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## **News Release**

# **DES MOINES FFA CHAPTER WINS 2017 STATE FFA HORSE CAREER DEVELOPMENT EVENT**

The Des Moines FFA Chapter was named the Champion Team in the annual Iowa FFA Horse Career Development Event held at Kirkwood Community College in Cedar Rapids on June 13, 2017. Members of the first place team included: Nadine Garcia, Josephine Hill, Samuel Stevens, and Zoie Wagner. Their agriculture education instructors and FFA advisors are Mr. Kevin Anderson and Mr. Craig Nelson. They will represent Iowa at the National Horse Career Development Event at Indianapolis, Indiana, in October. The Muscatine FFA Chapter was named the Reserve Champion Team. Members of the second place team included: Summer Neece, Hannah Spies, Dakota Heath, and Kaylee Goddard. Their agriculture education instructors and FFA advisors are Mr Sam Paul, Mr. Dave Tometich, and Ms Ashley Wiebe. Erica Mehlhaus, Boone A&M FFA Chapter, was named the High Individual Overall in the competition.

FFA teams from 23 chapters participated in this year's Career Development Event designed to provide the student an opportunity to display their agricultural knowledge and skills in the area of Equine Science. The 70 individual contestants evaluated halter and performance classes. They also answered questions over the classes and gave oral reasons to explain their placings. A written examination was included along with a team problem solving competition.

The Iowa FFA Horse Career Development Event was made possible through the Iowa FFA Foundation. RAM Truck Brand, Standlee, Tractor Supply Company, and Wahl Clipper Corporation through the National FFA Foundation, sponsored the Champion Team plaque.

The Horse Career Development Event was coordinated and conducted by Rhonda Clough of Kirkwood Community College at the Iowa Equestrian Center.

Listed below are the top teams and individuals in the various parts of the career development event.

### **Top 10 Teams**

- 1 Des Moines FFA Chapter
- 2 Muscatine FFA Chapter
- 3 ACGC FFA Chapter at Guthrie Center
- 4 Waukee FFA Chapter
- 5 Crestwood FFA Chapter at Cresco
- 6 Edgewood-Colesburg FFA Chapter
- 7 Southeast Polk FFA Chapter at Pleasant Hill
- 8 Monticello FFA Chapter
- 9 Pella FFA Chapter
- 10 New Hampton FFA Chapter

### **Top 10 Individuals**

- Erica Mehlhaus, Boone A&M FFA Chapter
- Holly Beringer, Cascade FFA Chapter
- Marissa Fuerstenberg, Nashua Plainfield FFA Chapter
- Josephine Hill, Des Moines FFA Chapter
- Mallory Wheatley, ACGC FFA Chapter at Guthrie Center
- Saylor Abbas, Southeast Polk FFA Chapter at Pleasant Hill
- Hannah Spies, Muscatine FFA Chapter
- Nadine Garcia, Des Moines FFA Chapter
- Chelsea Larsen, ACGC FFA Chapter at Guthrie Center
- Emily Armstrong, Alburnett FFA Chapter

## **Specialty Areas -- Top Team/ Top Individual:**

### **Halter Classes**

**Team:** New Hampton FFA Chapter **Individual:** Holly Beringer, Cascade FFA Chapter

### **Performance Classes**

**Team:** Nevada FFA Chapter **Individual:** Emily Armstrong, Alburnett FFA Chapter

### **Oral Reasons and Questions**

**Team:** Des Moines FFA Chapter **Individual:** Nadine Garcia, Des Moines FFA Chapter

### **Problem Solving**

**Team:** Pella FFA Chapter

## **Below is a list of chapters participating by medal group.**

### **Gold Teams (9)**

Score Range (1339 to 1186)

Des Moines FFA Chapter

Muscatine FFA Chapter

ACGC FFA Chapter at Guthrie Center

Waukee FFA Chapter

Crestwood FFA Chapter at Cresco

Edgewood-Colesburg FFA Chapter

Southeast Polk FFA Chapter at Pleasant Hill

Monticello FFA Chapter

Pella FFA Chapter

### **Silver Teams (9)**

Score Range (1167 to 1072)

New Hampton FFA Chapter

Nevada FFA Chapter

South Hamilton FFA Chapter at Jewell

Cascade FFA Chapter

Williamsburg FFA Chapter

Denison FFA Chapter

Kingsley Pierson FFA Chapter

Central Trail FFA Chapter at Leon

Panorama FFA Chapter

### **Bronze Teams (5)**

Score Range (1023 to 544)

Vinton-Shellsburg FFA Chapter

Boone A&M FFA Chapter

Washington FFA Chapter

Nashua Plainfield FFA Chapter

Alburnett FFA Chapter

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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 233 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](http://IowaFFA.com), on Facebook, and Twitter.