

## Florida State Fair - Corn Dogs, Cotton Candy And More

By Karen McBride

Bring your family and friends to the Florida State Fair (Fair) and be a part of the tradition that has been taking place in Tampa for over 100 years and counting. Since 1904, the Fair has meant family-friendly entertainment, a chance to show off your hard work and, of course, a seemingly never-ending supply of corn dogs, cotton candy and funnel cakes.

The 2011 Fair will be held Thursday, February 10 through Monday, February 21. Discounted tickets can be purchased in advance at Sweetbay Supermarkets and online at [www.floridastatefair.com/admissions](http://www.floridastatefair.com/admissions). Tickets prices at the gate are as follows:

Monday through Friday \$10 for adults (12 and over), \$5 Children (ages 6-11); Saturday and Sunday \$12 for adults (12 and over), \$6 Children (ages 6-11) or enter for a chance to win free tickets by sharing photo memories of previous visits to the

Fair. To enter the contest, post to the Fair's Facebook page [www.facebook.com/floridastatefairgrounds](http://www.facebook.com/floridastatefairgrounds) or e-mail Jennifer Becker at [beckerj@doacs.state.fl.us](mailto:beckerj@doacs.state.fl.us). Thrill seekers can purchase armbands for \$25 in advance for unlimited midway rides for one day.

This year's Headline Entertainment includes Circus Hollywood. These entertainers will keep you on the edge of your seat with high wire and acrobatic acts. In the Family Theatre, you will find your favorite acts from past Fairs, including Dennis Lee, singing country music and Leon Jacobs, playing the piano. The entire family will enjoy the Kandu Magic Show on the Children's Stage. Some of the outside attractions include the amazing Nock Helicopter Trapeze Shows and for those of you that prefer your entertainment on the ground, grab your seats at the Rodeo watch those bucking broncos do their best to keep the cowboys off their backs. For a complete listing of entertainment please visit

[www.floridastatefair.com/state-fair/headline-entertainment](http://www.floridastatefair.com/state-fair/headline-entertainment)

Many competitions are being held including baking, fine art, china painting and the 23rd Annual International Wine and Grape Juice competition. The Fair would not be complete without the beloved livestock competitions. The best of the best will compete in the rabbit, Angus and goat competitions, to name a few. The 4-H Dog Show will take place Saturday morning, February 12. Later in the day, join the crowd for the Rooster Crowing Contest at 1:00 pm and again at 4:00 pm. Check the website for a complete listing of competitions and requirements at [www.floridastatefair.com/state-fair/competitions](http://www.floridastatefair.com/state-fair/competitions).

As always, volunteers are needed during two phases of the Fair. The first phase is from January through February, prior to the Fair and the second phase during the Fair. For more information, contact 813-621-7821 or 1-800-345-3247 extension

300, or visit the website at [www.floridastatefair.com](http://www.floridastatefair.com).

**The Florida State Fairgrounds is located at 4800 U.S. Highway 301 N, Tampa. Additional information can be obtained at their website [www.floridastatefair.com/state-fair](http://www.floridastatefair.com/state-fair) or by visiting Facebook at [www.facebook.com/floridastatefairgrounds](http://www.facebook.com/floridastatefairgrounds)**



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