



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **THE BIG FRESNO FAIR SEEKS NOMINATIONS FOR ITS TWO MOST PRESTIGIOUS RECOGNITION PROGRAMS – ITS HALL OF FAME & COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS AWARDS**

*These recognition programs honor individuals who have contributed greatly to upholding the tradition of The Big Fresno Fair and demonstrated extraordinary efforts to better communities in Fresno County*

**FRESNO, CALIFORNIA...April 30, 2012...**The Big Fresno Fair wants your nominations for two of its most prestigious recognition programs – its Hall of Fame, which is in its 6<sup>th</sup> year, and its Community Champions Awards, now in its 5<sup>th</sup> year. “We are focused on honoring those individuals who keep our Fair tradition alive, as well as those who are working diligently in our communities to create a better place for Fresno County residents to live. However, we need your help in nominating those deserving individuals,” said John C. Alkire, CEO, The Big Fresno Fair.

The Big Fresno Fair **Hall of Fame** honors individuals who have demonstrated long-time continued support and extraordinary passion for the betterment of the annual Big Fresno Fair. If you know of something that has been involved in The Big Fresno Fair, whether that be as a long-standing exhibitor, a previous employee, volunteer or community proponent and supporter, be sure to nominate them so they can officially recognized for their continued efforts to preserve the longstanding tradition that is The Big Fresno Fair. Since its inception in 2007, there have been 24 individuals inducted into the Fair’s Hall of Fame. The 2011 Hall of Fame inductees included: Kenneth L. Maddy, Carolee Boele, Larry Fortune, Chief Jerry P. Dyer and Mike Dages. Go to [www.FresnoFair.com/hall-fame](http://www.FresnoFair.com/hall-fame) to download the nomination form.

The Big Fresno Fair’s **Community Champions Awards** formally recognizes individuals who have demonstrated an extraordinary passion for the betterment of Fresno County. Awards are given in four categories: Youth, Volunteer, Humanitarian and Educator. So if you know of someone in your community doing extraordinary things in your community that you feel should be recognized as a Community Champion, then please nominate them. The Fair needs your help in bringing those individuals to our attention so we can recognize them! The winners of The Big Fresno Fair Community Champions Awards in 2011 were Sharon Ross - Community Champion, Youth; Eloise Pantages – Community Champion, Volunteer; Beth Caffrey - Community Champion, Humanitarian; and Marcus P. Johnson - Community Champion, Educator. Go to [www.FresnoFair.com/community-champions](http://www.FresnoFair.com/community-champions) to download the nomination form.

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Nominations are currently being accepted for the 2012 Big Fresno Fair Hall of Fame and Community Champions Awards. The deadline for submission is **August 15, 2012**. There is no limit on the number of nominations an individual or organization can make.

Once individuals are nominated by a community individual, Big Fresno Fair staff or past Big Fresno Fair Board of Directors, nominations will then be reviewed by The Big Fresno Fair Board of Directors at their August Board meeting. At that time the Fair Board will vote on Hall of Fame inductees and Community Champions Award winners. Those individuals will then be formally announced and recognized at Opening Ceremonies in October and will receive prominent visual recognition at the Fairgrounds and on the website.

**Attachments:**

- **Big Fresno Fair Hall of Fame Nomination Form**
- **Big Fresno Fair Community Champions Nomination Form**
- **Hall of Fame Logo**
- **Community Champions Logo**

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