



**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
MISSISSIPPI FAIR COMMISSION**

COMMISSIONER CINDY HYDE-SMITH
CHAIRMAN

Press Release

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2016 Mississippi State Fair Sets Attendance Record

Fair officials announced a record attendance of 733,151 fair goers for the recently completed 2016 Mississippi State Fair. This year's attendance is approximately four percent more than the previous record set in 2014 and an approximate 13 percent increase over the 2015 attendance.

"We were blessed with 12 days of excellent weather which allowed a record number of fun-seeking children and adults to experience 62 great midway rides provided by North American Midway Entertainment, the expanded Kid Zone with camel rides and Magician Kid Davies. Fairgoers enjoyed over 108,000 delicious biscuits courtesy of Kroger, Blackburn Syrup and Prairie Farms served at the renowned Biscuit Booth and all of the wonderful 4-H and FFA livestock exhibits," said Rick Reno, executive director of the Mississippi Fair Commission.

This year the Budweiser Pavilion was transformed into an open-air facility that hosted free concerts featuring national artists such as Travis Tritt, Boyz II Men, Alter Bridge, Frank Foster, Old Dominion, and many more local and regional performers.

Reno continued, "We would like to extend a special thanks to the many volunteers who help make the fair a success and to the Jackson Police Department and to Hinds County Sheriff Victor Mason and his great staff of officers for providing a safe environment for all those who enjoyed the fair this year. We look forward to an even greater fair next year! We hope you will join us for the 158th Mississippi State Fair in 2017!"

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Picture and cutline attached.



Fair officials announced a record attendance for the 2016 Mississippi State Fair. With twelve days of excellent weather, 733,151 attendees came to the State Fairgrounds to enjoy the many attractions of the fair. This year's attendance is approximately four percent more than the previous record set in 2014.