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**For Immediate Release**

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*Contact:* Gretchen Kirchmann  
Media Lead  
Nebraska State Fair  
c) 308.530.0758 e) gkirchmann@showaksarben.com

## **KELLY CLARKSON PROVES UP** *Big Voice at Nebraska State Fair's Opening Night*

*Grand Island, NE – American Idol sensation Kelly Clarkson* launched the 2018 Nebraska State Fair concert series tonight with more than 3,500 fans in the Heartland Event Center.

A judge on *The Voice*, Grammy Award winner, and inaugural season champion of *American Idol*, Clarkson sang standout hits including “Piece by Piece,” “Since U Been Gone,” and “Because of You” among many others. She sang most of her ballads with just a keyboard for background, showcasing her robust vocals.

The Kelly Clarkson concert was moved indoors from the Fonner Park Racetrack following a difficult decision by State Fair management regarding safety concerns in the venue. Excessive water table levels followed by two days of rain last weekend made the outdoor concerts impossible to set up in time for today’s performance.

Sugarland performs Saturday night in the Heartland Event Center with doors at 5:30 p.m. and the concert at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$50 general admission and \$85 pit, available at StateFair.org.

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

The Righteous Brothers ...Bill Medley & Bucky Heard	Aug 29	2:00pm	Heartland Event Center
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. Avoid the lines with pre-purchase gate admission at all Pump & Pantry locations or online **at StateFair.org**. Bundle prices, entertainment information and a schedule of events can be found online.

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