



For Immediate Release

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CHAIRS THEY ARE A'COMIN'

Added Seating at Outdoor Concerts for Nebraska State Fair

Grand Island, NE – Following the Pentatonix concert in 2017, Nebraska State Fair officials learned what it was like to receive 10,000 new customers – all at the same time. Thanks to Golden Harvest, 1,500 chairs have been purchased for use by fans who desire to sit camp-style through the outdoor concerts.

“Fans for Pentatonix and Brad Paisley brought their own chairs in 2017,” said Chelsey Jungck, chief of entertainment and events for the State Fair. “With security measures in high force at concerts across the country, our security team had to remove every single chair from its bag for inspection. It slowed our lines to a crawl.”

Jungck said that the learning experience has brought three changes to outdoor concert entry. This year, no chairs will be allowed in the concerts. However, Golden Harvest has provided 1,500 camp-style chairs that customers can borrow for use during the Kelly Clarkson concert August 24 and the Sugarland concert August 25.

“We will have a check-out stand for fans, located toward the back of the festival,” Jungck said. “Chairs are first come, first served. Once they are gone, there are some additional bleachers in place for added seating.” Jungck said fans can take a chair (one per person) and set it up in the chair seating area.

Volunteers will be on hand to assist and fans can simply leave the chairs in place when they are finished using them.

Second, the two main concert entrances have been widened for expanded capacity, which is designed to move more people through quickly. Each concert entrance (apart from the VIP entrance) is accessible from south of the racetrack. Patrons should follow the signs.

Third, the State Fair has purchased walk-through scanners to improve security speed. "If the scanner picks something up, just like at the airport you will be asked to step aside for wandung or possible pat-down," said Jungck. "We also have yet to institute a clear bag mandate for the bag check, but we highly encourage you to use a clear bag if you can. That really helps speed up the process." Walk-through scanners will be in place for outdoor and indoor night shows.

As an added bonus, concert fans who only bring their person can jump the line and use the Express Line at any gate. "That's the sweetest deal," Jungck added. "Just bring yourself and you'll zip right through."

The 2018 Nebraska State Fair runs August 24 through September 3 in Grand Island. Night shows include: Kelly Clarkson Aug. 24; Sugarland Aug. 25; Righteous Brothers Aug. 29; Francesca Battistelli Aug. 30; Old Dominion Aug. 31; Up With People Sep. 1; and Night Ranger Sept. 2. Concert tickets are on sale now at **StateFair.org** along with gate discounts. Bundle prices, entertainment information and a schedule of events can be found online.

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