



CONTACT

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News Release

2016 National FFA Convention and Expo, October 19 – 22

INDIANAPOLIS, IN--The 89th National FFA Convention & Expo celebrated its first year of a nine-year commitment in Indianapolis beginning October 19. More than 60,000 FFA members and guests from throughout the United States, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands were in attendance at this year's event, which ran through October 22.

This year, the theme of the convention and expo was "Transform Purpose to Action." The national officer team was excited to share this with all of those in attendance.

The convention and expo kicked off with the National FFA Band leading a grand march down Georgia Street in downtown Indianapolis on Wednesday, October 19. The march ended at Bankers Life Fieldhouse and ushered in the start of the opening session. Eight general sessions were held in the fieldhouse. On the morning of Saturday, October 22, the eighth general session was held in Lucas Oil Stadium where American FFA Degrees, the highest degree for an FFA member, were bestowed upon more than 3,000 members.

The Iowa FFA Association was represented by 3,074 attendees involved in all facets of the event. The following is a summary of results and accomplishments of Iowa FFA members in the respective national events.

Agriscience Fair

The Agriscience Fair is for FFA members who are interested in the science and technology of agriculture. Students can compete in 24 divisions across 6 systems areas: Animal; Environmental & Natural Resources; Food Products & Processing; Plant; Power, Structural, & Technical; and Social. Divisions are set based on junior (grades 7-9) and senior (grades 10-12) projects and whether the project is conducted by an individual or a pair.

- Animal Systems Div. 1 9th Place Overall: Dalayna Brugman Clay Central Everly FFA
- Animal Systems Div. 2 2nd Place Overall: Katelyn Goldsmith Maquoketa Valley FFA
- Animal Systems Div. 3 National Finalist: Madison Wendt & Emily Peterson Red Oak FFA
- Food Products and Processing Systems Div. 2 6th Place Overall: Jacqueline Ehrlich Maquoketa Valley FFA
- Plant Systems Div. 2 National Finalist: Mason Burlage Maquoketa Valley FFA
- Plant Systems Div. 3 3rd Place Overall: Mia Gibson & Payten Lehmann North Fayette Valley FFA
- Power, Structural and Technical Systems Div. 1 5th Place Overall: Carissa Doran Clay Central Everly FFA
- Power, Structural and Technical Systems Div. 3 Brynn Gamm & Molly Niewoehner North Fayette Valley FFA

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National Chapter

The National Chapter Award program recognizes FFA chapters that successfully complete an annual Program of Activities (POA), which includes a series of activities designed to encourage its members to grow as individuals, to work as part of a team and to serve others.

AGWSR FFA, Two Star
Benton Community FFA, Two Star
Brokaw FFA Chapter, Two Star
Creston FFA, One Star
Decorah FFA, Two Star
East Buchanan FFA, Two Star
Griswold FFA, Two Star
Indianola FFA, Two Star
La Porte-Dysart FFA, Two Star
Marengo FFA, One Star
Mid-Prairie FFA, Two Star
Nashua Plainfield FFA, Two Star

North Fayette Valley HS FFA, Two Star
North-Linn FFA, Two Star
Oelwein HS FFA, Three Star
Tall Corn FFA, Two Star
Vinton Shellsburg FFA, Two Star
Wapello FFA, Two Star
Wapsie Valley FFA, Two Star
Waverly-Shell Rock FFA, One Star
Webster City FFA, Three Star
West Liberty FFA, Three Star
Westwood FFA, Two Star

Proficiency Awards

The Agricultural Proficiency Awards honor FFA members who, through their SAEs, have developed specialized skills that they can apply toward their future careers. Four "National Finalists" are selected for each of the award areas and will go on to compete for a national proficiency award. National Agricultural Proficiency Award winners are announced onstage during the National FFA Convention.

--Diversified Crop Production Placement National Finalist: Chase Thomas Janss – Benton Community FFA
--Forest Management & Products National Finalist: Jarod John Bodensteiner – Wapsie Valley FFA
--Grain Production Entrepreneurship National Finalist: Todd Gregory Holdgrafer – Northeast Goose Lake FFA
--Outdoor Recreation National Finalist: Jadin Ann Hennings – LaPorte-Dysart FFA
--Swine Production Entrepreneurship National Finalist: Marta Makensi Grant – Easton Valley FFA
--Veterinary Science National Finalist: Brooke Helen Lapke – Maquoketa FFA

Career Development Events

Career opportunities abound within today's agriculture industry. Career Development Events (CDEs) help students develop the abilities to think critically, communicate clearly and perform effectively in a competitive job market. CDEs cover a variety of job skills in everything from communications to mechanics. Some events allow students to compete as individuals, while others allow them to compete in teams.

--Agricultural Communications - Clay Central Everly, Silver, Team Members: Cassie Day, Tari Knock, Sonya Newkirk
--Agricultural Issues Forum - West Liberty, Silver, Team Members: Alyssa McMichael, Sean Saleminck, Joe Baker, Elias Rocha, Noah Feldman, Hadalyn Anderson, Reghan McNaul

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- Agricultural Sales – Osage, Silver, Team Members: Joslyn Perrin, Emmi Taets, Courtney Prochaska, Nick Chambers
- Agricultural Technology & Mechanical Systems – Osage, Silver, Team Members: Trystan Dohlman, Joe Malecek, Jared Popp, Joe Popp
- Agronomy – Waukon, Bronze, Team Members: Jacob Dougherty, Kyle Gordon, Michael Schulte, Emma Johnson
- Creed Speaking - Alondra Aragon of Clarion-Goldfield-Dows, Bronze
- Dairy Cattle Evaluation and Management - North Fayette Valley, Silver, Team Members: Tatum Kahler, Matthew Appler, Cassidy Bohr, Morgan Lauer
- Dairy Cattle Handlers' Activity - Rachel Darnall of North Fayette Valley, Silver
- Extemporaneous Public Speaking - Tiffany Tomlin of Muscatine, Silver
- Farm Business Management – Montezuma, Gold 1st Place, Tyler Meyer (2nd Place Overall), Grant Johnson (3rd Place Overall), Shane Helm (5th Place Overall), Hunter Foubert
- Floriculture – West Liberty – Gold 5th Place, Gracie Danner (6th Place Overall), Jaida Dalton (7th Place Overall), Belinda Heckman, and Lauren Aird
- Food Science and Technology – East Sac, Bronze, Team Members: Camber Herrig, Allison Kolbe, Alli Crump, Abby Hauser
- Forestry – Maquoketa, Gold, Team Members: Aaron Oetken, Jackson Tubbs, JP Crowley, Isaiah Miller
- Horse Evaluation – Northeast-Goose Lake, Silver, Team Members: Faith Ciesielski, Taciana Bilek, Montanna Krogman, Aaliyah Maze
- Job Interview - 8th Place Overall -- Hailey Daufeldt of West Liberty, Gold
- Livestock Evaluation -Northeast-Goose Lake, Gold, Team Members: Cassidy Jacobsen, Connor McDonald, Collin Swanton, Justin Swanton
- Marketing Plan – Hudson, Silver, Team Members: Alex Fouts, Maria Geisler, Madeline Herring
- Meats Evaluation and Technology – South O'Brien, Bronze, Team Members: Emily Mars, Zachary Riedemann, Erin Wagner, Dawson Weathers
- Milk Quality and Products – Maquoketa Valley, Gold, Team Members: Amanda Engelken, Amanda Fortman, Shelby Westhoff, Josie Young
- Nursery/Landscape – Muscatine, Gold, Team Members: Molly Haller, Tyree Anfinson, Jose Gonzalez, J.T. Manjoine
- Parliamentary Procedure – Brokaw, Bronze, Team Members: Hunter Crawford, Austin Gutknecht, Sadie Graham, Paige Sunderman, Abbie Guthrie, Joslyn Williams
- Poultry Evaluation – Wapello, Bronze, Kabe Boysen, Tate Boysen, Kenna Lanz, Ellise Wykert
- Prepared Public Speaking - Peyton Schmitt of Lone Tree, Bronze
- Veterinary Science – Denison, Silver, Team Members: Emily Boettger, Morgan Fink, Hannah Holdsworth, Kassadie Mink

American FFA Degree

The American FFA Degree is awarded at the National FFA Convention & Expo each year to less than 1% of FFA members making it one of the organization's highest honors. In addition to their degree, each recipient receives a gold American FFA Degree key. There were 131 American Degree recipients from Iowa.

Alex Alliger, Central Plains FFA
Emily Amundson, North Fayette Valley FFA
Katie Aupperle, CAM FFA
Kendall Bachus, Calamus-Wheatland FFA
Erica Baier, Earlham FFA

Levi Banowetz, Northeast FFA
Mark Baudler, Nodaway Valley FFA
Sierra Becker, Indianola FFA
Jenna Beitz, Maquoketa Valley FFA
Madalyn Boehm, North Fayette Valley FFA

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Kale Boysen, Wapello FFA
Keely Bradley, Indianola FFA
Andrew Brockshus, Sibley-Ocheyedan FFA
Justin Bruns, Forest City FFA
Emily Cashman, Vinton-Shellsburg FFA
Merritt Caviness, Orient-Macksburg FFA
Caden Curoe, Cascade FFA
Samantha Cutts, Newton FFA
Robert Decker, Cascade FFA
Joe DeVries, Tall Corn FFA
Taylor Dohlman, Osage FFA
Mikayla Dolch, Southwest Valley FFA
John Eden, Vinton-Shellsburg FFA
Colin Feuss, Midland FFA
Jordan Flick, New Hampton FFA
Wyatt Forsyth, Charles City FFA
Colette Franks, Marengo FFA
Dalton Frick, Sibley-Ocheyedan FFA
Allison Gassman, Cascade FFA
Harrison Gebers, Ridge View FFA
Mikaela Gehl, Cascade FFA
Cale Gent, Maquoketa FFA
Wade Gerlach, Maquoketa FFA
Talynn Griggs, Boone A&M FFA
Jonathan Harmsen, Rock Valley FFA
Bailee Hejna, Charles City FFA
Marina Hilbert, Wapsie Valley FFA
Austin Himes, Central City FFA
Devin Hoekstra, Sibley-Ocheyedan FFA
Brooke Hoey, New Hampton FFA
Amanda Ion, North Scott FFA
Tate Jaeger, Charles City FFA
Tyler Johansen, North Fayette Valley FFA
Dalton Johnson, Indianola FFA
Jodie Johnson, Aplington-Parkersburg FFA
Keaton Keitzer, Mediapolis FFA
Logan Kelly, Coon Rapids-Bayard FFA
Philip Kleve, North Fayette Valley FFA
Courtney Koch, North Fayette Valley FFA
Darin Koch, Osage FFA
Kayleigh Koch, North Fayette Valley FFA
Joe Kolash, Belle Plaine FFA

Parker Kray, Monticello FFA
Jamey Kuehn, New Hampton FFA
Matthew Lansing, Maquoketa Valley FFA
Nashua Lansing, North Fayette Valley FFA
Macy Leonard, Newton FFA
Garrett Ley, North Polk FFA
Lucas Looney, Calamus-Wheatland FFA
Ellen Lupkes, Interstate 35 FFA
Aric Luzum, Decorah FFA
Isaac Luzum, Decorah FFA
Stephanie Manternach, Monticello FFA
Hunter McElree, North Fayette Valley FFA
Megan McEnany, Colo-Nesco FFA
Morgan McEnany, Colo-Nesco FFA
Calli McQuillen, Monticello FFA
Logan Mcquillen, Monticello FFA
Sean Mears, Wapello FFA
Morgan Meinecke, Wapsie Valley FFA
Hanna Mendenhall, Central Trail FFA
Myla Meyer, Charles City FFA
Tessa Meyer, Sumner Fredericksburg FFA
Blake Miller, CAM FFA
Cassie Miller, Maquoketa FFA
Lance Miller, Maquoketa FFA
Abbie Moellenbeck, Calamus-Wheatland FFA
Darcy Moore, Marengo FFA
Kenadi Moore, Indianola FFA
Eric Muench, Forest City FFA
Ashley Nelson, Fairfield FFA
Cliffon Nelson, Audubon FFA
Emily O'Connell, Maquoketa Valley FFA
Kody Orcutt, Maquoketa Valley FFA
Hannah Pagel, Sumner Fredericksburg FFA
Ethan Parcher, Rockford FFA
Annette Payne, Southeast Polk FFA
Alana Platte, Wapsie Valley FFA
Russell Pleggenkuhle, North Fayette Valley FFA
Paul Queck, Interstate 35 FFA
Reece Rieken, AGWSR FFA
Hannah Riensche, Jesup FFA
Andrew Rock, Calamus-Wheatland FFA
Justin Rottinghaus, LaPorte-Dysart FFA
Elisa Russ, New Hampton FFA

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Nolan Webster, New Hampton FFA
Sydney Weis, East Union FFA
Brooklyn Wendt, CAM FFA
Kenny White, Audubon FFA
Lane Wicks, Rockford FFA
Clay Willenbring, Maquoketa Valley FFA
Kala Wisecup, Boone A&M FFA

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About Iowa FFA Association

The Iowa FFA Association is a youth organization of over 14,800 student members as part of 226 local FFA chapters across Iowa. The FFA mission is to make a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education. The Iowa FFA Association was organized by delegates from 23 schools at Iowa State College on May 17, 1929 and is an integral part of public instruction in agriculture. The Iowa Department of Education provides leadership and helps set direction for FFA as a service to local agricultural education programs. For more, visit the Iowa FFA Association online at IowaFFA.com, on Facebook, and Twitter.