

MY  
**MARYLAND**  
**STATE FAIR**

more than a fair, we're a culture

PRESENTED BY



**TOYOTA**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**2018 MISS MARYLAND AGRICULTURE FUNDRAISING DINNER AND COMPETITION**  
**AT THE 137TH MY MARYLAND STATE FAIR PRESENTED BY TOYOTA**

**MORE THAN A FAIR, WE'RE A CULTURE...AgriCULTURE!**

**WINNERS FROM THE PAST 70 YEARS INVITED BACK TO OFFER ENCOURAGEMENT AND ADVICE**

TIMONIUM, MD - The 2018 MY Maryland State Fair, presented by Toyota, Opening Night will be full of anticipation as 23 young women compete for the title of *Miss Maryland Agriculture* at the **2018 Miss Maryland Agriculture Fundraising Dinner and Competition** on **Thursday, August 23**, in the Cow Palace Show Ring. The fundraising dinner will begin at 6 PM followed by the Miss Maryland Agriculture Contest at 7:30 PM. Tickets are \$30 per person or a table of eight for \$240. For tickets, contact 410-252-0200, x 224 or [rfogle@marylandstatefair.com](mailto:rfogle@marylandstatefair.com). The Miss Maryland Agriculture Cookbook, a collection of recipes by former winners, contestants and supporters, will be available for \$10 to benefit the program.

23 young women between the ages of 16 and 19, who have earned their place in the *Miss Maryland Agriculture* Contest by winning their county Farm Bureau-sponsored contests, will compete for the prestigious title of *Miss Maryland Agriculture*, a scholarship and cash awards valued at approximately \$13,000. In addition, Runners up will share in approximately \$7,000 of scholarship awards. The reigning *Miss Maryland Agriculture 2017 Mackenzie Underwood*, of Cecil County, will have the honor of passing her title on to her successor.

"The purpose of the Miss Maryland Agriculture Program, in partnership with the Maryland State Fair, is to surface young women with an agricultural background to serve as leaders who will promote our agricultural industry and the Farm Bureau organization throughout the year and in the future," said Miss Maryland Agriculture State Coordinator and Maryland State Fair & Agricultural Society Board Member Mary Amoss.

The 23 young women vying for the *Miss Maryland Agriculture 2018* title will be critiqued during a two-day competition, primarily on their farm/agricultural knowledge and experience, speaking ability, Farm Bureau knowledge, and presentation.

Miss Maryland Agriculture winners from the past 70+ years will be invited back to attend the competition and to offer advice and encouragement to this year's Miss Maryland Agriculture contestants. While the title has changed over the years, from Miss Timonium in the 1940s, Timonium Farm Queen, Farm Queen and Maryland Farm Queen in the 1950s, to Maryland Agriculture Ambassador and Miss Maryland Agriculture in the new millennium, the goal to promote the importance of agriculture has remained the same.

"more"

**More Than A Fair, We’re A Culture! The 137th MY Maryland State Fair presented by Toyota is a fun and educational destination** complete with daily exhibits, presentations and entertainment sure to captivate visitors of all ages. No other event provides so much food, fun, family entertainment, and education for so little. The Maryland State Fair, located in Timonium in Baltimore County, starts with **M&T Bank presents Fox-45FAMFest Preview Night with Ridemania, on Thursday, August 23** from 5 PM – 9 PM in the State Fair Park. **Midway rides, games and food areas open until 11 PM. Exhibit Halls, Barns, Midway Rides, Food, Games, and more open Friday, August 24 through Monday, September 3, 2018.** General Fair hours are Monday through Friday, Noon to 10 PM, Saturdays, Sundays, 10 AM – 10 PM and Labor Day Monday, 10 AM to 8 PM.

Hear live national and local entertainment during the **M&T Bank Presents LIVE! OnTrack! Concert Series**, featuring celebrated new Country artists **Chase Bryant** and **Chris Lane** on August 24; and, Rock band **Smash Mouth** on August 25; Legendary Classic Rockers **Jefferson Starship** on September 1; and, Country music sensation **Chris Janson** on September 2. Concerts begin at 7:30 PM, in the **LIVE! OnTrack!** Infield.

Enjoy **thrills & chills on the Midway** and **tame rides in Kiddie Land** play fun, **Fair games**, and taste a **feast of Fair and farm foods**, Monday-Thursday, 12 Noon-close and Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays & Labor Day, Monday, 10 AM–close.

Explore **The 4-H/Home Arts, Farm & Garden Buildings, and The Exhibition Hall** for thousands of the best-of-the-best of Maryland creations and exhibits, Monday – Friday, 12 Noon – 10 PM, Saturdays and Sundays, 10 AM – 10 PM, and Labor Day Monday 10 AM – 8 PM. **The Mosner-Miller Museum/DNR Building** closes daily at 8 PM.

See all kinds of **livestock and horses in the Cow Palace, Barns, Show Rings and Birthing Center**. Early risers are welcome to arrive early to attend the livestock and horse shows in the various livestock barns, buildings and show rings. Go to [www.marylandstatefair.com](http://www.marylandstatefair.com) for 4-H and Open Class Show schedules.

Experience **Live Thoroughbred Horse Racing**, Friday, August 24 – Sunday, August 26 and Friday, August 31 – Monday, September 3. Post Time: 1 PM. Also enjoy Simulcast Horse Racing daily in the Grandstand and OTB.

Participate in **agriculture education activities** at **U-Learn Farm, U-Learn Food & Fiber, The Birthing Center**, the **Innovation Station, Horseland, Nature Play Space**, and more at various times throughout the Fair.

**Admission to the Fair is \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors (62 and older) and \$5 for children (6-11). Children five-years-old and younger are admitted free. Rides are individually priced. Limited parking on the Fairgrounds is available on a first-come, first-served basis for \$5.** Taking the **Light Rail** is recommended. **Uber and LYFT drop-off** and pick-up areas in the Deereco Road Park & Ride Lot. Visit [www.marylandstatefair.com](http://www.marylandstatefair.com).

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