

San Mateo County Fair | 2022 Comments

HEALTH & SAFETY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• "Thanks to all who made the Fair happen! We are fully vaccinated and boosted. We wore KN95 masks, except when eating. It all worked and we shared such a WONDERFUL day!"• "We were a little on the nervous side due to the virus. But was surprised with all the hand sanitizer & posting on keeping hands clean."• "Thank you for making it safe with metal detectors, security and police!"• "Thank you again. The Fair felt safe and clean. We loved how there was a shuttle driving around the parking lot offering to take folks to the entrance gates. The sad part was the closure of many of the exhibit halls - and smaller vendor areas. But thank you for putting on the Fair, for the music, the food, and for the amazing community vibe!"• "Love the Special Events days, love having a friendly police presence, love the sights, sounds, smells of the fair, and especially the guy on the PA!"• "Loved the tram in the parking lot and the train in the fair."
EXHIBITS & VENDORS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• "Kudos to Laura McHugh for managing Home Arts. Beautiful display, better than prior years."• "Enjoyed the new leaders in Home Arts and Culinary."• "Special thank you to the gentleman who headed up the Culinary Arts dept. at the last minute."• "We need to bring young blood into the entries. Maybe a partnership with the County to get their employees entering things."• "It would be great if more people would participate in the fair. It is disappointing how few people participated. Can the County do more to educate schools and families about how to participate?"• "Please get more vendors in there, do not reduce the animals section, if anything expand them. Keep all the food or add but don't lose any. And lastly, please invest in much better musical artists."• "Thank you for seeking out local artists, vendors, and businesses."
SPECIAL EVENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• "Poly Day has been such a successful event 2 years straight! Keep it coming! :))"• "Thanks for recognizing the LGBTQ community so well!"• "As a disabled veteran I really enjoy the non-athletic competitions like the eating competition so I can participate. The dinos were cool, fair food was great, enjoyed the animals and the shows too. Thanks!"• "Our school participated in the school tour. It was a great success. Our 5th graders loved the pig races. And the staff were very supportive of their needs."
OVERALL EXPERIENCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• "Myself and my family have been involved with the fair off and on for over 50 years. I'm impressed with how well its run in recent years, just as a guest who comes to relive childhood fair adventures. Keep up the good work!"• "Thank you for a fantastic fair. It is so meaningful to our family as we are 'staycationing' this year."• "My 17 Yr old got a kick out of things like the one wheeled bike, the crazy mascots, butterfly on stilts, THE funnel cake, the rides, the "not so great" local belly dancers. The perfect imperfections. He has gone since he's a baby, and he looks for the familiar, the new and the connection. The fair has history!"• "The grandchildren and I all loved the interactive Expedition Dinosaur! Sure hope it can return next year. Also, I'd like to commend several of the game booth vendors who were very kind and generous in giving small prizes to our youngest grandchild (even when he couldn't complete the task at hand). He was absolutely beaming when a couple vendors said something like, "Hey, kid, great try! Here's a prize!". When I visit next year, I will definitely seek out those vendors and spend my money at those booths again!"• "Best fair I have ever been to there. It is a little too short, not even a week long and it stinks having it during school time."• "Worth the drive to San Mateo! Out does the Alameda County Fair."

Those are only a few of the many comments made by the participants of our 2022 Fair survey. From those, **we've identified THREE main areas of improvement for next year:**

ENHANCE SHOPPING EXPERIENCE

Finetune partnership with SF Bazaar. Started in February 2022. Build partnership with Renaissance Entrepreneurship Center.

GROW COMPETITIVE EXHIBITS PARTICIPATION RATE

Partner with county libraries to provide events that involve the community with making entries. Engage more with our audience regarding contests. Reach out to after-school programs, Boys and Girls Club and similar groups

BRING MORE ANIMALS

Bring back the Petting Zoo. Grow partnerships with Peninsula Humane Society and CuriOdyssey.