

For Immediate Release

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CELEBRATE PENNSYLVANIA FOOD AND DAIRY AT "A TOAST TO DAIRY" ON JUNE 20

The Annual Event Supports Next-Generation Dairy Education Programs

Harrisburg, Pa. – Tickets are available for the Center for Dairy Excellence Foundation of Pennsylvania's annual farm-to-fork celebration, "A Toast to Dairy." The event will take place on Thursday, June 20 during National Dairy Month. In addition to showcasing local food, artisan cheeses, wines and brews, A Toast to Dairy supports next-generation dairy education programs, including scholarships, internships and curriculum.

The Pennsylvania Dairymen's Association will be making milkshakes, and the Pennsylvania Cheese Guild will lead wine and cheese pairings during the event. Caputo Brothers Creamery will also provide fresh mozzarella stretching, and Birchrun Hills Farm will provide fried cheese curds. All food items are included in the ticket price.

The dinner menu for the evening features local, Pennsylvania food and produce. Guests will enjoy sliced chicken breast, sliced beef, macaroni and cheese, cornbread pudding, smashed potatoes, roasted butternut squash and mushrooms, and assorted desserts.

"As we enjoy Pennsylvania food and dairy products, attendees will also learn about the Foundation's 'Adopt A Cow' program, which has been an exciting way for students to discover the world of dairy farming and learn where their food comes from," said Brittany Haag, Dairy Education Program Manager at the Center for Dairy Excellence.

During the 2018-19 school year, 486 classrooms with more than 25,000 students combined enrolled in the "Adopt A Cow" program, where they "adopted" a cow from a dairy farm in Pennsylvania, Illinois or Minnesota and watched it grow throughout the school year.

Premier sponsors of the Toast to Dairy event include the PA Preferred[®] Program, Savencia Cheese, Land O'Lakes, Turkey Hill, and Dave and Janet Hileman. Other sponsors include Wawa, Phibro Animal Health, Herbein & Company Inc., and the Lancaster Dairy Herd Improvement Association. Local artist and dairy supporter Debbie Cornman of Boiling Springs, Pennsylvania will donate her time to do a live art rendering of a local barn scene during the event. The painting will be auctioned during a raffle supporting the Dairy Excellence Foundation.

Entertainment for the evening will be provided by Jake and Robert Myers, otherwise known as Pyxus. The brothers grew up on a dairy farm in Jonesville, North Carolina and will be performing dynamic folk rock, Americana and bluegrass music throughout the evening.

View more information about the event:

- When: Thursday, June 20 from 6-9 p.m.
- Where: Historic Acres of Hershey in Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania
- **Cost:** Tickets to the "Toast to Dairy" event cost \$75 per person. All proceeds from the event will support the scholarships, internships and curriculum offered through the Dairy Excellence Foundation.

To purchase tickets, visit <u>centerfordairyexcellence.org/a-toast-to-dairy/</u>.

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The Center for Dairy Excellence Foundation of Pennsylvania is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, tax deductible organization that is Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) approved. Established in 2010, the foundation's mission is to build and invest in programs that cultivate and empower the next generation of producers, consumers, and advocates for the Pennsylvania dairy industry. Learn more at <u>centerfordairyexcellence.org/our-foundation/</u>.

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