



**A Message from the President of
Southeast Productions, Inc
&
The Christmas Carousel
Holiday Gift Market Team**



On behalf of The Christmas Carousel Holiday Gift Market team I hope this finds you and your family well and healthy amid the challenges of the current COVID-19 pandemic. We are definitely living in uncharted times with each day bringing news that can certainly create stress and anxiety in our normal lives. Fortunately however, we are now seeing news of hope and normalcy returning in the days ahead as towns, cities and states start the task of bringing society together once again.

As an event management team for over 47 years, it's safe to say that we have never encountered anything like the past several months nor have we had to navigate through the process of planning an event through the uncertainties that could potentially lie ahead. I think any business will agree that "Hope" is not really a good element of a strategic plan, but given the current environment, "Hope" is certainly in the conversation. In the days, weeks & months ahead it is everyone's hope that things continue to improve and we can all return to a life and routine that resembles some form of normalcy that we've all enjoyed.

Having said this, we wanted to reach out and assure all of our exhibitors that plans for the 33rd Annual Christmas Carousel Holiday Gift Market set for November 27 – 29, 2020 are currently underway for business as usual. It is our plan especially with the current challenges that the November event will be one of our best and largest ever. We are eager to continue to be one of the "Triangle's Holiday Traditions" that helps families enjoy the season as much as they ever have. As the event management team we have been and will continue to be in contact with the host facility NC State Fairgrounds concerning any guidelines or suggestions they may have in the effort to make the event as successful as possible but we are also being proactive ourselves. One thing we are currently working on is retooling the show floor plan to create larger aisles and more open areas for crowd thinning as people move around the show floor. We will also work with the facility with more aggressive cleaning directives to ensure restrooms, doors and commonly touched areas are keep wiped down and cleaned including the use of Hand sanitizer stations around the show floor for everyone to use. All of our efforts will be to ensure the safety of our attendees as well as the exhibitors participating in the event.

Moving forward in the plans, the NC State Fairgrounds has pledged to keep us in the loop of any changes that the state mandates as it pertains to public events. Because it is a state managed facility they are bound by any state directives when it comes to state facilities and spaces. We want to assure all participating exhibitors that as soon as we are made aware of anything that could potentially alter the functionality of having the event up to and including the need to reschedule or cancel... we will immediately convey that information to the exhibitors. In the event of a reschedule or cancellation, **ALL** exhibitors in good standing with their accounts will be given the option of either carrying the monies over to the rescheduled date, carrying it over to the next year's event, or having a full refund issued. Our application guidelines are based on accounts having been paid in full by September 1st unless prior arrangements are made with the show manager. We will also extend our standard cancellation period for a full refund from Aug 1st to Sept 1st which will allow everyone additional time to make personal decisions about participation. But again please know that if at **any time** leading up to the scheduled date the facility mandates that the event cannot take place in our scheduled date... we pledge to you that **ALL** exhibitors that have signed up and accounts are in good standing will have the options described above. We want everyone to feel secure in the process of reserving their booth in one of the largest events of its kind in the southeast.

Again we hope this find you well and wish continued good health for you and your family. Please don't hesitate to contact Terri or myself if you have any questions about the event or our policy. We treasure the trust you place in us as a participating exhibitor and look forward to working with you for years to come.

Sincerely

**Les W. Gray
President
Southeast Productions**

Southeast Productions, Inc.
P. O. Box 7282
Greensboro, NC 27417
Phone 336-855-0208 Fax 336-855-0249
www.christmascarousel.com