



## NEWS RELEASE

*For immediate release*

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### MPF Fellowship Breakfast

#### *MPF Welcomes Dr. Temple Grandin as Featured Speaker*

(Buffalo, MN) ... Midwest Poultry Federation (MPF) is pleased to announce that Dr. Temple Grandin will be the 2015 MPF Fellowship Breakfast speaker.

"We are looking forward to Dr. Grandin's message of inspiration and motivation," said MPF President Kim Reis of the Iowa Turkey Federation.

Dr. Grandin is widely considered the most accomplished and well-known adult with autism in the world. She didn't talk until she was three-and-a-half years old, communicating her frustration instead by screaming, peeping, and humming. In 1950, she was diagnosed with autism and her parents were told she should be institutionalized. She recounts "groping her way from the far side of darkness" in her book *Emergence: Labeled Autistic*, a book that stunned the world because until its publication, most professionals and parents assumed that an autism diagnosis was virtually a death sentence to achievement or productivity in life.

Even though she was considered "weird" in her young school years, she eventually found a mentor who recognized her interests and abilities. Dr. Grandin later developed her talents into a successful career as a livestock-handling equipment designer, one of very few in the world. She has now designed the facilities in which half the cattle are handled in the United States, consulting for firms such as Burger King, McDonald's, Swift, and others.

Dr. Temple Grandin currently works as a professor of animal science at Colorado State University and speaks around the world on both autism and cattle handling.

In addition to the featured speaker, the Fellowship Breakfast Program also includes the recognition of exhibiting companies as MPF Longevity Honorees. (Exhibitors are recognized every 5 consecutive years.)

The Fellowship Breakfast is scheduled for March 19, 2019 at the Saint Paul RiverCentre. Tickets are \$35 and include a full breakfast. Preregistration is available online at <http://midwestpoultry.com>.

The MPF Convention runs March 17-19, 2015 at the Saint Paul RiverCentre in St. Paul, MN. For more information on the MPF Convention or to receive registration and hotel reservation information, please visit <http://midwestpoultry.com>. Or contact the MPF at (763) 682-2171 or e-mail, [ldurben@midwestpoultry.com](mailto:ldurben@midwestpoultry.com).

You can also find MPF on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/MPFConvention](http://www.facebook.com/MPFConvention)) and Twitter ([www.twitter.com/MPFConvention](http://www.twitter.com/MPFConvention)). The Twitter hashtag for the show is #mpf15.

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**About MPF**

Midwest Poultry Federation's (MPF) primary purpose is to host an annual regional convention emphasizing on-farm poultry production. The convention's goal is to offer innovative and compelling information to attendees through a balanced offering of exhibits and educational workshops.

MPF's mission is to conduct and support those educational, promotional and policy advocacy issues that will enhance the viability and growth of the poultry industry. Revenue generated by the convention goes back to MPF's members and to support various poultry programs.

*Editor's Note: Photo available upon request.*