



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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THE BIG FRESNO FAIR ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR 2ND ANNUAL BIG BAND REVIEW

Junior High and High School Bands have chance to compete for \$13,500 in cash prizes

FRESNO, CALIFORNIA...June 21, 2012... The Big Fresno Fair is proud to once again invite Junior High and High School Marching Bands throughout the State of California to compete for cash prizes at the 2nd Annual Big Band Review, presented by EECU, a Northern California Band Association sanctioned event. The competition will take place opening day of The Big Fresno Fair on Wednesday, October 3 beginning at 3:00 p.m. Categories include Parade, Auxiliary, Drum Major and Percussion. The competition will take place in the Brian I. Tatarian Grandstand with the Percussion competition taking place on the Pavilion Stage. Awards announcements will take place at 7:00 p.m. in the Brian I. Tatarian Grandstand.

There will be a total of \$13,500 in prize money given out to bands competing in the Big Band Review. The High School Sweepstakes Band winner will receive \$2,000 in prize money and Junior High School Sweepstakes Band winner will receive \$1,500. Furthermore, the first 20 bands that sign up to compete will receive \$500 just for their participation and enthusiastic showmanship of school pride. Last year Washington Union High School in Fresno walked away as the High School winner collecting \$2,000 and Merced's Tenaya Middle School as the Middle School winner collecting \$1,500.

"Over the years, The Big Fresno Fair has made great strides to be a strong educational partner to the community and is extremely proud to support local students and educational programs," said John C. Alkire, CEO, The Big Fresno Fair. "This competition, which reaches both local and state-wide students, allows school band programs to come out and show off their hard work while being rewarded with cash prizes. With last year's success, we hope that this will continue to be a tradition that bands, their families and friends look forward to at the start of The Big Fresno Fair each year."

Applications are currently being accepted. To date 15 bands have entered this competition. Don't miss your opportunity to be one of them and compete for prize money. Entry deadline is September 30, 2012.

- More -

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Only the first 20 marching bands will be guaranteed cash rewards for their participation, so bands interested in competing should apply as soon as possible. There is a \$100 entry fee for the competition. An informational video and packet including competition details, a map of the competition area and an entry form can be found at <http://www.fresnofair.com/big-band-review>. Entries can be faxed to (559) 650-3226 or mailed to: Attn: Big Band Review, The Big Fresno Fair, 1121 S. Chance Ave., Fresno, CA 93702.

The Big Fresno Fair, founded in 1884, is the fifth largest fair in the State of California and represents the 21st District Agricultural Association. Nearly 550,000 people from throughout the State visit The Big Fresno Fair each year making it the largest event in the Central Valley. Members of the Board of Directors include: William White, President; Elizabeth Hudson, Vice President; Debbie Jacobsen, Secretary/Treasurer; Jerry Pacheco; Ron Barsamian; Leta Ciavaglia; Larry Serpa; Fue "Ricky" Vang and A.J. Yates. John C. Alkire heads daily operations in his role as CEO. More information about The Big Fresno Fair can be found at www.FresnoFair.com.

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