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Iowa State Fair Blue Ribbon Foundation's 2026 Corndog Kickoff Raises Funds and Celebrates Tradition

The Iowa State Fair Blue Ribbon Foundation achieved significant fundraising success at the 2026 Corndog Kickoff Benefit Auction and Fair Food Grazing Party. Saturday's "American Classic" event raised a total of \$851,250 toward the renovation and preservation of the historic Iowa State Fairgrounds.

Iowa State Fair supporters gathered for a night of fun in the William C. Knapp Varied Industries Building to raise money for ongoing improvement projects around the Fairgrounds. The Blue Ribbon Foundation auctioned off 31 live and 308 silent auction packages. 2200 attendees enjoyed 30 different Iowa State Fair foods, Sky Glider rides, raffle games and a fireworks show!

"The Iowa State Fair Blue Ribbon Foundation is incredibly thankful for the generosity of everyone who helped make this year's Corndog Kickoff a success," said Peter Cownie, Blue Ribbon Foundation Executive Director. "Every contribution helps us preserve the traditions of the Iowa State Fair while investing in improvements that will benefit the next generation of Fairgoers."

The Blue Ribbon Foundation encourages the public to attend this year's Iowa State Fair, August 13-23. As you explore, please enjoy the most recent developments to the Fairgrounds including enhancements to the Livestock Barns, updated campgrounds' restrooms, roof replacements and more.

The Iowa State Fair Blue Ribbon Foundation is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization. Since its inception in 1993, the Foundation has generated more than \$210 million for restoration of the

time-honored Iowa State Fairgrounds. For more information, please contact the Blue Ribbon Foundation at 515-262-3111 Ext. 371 or Info@BlueRibbonFoundation.org.