

# **SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEWS RELEASE**

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## **Registration Open for SD's Largest Classroom at the SD State Fair**

HURON, S.D. – Registration is now open for South Dakota's Largest Classroom at the 2019 South Dakota State Fair. The Largest Classroom event will take place on Thursday, Aug. 29, and Friday, Aug. 30, 2019.

Participating schools will be able to take part in specialized programming, including watching the Bengal Tiger Encounter, visiting the Noah's Way Exotic Animal Petting Zoo, and learning from the Hillbilly Silly Science Spectacular. Visits to a one-room schoolhouse, the Dakotaland Museum, FFA Ag Adventure Center, and 4-H and open class exhibits are also part of the classroom agenda.

"It's a great way for teachers to kick off the school year, as well as a great way for students to learn outside of the classroom," said Peggy Besch, State Fair manager. "I encourage schools to take advantage of this hands-on learning opportunity."

The classroom is open to public, private and home schools. Teachers are encouraged to register as soon as possible. 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 [sdstatefair.com](http://sdstatefair.com) or by calling 605.353.7340.

The 2019 South Dakota State Fair will run from Thursday, Aug. 29, through Monday, Sept. 2. Channel Seeds Preview Day will be Wednesday, Aug. 28. This year's theme is "There is no Time Like Fair Time." For more information on State Fair events, contact the fair office at 800.529.0900, visit [sdstatefair.com](http://sdstatefair.com) or find us 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 South Dakota agriculture for today and tomorrow. Visit us online at [sdda.sd.gov](http://sdda.sd.gov) or find us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.