



**For Immediate Release**

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## **KELLY CLARKSON, SUGARLAND LIGHT UP THE STARS** *Nebraska State Fair Outdoor Concerts on the Racetrack*

Grand Island, NE – *American Idol* sensation **Kelly Clarkson** will launch the 2018 Nebraska State Fair on opening night Friday, August 24. A judge on *The Voice*, Grammy Award winner, and inaugural season champion of *American Idol*, Clarkson has sold 25 million albums worldwide. Standout hits include “Piece by Piece,” “Since U Been Gone,” and “Because of You” among so many others. Her latest album *Meaning of Life* released in October, 2017.

The Texas native rose to fame rapidly following her *American Idol* win on September 4, 2002. She immediately released her first single, “A Moment Like This,” which went from 52 to number one on the *Billboard* charts. Two more number ones (“My Life Would Suck Without You” and “Stronger”) over the course of her stunning early career would keep her in the lead of pop music sensations. She just released her latest single, “I Don’t Think About You.”

Clarkson’s impressive discography is as follows:

Single	Peak Chart Position	Date
A Moment Like This	1	2002
Miss Independent	9	2003
Breakaway	6	2004
Since U Been Gone	2	2004
Behind These Hazel Eyes	6	2005
Because Of You	7	2005
Never Again	8	2007
My Life Would Suck Without You	1	2009
Mr. Know It All	10	2011

Stronger	1	2012
Piece By Piece	8	2015

Platinum-selling duo **Sugarland**, with opening act Frankie Ballard, perform Saturday, August 25. Sugarland, comprised of Jennifer Nettles with her deep soul voice and instrumentalist Kristian Bush, are on their 48-city tour, *Still The Same*. They arrive to Nebraska State Fair with their current hit single, “Babe” climbing the charts. “Babe” was written by Taylor Swift, whom is featured on the track. The song is Sugarland’s first top 10 since “Stuck Like Glue” in 2010. Sugarland has enjoyed a number of chart toppers, including “Stay,” “Want To,” “Settlin,” as well as their memorable first hit “Baby Girl,” which made it to the top 20 on *Billboard*.

Sugarland was the Academy of Country Music Awards New Duo/Group of the Year and Single of the Year (for “Stay”), and twice won Country Music Association’s Duo of the Year. Lead singer Jennifer Nettles picked up a Grammy in 2007 for a collaboration with Bon Jovi on the popular, “Who Says You Can’t Go Home.”

The complete concert lineup for the 2018 Nebraska State Fair is presented by the Nebraska Lottery, Mattress Firm and Bristol Windows, and includes:

Kelly Clarkson	Aug 24	7:30pm	Fonner Park Track Infield
Sugarland with Frankie Ballard	Aug 25	7:30pm	Fonner Park Track Infield
The Righteous Brothers	Aug 29	2:00pm	Heartland Event Center
Bill Medley & Bucky Heard			
Francesca Battistelli	Aug 30	7:30pm	Heartland Event Center
Old Dominion	Aug 31	7:30pm	Heartland Event Center
Up with People-Live On Tour	Sep 1	7:30pm	Heartland Event Center
Night Ranger	Sep 2	7:30pm	Heartland Event Center

The 2018 Nebraska State Fair runs August 24 through September 3 in Grand Island. Gate admission discounts are currently available at all Pump & Pantry locations or online at **StateFair.org**. Bundle prices, entertainment information and a schedule of events can be found online.