

STATE FAIR PARK & Event Center



AGRICULTURE and EXHIBITS MANAGER

Central Washington Fair Association, Yakima, WA

1301 South Fair Avenue, Yakima, WA 98901 | statefairpark.org



WHO WE ARE

The Central Washington Fair Association is a private non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that operates State Fair Park. State Fair Park is home to the Central Washington State Fair, Yakima Valley SunDome, and hosts over 200 events annually.

The Central Washington State Fair (CWSF) has been in operation since 1892. Our mission is to facilitate commerce, education, and leisure activities through production of the annual Fair and promotion and/or production of enterprise and public events throughout the calendar year. The 10-day Central Washington State Fair attracts over 300,000 guests annually and is recognized as one of the top 100 fairs in the Country by IAFE. The Fair recently was the recipient of IAFE's Merrill Award for one of its new Ag Education Programs.

THE POSITION

The Central Washington Fair Association is in search of a dynamic individual equipped to take on the Agriculture and Exhibits Manager position. The position will focus on growing the agricultural experience and education for generations to come.

If you have a passion for making a difference and being part of a team that is innovating and building for the future, then this is the job for you. The Agriculture and Exhibits Manager is responsible for all the agricultural operations including livestock, competitions, small animal exhibits, agricultural education programming, Fair exhibits and collaboration with agricultural education partners. This position drives awareness and promotes the Agriculture Department as an integrated, collaborative platform for ag related education, tradition, and innovation.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS

Agriculture or related degree and 3 years related experience or equivalent of education and experience

Experience collaborating with partners and stakeholders with diverse points of view

Experience managing and creating educational exhibits

Budget and supervisory experience

Excellent interpersonal and consensus building skills with focus on customer service

Must be able to work long hours when required – which might include evenings and weekends

Excellent problem solving and decision-making skills

Knowledge of animal husbandry principles and experience with youth Ag/education organizations

Proficient using Microsoft Suite products

Well organized always looking to excel and over-deliver

Capable of speaking to large groups and representing the organization to stakeholders, potential sponsors, partners, or industry groups

A creative, energetic person that is always looking for new fun ways to deliver on the organization's mission

Ability to create and deliver programming content starting with concept through execution

LIVESTOCK, EQUINE AND SMALL ANIMAL COMPETITIONS

Oversee all livestock, equine and small animal competitions with strategic planning of show selection and cancellation, superintendent selection and oversight and operations.

Manage departments budget, create opportunities for revenue growth, and manage stipends and awards programs.

Promote team approach between all species including group meetings, ongoing communications, and fair and balanced management style for all departments.

Manage superintendents' program for all species: write job descriptions, develop contracts, communicate regularly, host pre-fair meetings and provide evaluations.

Assist superintendents in hiring of judges, including pay assignments, show schedules, and any necessary judge amenities.

Assist superintendents in writing show policy and procedures, abiding by the IAFE Code of Showring Ethics, and any registered associations or sanctioned show rules.

Develop and maintain positive relationships with all agricultural education partners, agricultural leaders, and organizations.

Hire and schedule veterinarian to complete animal well-checks upon entry to fairgrounds; stay abreast of infectious disease news, inspection quarantine processes and barriers to entry.

Oversee superintendents for 4-H and FFA livestock programs including budget allotments, staffing approvals, coordination with open class competitions, and scheduling.

Work with marketing team to broadcast alerts and information on website, promote shows to exhibitors and guests, and other marketing initiatives to ensure proactive community outreach to drive interest and participation for all areas of oversight.

AGRICULTURE, EDUCATION AND EXHIBITS

Manage and implement Yakima Valley's Largest Classroom, ensure school tour program remains relevant and participation from schools across the Valley during Fair; improve curriculum opportunities for teachers, provide materials (print and/or online) early in school year, and provide continued learning experiences post-Fair for participants.

Continue sourcing creative and fresh ways to educate the public about agriculture, to develop new and ongoing programming.

Develop and maintaining working partnerships with agricultural commodity organizations to assist with programming and educational initiatives. Leverage their outreach and learning assets to bring programming and education to the Fair as well as year-round opportunities.

Coordinate with Sponsorship team to develop strategy for sponsorship opportunities that align with department initiatives that will drive revenue as well as guest and sponsor engagement.

Develop overall strategy for programming, competitions, exhibits and educational initiatives and work with superintendents and volunteers to activate.

Utilize resources of trade associations and partnerships with industry colleagues to continue to enhance programming and education.

Ensure demonstrations and hands-on activities are representative of Yakima Valley's culture and offerings and align with organization's mission.

Work with government agencies, extension offices, service and hobby organizations to collaborate and coordinate programming for participation in the Fair.

COMPENSATION

Agriculture and Exhibits Manager is a full-time position, eligible to participate in the following benefits offered:

SALARY:

The hourly rate of \$25 hr - \$29 hr plus a discretionary annual bonus.

BENEFITS:

Medical, Dental, Vision, Aflac, Life/AD&D, Long Term Disability, Long Term Care, 401k plan.

WORK/LIFE BALANCE:

Paid time off includes vacation, personal and sick leave.

Holiday recognition based upon organization policy.

Relocation assistance is available.

APPLICATION & SELECTION PROCESS

Please submit your resume with cover letter outlining your experience and accomplishments related to this opportunity to Central Washington Fair Association, 1301 South Fair Avenue, Yakima WA 98901 or email to erinr@fairfun.com.