



WELCOME to the TENNESSEE STATE

The Grand Ole Opry, the Great Smoky Mountains, the Chattanooga Choo-Choo, and the Tennessee State Fair- We're thrilled to be among Tennessee's greatest traditions. With this in mind, we present the 2016 Tennessee State Fair theme – "A Tennessee Tradition". Join us September 9-18 in celebrating the traditions Tennesseans hold proud! We're thrilled to introduce a new competition – the Tennessee State Fair Bluegrass and Fiddlers Jamboree. Of course, there will still be the Fair favorites that bring us all back year after year.

For the seventh year in a row, the State Fair has been entrusted to the Tennessee State Fair Association (TSFA). The Tennessee State Fair Association is a public-private, volunteer-led partnership dedicated to preserving and sharing the longstanding and meaningful purposes of the traditional agricultural fair with all Tennesseans.

The first Tennessee State Fair was held in 1855 and this marks the 110th year of the fair at the current fairgrounds. From competitive livestock shows to creative arts, to music and foods, there will be plenty to see and do for every fairgoer at this year's State Fair.

State Fairs enrich the communities in which they are held and improve the lives that they touch. Farmers get the opportunity to see how their animals and crops compare with others, and showcase Tennessee Agriculture. Important community organizations have the chance to reach large numbers of people. State Fairs showcase ideas for homeowners and home gardeners to help them discover new ideas to add value and enjoyment to their homes and gardens. Fairs also provide an escape to an entertaining world of music and rides, not to mention fair foods! Choosing local and home-grown foods is becoming more popular around the country, and fairs continue to give gardeners and canners the education and encouragement of how to grow and safely preserve nutritious foods.

The State Fair premium book offers hundreds of competitions including canned goods, baking, crops, livestock, crafts, art and needlework, and more. We hope you will participate as an exhibitor at the State Fair. After all, it is your fair. Bring your best creations—photographs, artwork, cakes, flowers, vegetables—to enter in a friendly competition. All ages can enter what they have grown, or created, for the community to see and appreciate.

On behalf of the board of the Tennessee State Fair Association, I want to invite you and your family to the 2016 Tennessee State Fair, "A Tennessee Tradition". We'll see you at the Fair!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John W. Rose".

John W. Rose
Chairman
Tennessee State Fair Association