# MAAF 2020 Virtual Fair Discussion



#### **Our Presenters**

Melissa Jordan – Maine Dept of Ag Katherine Kugelman – Fryeburg Fair / MAAF Steve Graustein – Fryeburg Fair / MAAF



#### **Topics**

- What is a Virtual Fair
- Why Have a Virtual Fair
- Virtual Show's and Contest's
- Getting the Word Out
- Post Event Evaluation



#### What is Virtual?

- Being on or simulated on a computer or computer network
- Occurring or existing primarily online



# What are the advantages of a virtual fair?





#### Virtual Show's & Contest's

- Types of Show's or Contest's
  - Fully Virtual
  - Hybrid
- How does it work
  - Entering the show / contest
  - Judging the show / contest



Example – beltieshow.com

Winter Heifer Calf - November - December 2019

**Animal Name:** 

Craigellachie "Helena"

DOB: 12/19/19

**Click for Pedigree** 

Exhibited By: Olivia Graham (GA)

**VIDEO** 





#### Social Media Platforms

Cover Photo: create a cover photo NOW to promote your virtual event

- Facebook
  - (O)
- Instagram
- Twitter
- y
- Snapchat <a href="#">£</a>
- YouTube
- You Tube
- > These are the top contenders, but there are more...
- Don't forget your website....





#### Uses of Social Media - Virtual Fairs & Beyond



Sharing content such as photos, videos, and more Uses of Social Media - Virtual Fairs & Beyond with friends and followers of your fair



Live and Real-Time video streaming and photo sharing on newsfeed or through "My Stories"



Pre-recorded video & audio sharing



Educational Information sharing



# Best Social Media Platforms for Fairs & Virtual Fairs

#### Facebook



- Larger, broader target audience majority of the population utilizing Facebook attends your fair annually
- Best uses are for live streaming, "My Story" posting for 24-hour viewings from all followers, pre-recorded video sharing, photo-sharing, educational information, and maintaining engagement with your audience year-round. Integration with Instagram.

#### Instagram



- Large audience, not in age range, but in reach beyond your local followers
- Good for real-time photo & video-sharing with followers, also has "My Story" feature, integrates My Story & photo sharing to your Facebook account instantly
- Use of "hashtags(#)" adds your posts to the pool of similar tagged posts for larger audience viewing



### Using These Platforms for a Virtual Fair



Post "go-live" pre-recorded videos of events that would normally take place at your fair i.e. compilation video of 4-H dairy show, or a goat show, etc.



Share photo album or slide-show of photos from contests that would take place in exhibition halls, i.e. quilt making, vegetable growing, etc. of entries and share winners if pre-judged



If you have local acts/entertainment who want to take part, many bands & musicians have been going live on their own Facebook pages, can ask for pre-recorded performance or share a post with a link to their page



There are many options out there for what you can do, based on the events and activities that you put on at your fair and would like to try and still exhibit this year.



# Templates & Toolkits

Virtual Fairs



> Where do I start?

- > Build your brand: Include your logo/website/link on all original content.
- Post at the right time: 12pm, 3pm, 7pm are peak. Also post in the morning for less competition in your followers news feeds.
- > Tell your story: introduce your followers to your organization and your employees, vendors, exhibitors, etc. Talk about your charitable contributions and how you positively impact your community.



- Engagement
  - ▶ Plan and post your fair schedule, ahead of time & daily.
  - ► Ask questions: What is your favorite #FairFood, memory, etc...
  - ▶ Promotions & Contests: people love free stuff!
  - Highlight your fans: know a fair lover with a great story? Ask them to share it!
  - Respond: respond to your followers as often as possible when they compliment you!

- Original Content
  - > Create original images and artwork. Include your logo!
  - > Post videos: pre-recorded, live, shared from partners.
  - Post how-to guides: ag education, fair foods, home crafts, the possibilities are endless!



- Promote your page
  - Use hashtags: #MaineFairs #FairFaces #RealMaine #YourFair
  - > Tag: mention partners, vendors, exhibitors or sponsors. Tag them in the post so they see it and can share it as well.
  - Boost your posts: paid ads reach a broad audience for little investment.



> Recommend other pages: SUPPORT ALL FAIRS!

## Templates (Facebook)

Cover Photo: create a cover photo NOW to promote your virtual event

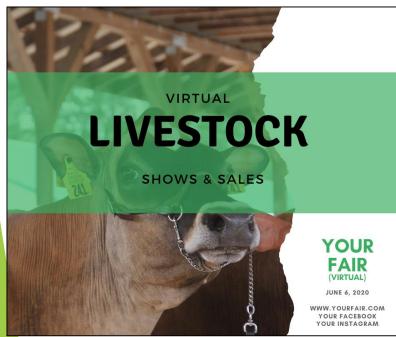
















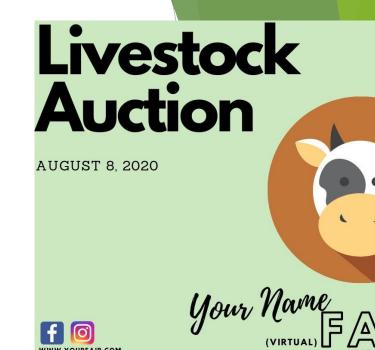












WW.YOURFAIR.COM





# Exhibits

#### **NOW ACCEPTING ENTRIES!**





















Advanced: Adobe Photoshop

Free(ish) online: <a href="Canva.com">Canva.com</a>





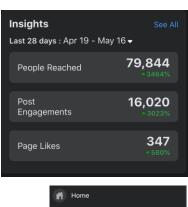
Templates can be shared in Canva, create your own, or we can help you customize!

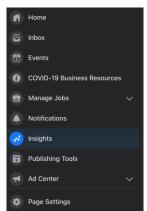


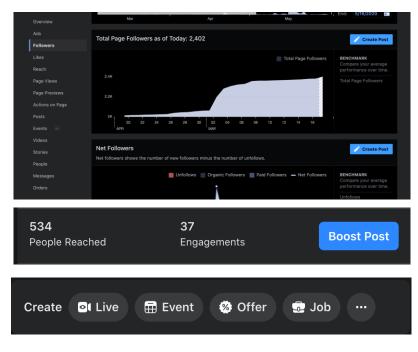
# Business Page Insights Features Tracking Your Success

#### Facebook

Facebook Professional Page Insights



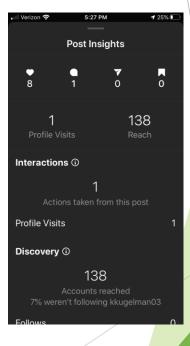




#### Instagram

Post Insights & Profile Highlights







## Using Your Social Media Beyond a Virtual Fair







POST OFTEN, EVEN DURING THE OFF-FAIR SEASON, TO KEEP FOLLOWERS ENGAGED AND YOUR INFORMATION AT THE TOP OF THEIR NEWS FEED



NOT ENOUGH TIME DURING THE FALL/WINTER MONTHS TO POST? PARTNER WITH YOUR LOCAL COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES AND OFFER SOCIAL MEDIA INTERNSHIPS









# Real Life Examples





## COVID19 RECIPE BOOK

CREATE A RECIPE USING ONLY THE ITEMS YOU HAVE IN YOUR HOUSE. SHARE BELOW!



SATURDAY, APRIL 11TH- TASTE THE FAIR DAY

# IRTUAL FAIR REMINDER

- Support our local restaurants and order some takeout!
   Try to find some fair food at one of them and let us see what you found! Post your food pics!
   #tastethefairclay
- Send us a recipe of your favorite dish for our Fair Corona-Book!
- Quarantine Recipe: what can you cook only using the ingredients you have at your house?
- Noon- Fair Food How To's

WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER

SHARE AND JOIN US









THURSDAY, APRIL 9TH- SENIOR+
INCLUSIVE DAY

- 10am-FAIR BINGO release
- 1pm- Live Facebook performance by The Evans Duo (bluegrass, country and gospel)
- 2pm- Live Facebook Trivia with Dennis Lee
   "The Pink Cowboy"
- 3pm-Storytelling with Doug Elliott live from Appalachia, "Woodslore and Wildwoods Wisdom -- Stories, Songs, and Lore Celebrating the Natural World"
- 4pm- Live Disc-Connected K9's Demonstration

WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER

SHARE AND JOIN US



# Questions

