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**“Ticket to Fair School”, “Read2Ride” and “San Mateo Heroes”
Expands Access to Youth at San Mateo County Fair**

**“20 Hours = 1 Fair Admission”
“2 Books = 2 Rides”**

**www.sanmateocountyfair.com
hashtag: # SMCF2017**

4 May 2017 - San Mateo, CA: It’s a bird! It’s a plane! It’s.... **Mateo’s Community Superheroes!** This year, you won’t need a cape to get special powers. All you have to do is volunteer 20 hours – activities designed to better your community and get area high school students FREE access to **The San Mateo County Fair** (www.sanmateocountyfair.com), **June 10 – 18**. Plus, cracking a book (or ‘clicking’ an iPad) can also get you **K-8th graders** an E-Ticket: Reading two books and submitting a short report on the reading garners students two free rides. Coupled with **the “Ticket to Fair School” program**, the San Mateo County Fair is doing more than its “fair share” to make entertainment, educational.

“Coming to the Fair has been a long-standing tradition in our community and we work to maintain that tradition while pushing ourselves and our community to imagine the innovation of tomorrow,” said **Dana Stoehr, CEO of the San Mateo County Events Center and Fair**. “We want all our kids to have the opportunity to experience this great American tradition and be inspired.”

Who can be “Mateo’s Community Superheroes”? Designed for high school student, the program aims to get students involved for the betterment of their community. Every 20 hours of community service outside of school is awarded one Fair admission ticket (up to three Fair admission tickets each year). Services must be completed by May 30 this year.

The Fair’s carnival provider, **Butler Amusements**, is the sponsor of the **Read2Ride** program, where students can submit a report and get two free carnival rides.

A new program this year is the “Ticket to Fair School” program, an outreach program that works to provide every elementary school student in San Mateo County with a FREE ticket to the Fair. The program is open to all elementary school students, grades Kindergarten to 5th grade including public, private, and homeschooled. The deadline to request tickets has passed, but in its first year, the Fair has seen an amazing response from the schools.

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Over the years, the San Mateo County Fair has developed several programs that entice every age level. There are opportunities for students and classrooms to enter their creations and projects in the Fair’s outstanding Exhibits Departments. Also, there are many opportunities during Fair for classroom tours, where kids can get a behind the scenes. The Fair’s Passport to Fair Fun program is a STEM based scavenger hunt in which kids can participate and be entered to win a prize.

“As one of the Peninsula’s largest non-profit organizations, the San Mateo County Fair has always been committed to providing meaningful, educational fun for our kids,” said Stoehr. “Through a constantly evolving and spectrum of STEM and arts-based programming, we work to live up to our theme ‘Where Tradition Meets Innovation’ every single year.”

Information on the various youth/student partnership programs may be found online at the following links:

Ticket to Fair School

<https://www.sanmateocountyfair.com/participate/school-ticket-program>

Exhibits Departments

<https://www.sanmateocountyfair.com/compete/enter-your-stuff>

School Tours, Read2Ride, & Community Service

<https://www.sanmateocountyfair.com/participate/educational-programs>

The San Mateo County Fair -- “Where Tradition Meets Innovation” -- is The Peninsula’s premier, community event for family fun and entertainment: June 10 - 18, 2017. Visit www.sanmateocountyfair.com often for regular updates, contest rules, schedules, promotions, and information.