



**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
MISSISSIPPI FAIR COMMISSION**

CINDY HYDE-SMITH
COMMISSIONER

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 11, 2014

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What: Dixie National Rodeo 50th Anniversary Gala
When: Tuesday, February 10; 6:00 p.m.
Where: Mississippi Trade Mart

Dixie National Rodeo and Livestock Show 50th Anniversary Gala Announced

Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce Cindy Hyde-Smith and Mississippi Fair Commission Executive Director Rick Reno invite you to step back in time through half a century of the largest rodeo east of the Mississippi River at the Dixie National Rodeo and Livestock Show 50th Anniversary Gala. The event will take place on February 10 at the Mississippi Trade Mart with doors opening at 6:00 p.m.

This nostalgic gala will celebrate Dixie National's rich heritage in the State of Mississippi by taking guests on a journey through 50 years of the Rodeo's cowboys, cowgirls, announcers, rodeo queens, and, of course, iconic clowns. Mike Mathis, "Mr. Rodeo," himself will host the event, while the Bellamy Brothers will perform as a tribute to Dixie National's customary celebration of country and western music.

The Dixie National Rodeo and Livestock Show began in 1965 as the brainchild of a handful of Jackson visionaries including Herman Massey, Percy Quinn, Robert Stockett, and former Agriculture Commissioner Jim Buck Ross. This event has grown and evolved over the years. It now has an estimated annual economic impact of over \$20 million and draws in well over 100,000 visitors to the Fairgrounds each year.

All events for the 2015 Dixie National Rodeo and Livestock Show will run from January 24 until February 22, and the Rodeo will run February 12 through 18. The 50th Anniversary celebratory gala will be held on February 10. General admission tickets cost \$40.00 and reserved seating tickets may be purchased for \$100. Both include food and music by the Bellamy Brothers with dancing to follow. Tickets will go on sale on December 15, 2014, at www.ticketmaster.com.

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The Bellamy Brothers will perform their classic country tunes at the Dixie National Rodeo and Livestock Show's 50th Anniversary Gala on February 10, 2015. The doors will open at 6:00 p.m. as guests celebrate 50 years of the largest rodeo east of the Mississippi River. Tickets will go on sale December 15 on www.ticketmaster.com.

