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National 4-H Council and CME Group Bring Commodity Carnival to 150 State and County Fairs in Fourth Year of Partnership

Carnival Educates Youth on the Business of Agriculture

CHICAGO and CHEVY CHASE, Md., June 20, 2016 /PRNewswire/ -- [CME Group](#), the world's leading futures exchange, and National 4-H Council are partnering for a fourth consecutive year to bring their popular and award-winning fair experience, Commodity Carnival, to a growing number of fairs during 2016. The interactive experience is scheduled to visit 150 state and county fairs across nine states this summer to teach fair-going families the fundamentals of risk management in agriculture, by way of bringing a hog to market. The game will also continue to be accessible beyond the fairgrounds this year via the mobile companion app, [Risk Ranch](#).

"For nearly 170 years, agriculture has been an essential part of our business at CME Group, and participating in these fairs with 4-H allows us to deepen our connection to the farmers, families and communities who fuel our economy," said CME Group Executive Chairman and President Terry Duffy. "Increasingly, the challenges facing agriculture and food security will be solved by young farmers and agribusiness leaders of the future. We're pleased to play a vital role in educating the next generation of food producers on the importance of agricultural economics and managing risk as they go about feeding the world."

"The Commodity Carnival and Risk Ranch are invaluable tools for teaching youth everywhere key lessons on agriculture, business and the economy in an approachable and engaging fashion," said National 4-H Council's President and CEO Jennifer Sirangelo. "We've heard from volunteers and fairgoers across the country that the Commodity Carnival experience is a highlight. Our partnership with CME Group allows us the unique opportunity to connect the curiosity of the next generation of farmers with the expertise of industry leaders, to the great benefit of both."

Four years ago, CME Group and 4-H, the nation's largest youth development organization, [announced](#) their partnership built around preparing future generations of farmers and food producers by exposing them to risk management in agriculture. In order to reach today's mobile and tech-savvy youth, the partners launched the learning application Risk Ranch, further helping young people understand agriculture as a complex and crucial element of our economy. New this year, users can access the Risk Ranch leaderboard directly from their mobile device, making it easier to track competition and high scores across the globe.

Developed by the Ohio State University Extension, the Commodity Carnival will travel to nine states during the 2016 fair season: Michigan, Ohio, Nebraska, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, South Dakota, Texas, and Wisconsin. To find a list of participating fairs that will be hosting the Commodity Carnival this summer and fall, visit www.cmegroup.com/4hcarnival.

Risk Ranch is available year-round online, in the App Store as well as through the Google Play, and has won multiple accolades since its launch - including [Best Children's App](#), [Gold Winner in US Mobile & App Design Awards](#) and [Parents' Choice Approved Award Winner](#). This year, fairgoers and app players alike will learn what it takes to bring a hog to the market.

The partnership between CME Group and National 4-H Council is a part of CME Group's ongoing educational efforts around markets and risk management. In addition to the Commodity Carnival targeted to school-age children, the company also partners with [Discovery Education](#) in its [Econ Essentials](#) program, a free service for middle- and high-school classrooms that helps teachers and their students explore the important and ever-changing variables that affect our global economy, particularly in energy, agricultural, and financial markets. For university students, CME Group offers an annual CME Group Trading Challenge, a global competition that in 2016 drew in nearly 500 teams of students from 30 countries to compete in a simulated trading competition. The company also provides ongoing education resources explaining how markets work at www.futuresfundamentals.com.

About CME Group

As the world's leading and most diverse derivatives marketplace, CME Group (www.cmegroup.com) is where the world comes to manage risk. CME Group exchanges offer the widest range of global benchmark products across all major asset classes, including futures and options based on [interest rates](#), [equity indexes](#), exchange, energy, [agricultural products](#) and [metals](#). Around the world, CME Group brings buyers and sellers together through its [CME Globex](#)® electronic trading platform and its exchanges based in Chicago, New York and London. CME Group also operates one of the world's

leading central counterparty clearing providers through [CME Clearing](#) and [CME Clearing Europe](#), which offer clearing and settlement services across asset classes for exchange-traded and over-the-counter derivatives. CME Group's products and services ensure that businesses around the world can effectively manage risk and achieve growth.

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About 4-H

4-H, the nation's largest youth development organization, grows confident young people who are empowered for life today and prepared for career tomorrow. 4-H programs empower nearly six million young people across the U.S. through experiences that develop critical life skills. 4-H is the youth development program of our nation's Cooperative Extension System and USDA, and serves every county and parish in the U.S. through a network of 110 public universities and more than 3000 local Extension offices. Globally, 4-H collaborates with independent programs to empower one million youth in 50 countries. The research-backed 4-H experience grows young people who are four times more likely to contribute to their communities; two times more likely to make healthier choices; two times more likely to be civically active; and two times more likely to participate in STEM programs.

Learn more about 4-H at www.4-h.org, find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/4-H and on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/4H>.

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To view the original version on PR Newswire, visit: <http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/national-4-h-council-and-cme-group-bring-commodity-carnival-to-150-state-and-county-fairs-in-fourth-year-of-partnership-300287176.html>

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