



Media Contact: Communications Dept.
OC Fair & Event Center
(714) 708-1543

Bill Lobdell
City of Costa Mesa
(949) 887-2541
wlobdell@ci.costa-mesa.ca.us

OC Fair & Event Center, City of Costa Mesa Partner for “Hire Local” Program

Job application season for the 2011 OC Fair kicks off with joint campaign to encourage local employment opportunities for Costa Mesa youth

Costa Mesa, Calif. (April 28, 2011) – The OC Fair & Event Center and the City of Costa Mesa are teaming together to promote summer employment opportunities for Costa Mesa youth at the 2011 OC Fair. The “Hire Local” campaign was announced in a joint ceremony during the OC Fair & Event Center Board of Directors meeting on April 28.

Eight students from Estancia High School and Costa Mesa High School were introduced as the first Costa Mesa youth to be offered employment at the 2011 OC Fair as part of the “Hire Local” campaign.

“I can’t think of a better way for the OC Fair & Event Center to strengthen our partnership with the City of Costa Mesa than to work together to promote and provide job opportunities for the City’s kids,” said David Ellis, Chairman of the 32nd District Agricultural Association (OC Fair & Event Center) Board of Directors. “The OC Fair has a long-standing tradition of representing the ‘first job’ for generations of kids in Costa Mesa and Orange County. This program is a great way to celebrate that tradition.”



OC Fair & Event Center Board Vice-Chair Joyce Tucker, Costa Mesa CEO Tom Hatch and Costa Mesa City Councilman Stephen Mensinger congratulated eight Costa Mesa high school students on being the first to earn employment at the 2011 OC Fair through the “Hire Local” campaign.

“As someone who benefitted as a youngster having his first job here, it is such a pleasure to partner with Costa Mesa to promote employment opportunities for our local youth at the OC Fair,” said Dr. Steven Beazley, OC Fair & Event Center President and CEO. Prior to becoming President and CEO, Beazley worked seasonal jobs at the OC Fair & Event Center for 23 years, beginning at the age of 12 cleaning up after the daily parade.

The “Hire Local” partnership is the first youth employment initiative to arise from a January 2011 resolution of the Costa Mesa City Council encouraging local employers to hire local residents.

“We are privileged to have a regional employer that embraces community participation and encourages employment opportunities for our children,” said Costa Mesa City Councilman Stephen Mensinger. I am grateful to the leadership of the OC Fair & Event Center for reaching out to our young men and women with the ‘Hire Local’ initiative. I am especially thankful that these eight employees are Costa Mesa youth.”

The eight students who signed their employment paperwork during the ceremony are:

- Trace Curet
- Ozzy Magana
- Oscar Reyes
- Andy Ugalde
- Meagan Settles
- Charles Mankin
- Lucas Mitchell
- Octavio Magana
- Molly McFarland

Mensinger said the goals of the “Hire Local” campaign are to encourage employment opportunities for Costa Mesa youth to earn money and gain meaningful work experience; learn and develop the skills, attitudes and commitment necessary to succeed in today’s working world; gain exposure to various exciting career industries; and interact with dynamic working professionals in a positive work environment.

“I want to encourage other Costa Mesa-based employers to follow the lead of the OC Fair & Event Center and reach out to our youth with work opportunities,” said Mensinger.

The OC Fair & Event Center is currently accepting applications for seasonal employment during the 2011 OC Fair. Candidates interested in applying should visit ocfair.com and complete an online employment application.

The 2011 OC Fair, themed *LET’S EAT!*, is July 15 – August 14 and will bring 23 days of food, rides, exhibits, animals, music, action sports and fun, as well as the popular Super Pass (season pass), Pacific Amphitheatre Summer Concert Series, The Hangar and Action Sports Arena. The Fair is open Wednesday-Sunday. The OC Fair was ranked the eighth highest attended fair in the U.S. last year by *Venues Today* magazine.

The OC Fair & Event Center is located off the 405 and 55 freeways at 88 Fair Drive in Costa Mesa. For more information, please visit ocfair.com, become a fan on [Facebook.com/OCFair](https://www.facebook.com/OCFair) or follow us at twitter.com/ocfair.