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Jessica Klumpp Recognized as Rising Star

LAS VEGAS, NV — December 9, 2013 — Today at the International Association of Fairs and Expositions (IAFE) 123rd Annual Convention, Jessica Klumpp, was honored with the Rising Star Award, according to the IAFE President and CEO Jim Tucker. The convention is taking place Dec. 8-12, at the Paris Hotel in Las Vegas, Nev.

The Rising Star Award was created by the IAFE Young Professionals Initiative (YPI) to recognize leadership and industry contributions of IAFE members, age 40 and younger. Nominees are any employee, volunteer, or board member under age 40 of a member fair, show, exposition, or exhibition in good standing with the IAFE. The award was presented by National FFA Leader Seth Pratt.

Ms. Klumpp has been working at the Florence County Fair since the age of 12 when she was hired to enter the Fair Book data. After receiving her check, she told her mother she didn't want to get paid - she wanted to volunteer. Over the last 19 years, Ms. Klumpp has been involved in every single aspect of the fair, including serving as office manager, fair manager, Entertainment Committee chair, board secretary and treasurer, Technology Committee chair, and Fairest of the Fair coordinator. After graduating from Northern Michigan University with a bachelor's degree in Business Education, Ms. Klumpp became secretary of the fair board in addition to being the fair manager. She has overseen and acquired funding and labor for multiple building and grounds improvement projects.

Shortly after becoming fair manager, she began attending meetings and conventions held by the Wisconsin Association of Fairs. She has served on numerous committees and presented many workshops since becoming involved. Ms. Klumpp currently serves as District 1 representative on the Wisconsin Association of Fairs board of directors. She tries to visit all the fairs in her district and show fairs that the Wisconsin Association of Fairs and the IAFE exist to help them with potential challenges and provide support. Ms. Klumpp was named the Wisconsin Association of Fairs Outstanding Fair Person in 2005 and was awarded the Wisconsin Association of Fairs Hall of Fame Award in 2012.

Ms. Klumpp is a 2013 graduate of the IAFE Institute of Fair Management and received the IAFE Heritage Award in 2011.

Ms. Klumpp is an active member of her community. She has served as the Florence High School forensic coach, drama director, and musical theater director. She is active in the Florence County Chamber of Commerce and serves as vice president and on the Membership and Christmas in Florence Committees. She has earned the Presidents Call to Service Gold Award for serving more than 500 volunteer hours in a year and earned the Presidents Call to Service Lifetime Achievement Award for serving more than 4,000 volunteer hours in her lifetime.

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