as soon as they can. The South Dakota's Largest Classroom program is free to students, teachers and chaperones. Lunch and parking will also be provided. The registration form can be obtained at www.sdstatefair.com or by calling 605-353-7340.

The 2017 South Dakota State Fair will run from Thursday, Aug. 31, through Monday, Sept. 4. Channel Seeds preview night will be Wednesday, Aug. 30. This year's theme is "Seriously Twisted Fun." For more information on State Fair events, contact the Fair office at 800-529-0900, visit www.sdstatefair.com or find them on Facebook or Twitter.

Agriculture is a major contributor to South Dakota's economy, generating \$25.6 billion in annual economic activity and employing over 115,000 South Dakotans. The South Dakota Department of Agriculture's mission is to promote, protect and preserve this industry for today and tomorrow. Visit SDDA online at <http://sdda.sd.gov> or find us on Facebook and Twitter. SD Ag Chat podcasts can be found in the Ag News section at <http://sdda.sd.gov/news>. You may subscribe, free of charge, through Google Play Music, iTunes or from <https://sdagchat.podbean.com/>.