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## **News Release**

# **Montezuma FFA Wins Iowa FFA Ag Communications CDE**

DES MOINES, IA--The Montezuma FFA Chapter from Montezuma was named the Champion Team in the annual Iowa FFA Agricultural Communications Career Development Event (CDE) held at Wells Fargo in Des Moines on April 20, 2021. Members of the first place team included: Elise Boulton, Abby Pope, Mia Boulton, and Madison Johannes. Their agriculture education instructor and FFA advisor is Mr. Rick Swenson. They will represent Iowa at the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana in October. The North Scott FFA Chapter from Eldridge was named the Reserve Champion Team. Members of the second place team included: Dylan Engelbrecht, Hailey Rossmiller, Taylor Mayhue, and Savannah Connor. Their agriculture education instructors and FFA advisors are Mr. Jacob Hunter and Mr. Andrew Sauer.

FFA members from 14 chapters participated in this year's career development event. The event provided students the opportunity to display their agricultural knowledge and skills in the area of agricultural communications. The 56 individuals who participated in the event completed several activities including demonstration of skills and problem solving in web design, video production, journalistic writing, and opinion writing, as well as presenting a team media plan. High individual for the web design practicum was Elise Boulton, Montezuma FFA, Montezuma. Sophia Coates, Midland FFA, Wyoming was named the high individual for the video production practicum. Top journalistic writing practicum winner was Mia Boulton, Montezuma FFA, Montezuma. Brendan Hunter, Decorah FFA, Decorah won the opinion writing practicum. Each practicum winner was awarded with a plaque.

The Iowa FFA Agricultural Communications CDE was made possible with support from Iowa Farmer Today through the Iowa FFA Foundation. Champion and reserve champion teams were presented with plaques and rosettes. Plaques were also presented to the champion practicum team, top written plan and top presentation. Plaques were also presented to the champion practicum team, top written plan team and top presentation team. Other top ten teams were also presented with rosettes.

### **Top 10 Teams**

- 1 Montezuma FFA, Montezuma
- 2 North Scott FFA at Eldridge
- 3 Midland FFA, Wyoming
- 4 North Fayette Valley FFA, West Union
- 5 Decorah FFA, Decorah
- 6 West Lyon FFA, Inwood
- 7 Cedar Rapids Prairie
- 8 Benton Community FFA, Van Horne
- 9 Vinton-Shellsburg FFA, Vinton
- 10 Carroll Area FFA, Carroll

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

- Team Project Proposal  
Vinton-Shellsburg FFA, Vinton
- Team Presentation  
Montezuma FFA, Montezuma
- Team Practicums  
Montezuma FFA, Montezuma
- Web Design Practicum  
Elise Boulton, Montezuma FFA, Montezuma
- Video Producer Media Practicum  
Sophia Coates, Midland FFA, Wyoming
- Journalistic Writer Practicum  
Mia Boulton, Montezuma FFA, Montezuma
- Opinion Writer Practicum  
Brendan Hunter, Decorah FFA, Decorah

Below is a list of chapters participating by medal group.

**Gold Teams (5)**

Score Range (682 to 650)

- Montezuma FFA, Montezuma
- North Scott FFA at Eldridge
- Midland FFA, Wyoming
- North Fayette Valley FFA, West Union
- Decorah FFA, Decorah

**Bronze Teams (2)**

Score Range (543 to 524)

- Unity Christian FFA
- Greene County FFA, Jefferson

**Silver Teams (7)**

Score Range (628 to 566)

- West Lyon FFA, Inwood
- Cedar Rapids Prairie
- Benton Community FFA, Van Horne
- Vinton-Shellsburg FFA, Vinton
- Carroll Area FFA, Carroll
- Ogden FFA
- Southeast Polk FFA, Pleasant Hill

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**About Iowa FFA Association**

The Iowa FFA Association is a youth organization of over 16,300 student members as part of 248 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.