



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Merced County Fair Board Officers Selected for 2020

Carol Sartori-Silva will succeed Lori Gallo as the new President of the Fair Board

MERCED, CALIFORNIA, January 22, 2020 – The Merced County Fair is proud to announce the 2020 officer position for the 35th District Agricultural Association Board of Directors, which was made official on January 13 after a Board vote during its monthly meeting. Those positions are: Carol Sartori-Silva, President; Lee Lor, First Vice President; and Kim Rogina, Second Vice President.

“It is exciting to have the opportunity to work with Carol in a new capacity as our Board President, who has been involved in the fair her whole life. Her connections with our fair, our community and our agriculture community run deep,” said Teresa Burrola, CEO of the Merced County Fair. “I look forward to the year ahead as she further helps us continue to serve our community and grow the Fair.”

Carol Sartori-Silva has a longstanding relationship with the Fair, having served on the Merced County Fair Board for more than 20 years. Carol has served as a Fiscal Supervisor for the Merced County Welfare to Work Department, as well as a Civil Assistant in the Merced County Marshal’s Office. She has previously served as a member of the California Women in Agriculture, Merced County Historical Society and the Western Fairs Association. Carol was also a charter member of the Friends of the Merced County Fair, which is the Fair’s non-profit foundation.

“I’m honored and excited to serve as the fair’s Board President of the Merced County Fair, which has been part of my life since the age of three and is a tradition for my family and generations of families in our area,” said Sartori-Silva. “I am so proud of what the fair provides our community – a family-friendly, safe place to gather and connect – while promoting educational advancement and agriculture, all while having fun! I look forward to future improvements to the grounds, which is made possible by Friends of the Merced County Fair and the generous support from our community, and a wonderful 2020 fair!”

First Vice President, Lee Lor of Merced was first appointed to the Merced County Fair Board in 2013. She held multiple positions at the Merced County Office of Education including Executive Director of the Merced County Education Foundation. Lee is a former board member of the Merced Lao Family Community and Mercy Medical



Center Merced. She is a member of the American Leadership Forum – Great Valley Chapter and Chair of the First 5 Merced County. In 2016, she was elected to the Merced County Board of Supervisors representing District 2, a position she proudly holds.

Second Vice President, Kim Rogina of Merced was first appointed to the Merced County Fair board in 2015. Kim is co-owner of her family farming business Rogina Inc. established in 1985. She is also a real estate agent with Next Door Real Estate Professionals (formerly Century 21 Salvadori Realty). Kim served as president and on the Board of Directors for the Merced County Association of Realtors. She is a member of California Women for Agriculture, the Merced County Farm Bureau, and a California Agricultural Leadership Program alumnus.

Highlights:

- **Get Involved** | Celebrate the official kick-off of the 2020 fair season and support the fundraising efforts of the Friends of the Merced County Fair at Merced County Fair Pre-Party & Dinner on February 28. Tickets are \$40 for this event that features a live and silent auction, dinner and hosted drinks, plus plenty of entertainment and more! Attendees must be 21 years or older. For more details go to: www.mercedcountyfair.com/merced-fair-preparty
- **Stay In The Know** | Want to be the first to know about concerts, food vendors and new featured food items, admission discounts and more? Then sign up for our email newsletter at (www.mercedcountyfair.com/contact-us) or connect with us on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/mercedfair>), Twitter (twitter.com/Merced_CA_Fair) or Instagram (<https://www.instagram.com/mercedcountyfair>).

RESOURCES:

Board Photos + 2020 Merced County Fair Theme Logo: <https://spaces.hightail.com/space/KHmqyj10dz>

About The Merced County Fair:

The Merced County Fair, first founded in 1891, represents the 35th District Agricultural Association. The fair's mission statement outlines that it "*promises to meet the needs of our community by providing a fun, safe venue to celebrate our area's agricultural heritage, discover new technology and be entertained.*" This year marks the 129th year of operation for the Merced County Fair, which welcomes more than 70,000 people from throughout Merced County and beyond to attend the five-day fair each June. Members of the Board of Directors include: President, Carol Sartoni-Silva; First Vice President, Lee Lor; Second Vice President, Kim Rogina; Vicky Banaga; Mark Erreca; Lori Gallo; Emily Haden; Flip Hassett; and Luis Lara. Teresa Burrola heads up the daily operations in her role as CEO. The 2020 Merced County Fair will run June 10 - 14. For more information about the Merced County Fair, please visit www.MercedCountyFair.com. Connect with the Fair on Facebook (@mercedfair), Twitter (@Merced_CA_Fair) and Instagram (@mercedcountyfair).