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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CELEBRATE 'THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR' AT THE 2015 CORNDOG KICKOFF

DES MOINES - Join the Blue Ribbon Foundation for "The Most Wonderful Time of the Year," at the 19th annual Corndog Kickoff Benefit Auction and Fair Food Grazing Party, Saturday, July 11 at the Iowa State Fairgrounds. Doors to the William C. Knapp Varied Industries Building will open at 6:30 p.m. for a "Christmas in July" night filled with exciting gift-worthy auction packages, entertainment and all of your favorite Fair foods. Get in the spirit for the 2015 Iowa State Fair while raising funds to renovate and restore the historic Fairgrounds!

More than 230 enticing auction packages fill the live and silent auctions that will top your wish list. Get your Fair fix with a 36 x 36" original wall art piece by Sticks, Inc., depicting what Fairgoers love about the Iowa State Fair. Enjoy a personal band box in the Grandstand with eleven friends for the entire 2015 Iowa State Fair concert series. Travel to Washington, D.C. to see the national Christmas tree, learn about America's history and much more. Or, score four front row tickets and backstage passes to see Carrie Underwood's sold out performance at the Iowa State Fair on August 17.

The Corndog Kickoff has been a pre-fair tradition since it began in 1997. First held in Pioneer Hall, 460 people were in attendance. Since then, the event has grown to raise more than \$4 million for the restoration and preservation of the Iowa State Fairgrounds. The 2014 event brought a crowd of 1,800 and raised a record high \$424,000!

"The Corndog Kickoff is a special event for Iowans, which serves as the largest annual fundraiser for the Iowa State Fair Blue Ribbon Foundation," said Peter Cownie, Foundation Executive Director, "We are excited to celebrate 'The Most Wonderful Time of the Year,' by raising funds for the restoration and renovation of our historic Fairgrounds at this year's event. Thank you for the support."

All-inclusive Corndog Kickoff tickets are \$75 prior to June 30 and increase to \$100 each during the month of July. Tickets can be purchased by calling the Blue Ribbon Foundation at (800) 450-3732, online at www.BlueRibbonFoundation.org or at the door the night of the event.

The Iowa State Fair Blue Ribbon Foundation is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Since its inception in 1993, the Foundation has generated more than \$110 million for renovations and improvements to the Iowa State Fairgrounds. For more information on the Corndog Kickoff, please contact the Foundation at (800) 450-3732 or bluerf@blueribbonfoundation.org.

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