



# Can You Pack Your Grandstands?

Presented by: Ross County Junior Fair Board

# Our Purpose

- ▶ Help local communities understand, appreciate, and contribute to the Jr. Fair activities
- ▶ Bring a community together to support youth:
  - Creativity
  - Teamwork
  - Performance
- ▶ Add energy to fair in a different way than traditional Jr. Fair projects
- ▶ Provide opportunities to highlight the:
  - Originality
  - Innovation
  - Fun

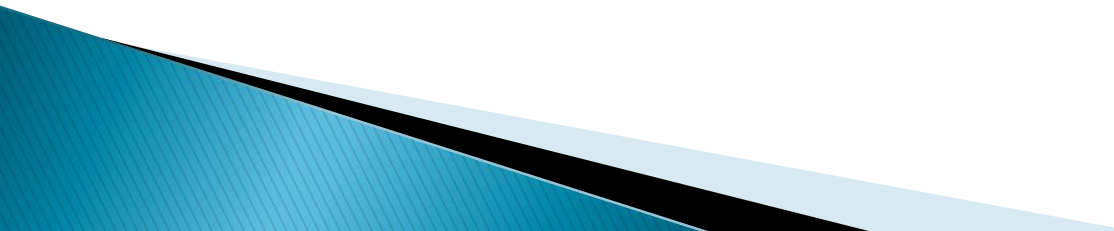
# Our Outcomes

- Breaks down typical youth barriers:
  - Grade levels
  - School districts
  - Project lines
- Depicts variety in Jr. Fair activities beyond stereotypical agriculture
- Showcases the way Jr. Fair activities can teach life skills through play:
  - Communication aptitude
  - Leadership abilities
  - Planning experience
  - Teamwork skills
  - Creativity
  - Self-expression
  - Community pride
  - Confidence in public performance

# Jr. Fair Night Activities

- ▶ Apple pie baking contest
- ▶ Apple pie auction
- ▶ Lip Sync
- ▶ Outhouse races
- ▶ Crowd engagers

# Apple Pie Baking Contest

- ▶ Entry form
  - ▶ Fee to participate
  - ▶ 20 club's randomly drawn from submissions
  - ▶ Each club selects an individual to bake and bring an apple pie to Jr. Fair night
  - ▶ The pies are judged based on taste, appearance and smell
  - ▶ The judges place 1<sup>st</sup>–5<sup>th</sup>
  - ▶ Clubs win prize money
  - ▶ All apples are donated by a local fruit farm
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# Apple Pie Auction

- Top 5 pies are sold during a live auction at Jr. Fair Night
- Hosted by a local auctioneering company
- Pie buyers: Local businesses, key community leaders, large families, alumni
- Last year's :
  - 1<sup>st</sup> place pie = \$5,000
  - Auction raised \$10,300
- Extra funs allow us to:
  - Put on Jr. Fair Night for the following year
  - Take additional leadership trip
  - Pay for committee supplies
  - Purchase food and polos for JFB



# Lip Sync

- Select year's theme
- Entry form & fee: music choice, participant names, and shirt sizes
- Music must be approved with basic time, content, and overlap rules
- Teams work together with older and younger members to develop lip sync
- Prelims are held 2 weeks prior to the fair – top 5 move on
- Teams are judged on creativity, time, lip sync, props and crowd engagement
- Perform in front of around 4,000 people
- Send thank you cards for the judges, sponsors, and prize money for the clubs



# Outhouse Race



- Jr. Fair Participants race down the fairground's track in different heats
- All outhouses must follow specific rules regarding design, structure, and safety
- Each team consists of:
  - 4 runners
  - 1 rider
- Teams must participate in prelims the safety check and run
- Teams can win for:
  - Best decorated
  - Most original
  - Fastest

# Prelim Night:

- ▶ Two weeks before fair
- ▶ Effective to control the time, maintain crowd's interest, allow both JFB and participants an run through opportunity

## Outhouse Race:

- Outhouses are checked for structure and safety
- Graded on a rubric– costumes, decorations, speed
- Top 18 move on to JFN

## Lip Sync:

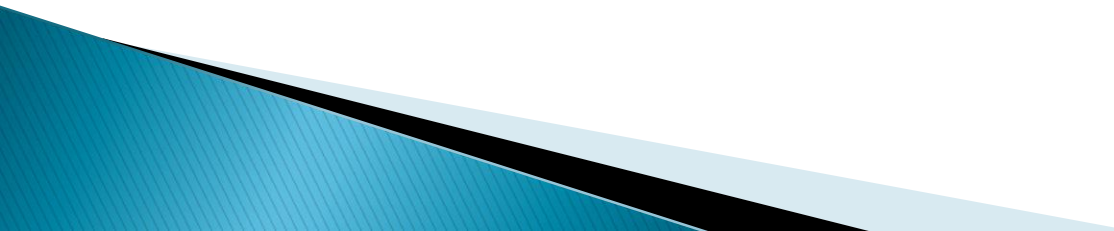
- All Lip Sync groups get to perform their full routine and are judged by 3 judges
- Only 5 clubs move on to Junior Fair Night

### **Additional Fundraiser:**

Selling beverages to crowd and participants during prelims



# Community Impact

- ▶ **Economic**
    - Highlights how local companies can/are investing in community's youth
    - Motivates others to spend money in those local businesses
  - ▶ **Youth Learning Opportunities**
    - Benefit from participating/hosting in Jr. Fair Night
    - Benefit from learning opportunities provided by the raised money
  - ▶ **Partnerships**
    - Demonstrates the power of partnerships to create opportunities for others
  - ▶ **Local Permanence**
    - Creates stronger connections to community tradition
    - Leads to more permanent ties to the area
  - ▶ **Reducing At-Risk Behavior**
    - Provides long-term engaging opportunities that keep youth out of trouble
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# Finances

## Income

- ▶ Apple Pie Auction
- ▶ Entry Fees
- ▶ 1 / 3 gate admission
- ▶ Sponsorships
- ▶ Selling Prelim Beverages

## Expenses


- ▶ T-shirts for all participants
- ▶ Audience giveaways
- ▶ Program prizes
- ▶ Judges Fees
- ▶ Decorations

# Timelines, To-dos, Paperwork

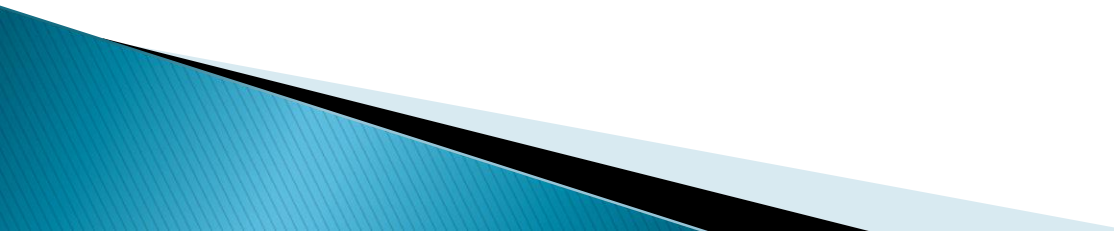
## Example Event: Lip Sync

1. Approve handbook rules
2. Send out letters asking community members to be prelim and Jr. Fair Night judges
3. All the groups receive an entrance form to be turned in approx. 2 months prior
4. We screen and approve all the music
5. Groups are notified of approval via phone call and letter
  - Letters include: prelim arrival time and other information
6. Follow up with prelim judges to assure the correct time and place
7. Run prelims
  - Repair and setup backdrop, rubric and copies
8. After prelims, we send out letters to the top 5 groups
  - Letters include: information sheet, grandstand passes, etc
9. Order Participant Shirts
10. Notify Jr. Fair Night judges about time, place and send letters
  - Letters include: parking, fair entrance, and grandstand passes
11. Organize Jr. Fair Board members help set up, organize, and run the event
12. The 5 groups are judged and the winner is chosen
  - Make sure you have rubrics made and copied, backdrop is ready
13. Send out prize money to winners, thank you letter to all the judges
  - ▶ Note: Double check everything to make sure it is right!

# Apple Pie Paperwork

- Approve handbook rules
  - Ensure a farm to donate the apples
  - Find and ask an auctioneer company for Junior Fair Night
  - Ask people from the community to be the judges
  - Accept entry forms approx. 2 months prior to fair and randomly select clubs to participate
  - Contact the clubs via phone call and letter to let them know if they made it or not. Include Grandstand passes in letters
  - Follow up with our judges and auctioneers, sending them passes for the gate, parking and a Jr. Fair Night pass.
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# Potential Challenges

- ▶ Crowd Engagement
    - Hog Calling, Minute to Win It, Bring Me
  - ▶ Getting Sponsors
    - Local partners that see value, providing publicity for them
  - ▶ Finding Judges and auctioneers
    - Unbiased, build Jr. Fair support, charismatic
  - ▶ Getting interest and participation
    - Show youtube videos, flyers, bring your JFB to Ross County
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# Do you have any questions?

- ▶ Come See Ross County Jr. Fair Night
  - Prelims– Monday, July 27, 2015
  - JFN– Tuesday, August 11, 2015
- ▶ Katie Feldhues
  - Ross County 4–H Educator
  - [Feldhues.2@osu.edu](mailto:Feldhues.2@osu.edu)
  - 740–702–3200