



Washington **STATE FAIR**

CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY IN 2013

TIMES CHANGE. Names change. But one thing remains constant. When the Fair first started in 1900, the goals were to provide animal and agriculture education, support youth programs, and to be a part of the community. Those goals have remained constant since 1900, and have been enhanced with the formation of the Washington State Fair Foundation in 2008. Take a look at a sampling of ways that the Washington State Fair remained a part of the community in 2013:

- The Fair is a not-for-profit entity, yet does not receive any government subsidies.
- Revenue for the Fair and its subsidiaries in 2013 was \$24.9 million, and expenses were \$26.1 million, which included the wide range of one-time rebranding costs. The Fair paid Pierce County over \$1.2 million in property taxes, and paid the City of Puyallup over \$772,000 in admission taxes for both fairs, emergency services, and the business license. The Fair also paid Central Pierce Fire and Rescue over \$106,000 for their services. Capital improvements and property acquisitions came in at nearly \$5 million. The balance of the expenses covered the costs of operating the facility on a year 'round basis. The remaining revenue after expenses each year is put back into improvements of the facility for future growth.
- The Washington State Fair Foundation's scholarship program has awarded over \$800,000 to 322 area students for continuing education since 1991.
- The Washington State Fair Foundation's Traveling Farm visited 55 elementary schools in the 2012/2013 season, teaching young children about food and how it gets from farm to table. They traveled a total of 2,416 miles to educate 9,901 students, all within a 50-mile radius of the Fair.
- A total of 1,256 elementary students (kindergarten - third grade) participated in 57 Educational Tours, a free tour in September for children focusing on agriculture, animals, history and much more. The children came from 57 schools and home school co-ops in 9 school districts, plus 19 private schools.

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- A total of 660,435 complimentary student gate passes and over 127,977 educational employee passes were issued to western Washington schools in 2013.
- Approximately 7,500 Fair employees were hired in September, including workers at exhibits and with concessionaires. Most employees are from this area.
- There are nearly 55 year 'round staff members working at the Fair, plus 50 who work part time throughout the year.
- Exhibitors and concessionaires paid employees wages in 2013 starting at \$9.19/hour, with some exhibitors offering commission.
- FFA and 4-H students take part in the Northwest Junior Livestock Show during the Spring Fair in Puyallup. Each September the Fair subsidizes three youth shows including the 4-H State Fair, Future Farmers of America's State Exhibition, and Washington's Junior Poultry Exposition.
- For over 60 years the Fair has welcomed the Scouts for their training program, and to demonstrate a variety of skills to Fair guests.
- Campfire has been at the Fair for over 65 years. Kindergarten through 18-year-old boys and girls submitted over 450 entries in 2013, including cooking, baking, sewing, handcrafts, photography, pottery and writing.
- Junior and senior high school artists entered 892 pieces in the annual September show, with \$2,200 in award monies given to art teachers to purchase school art supplies.
- In 2013, the facility hosted 155 interim events, totaling 256 event days. Over 500,000 attended these non-Fair activities.
- The Fair partnered with KOMO 4, KOMO Newsradio AM 1000 / 97.7 FM, and KOMOnews.com and the Puyallup Food Bank, and collected 212,000+ pounds of food on opening day of the Fair in September – a NEW one-day collection record.
- The Fair provides their facilities at a reasonable rate for many not-for-profit, governmental and charitable events, such as school district high school graduations, youth horse shows, and fire and police training.
- Full-time Fair staff members donated time, items, and monies to help feed the homeless in our area, adopted neighbors in need during the holidays to make their lives a little brighter, and supported varied community needs.