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News Release

2022 National FFA Convention and Expo, October 26 – 29

INDIANAPOLIS, IN--The 95th National FFA Convention & Expo will hold its annual in-person convention beginning October 26th and concluding on October 29th. More than 65,000 FFA members and guests from throughout the United States, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands are expected to be in attendance at this year's event, which will run through November 2nd.

The convention and expo will kick off in Indianapolis, Indiana on Wednesday, October 26th. Seven general sessions will be held at Lucas Oil Stadium. On the morning of Saturday, October 29th, a special ceremony will be held where American FFA Degrees, the highest degree for an FFA member, will be bestowed upon more than 4,000 members.

The Iowa FFA Association is expecting representation from more than 3,000 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.

Mia Gibson is Iowa's National Officer Candidate

Mia Gibson, an Agricultural and Life Sciences Education major at Iowa State University and FFA member from the North Fayette Valley FFA Chapter, is Iowa's National Officer Candidate. National officers commit to a year of service to the National FFA Organization. Each officer travels more than 100,000 national and international miles to interact with business and industry leaders, thousands of FFA members and teachers, corporate sponsors, government and education officials, state FFA leaders, the general public, and more. The team will lead personal growth and leadership training conferences for FFA members throughout the country and help set policies that will guide the future of FFA and promote agricultural literacy. The 2022-2023 National Officer team will be announced at the end of the Seventh General Session on Saturday, October 29th. Gibson previously served the Iowa FFA Association as the 2021-22 State President and the 2020-21 State Secretary.

American Star Finalists

Each year at the National FFA Convention & Expo, four FFA members are honored with American Star Awards for outstanding accomplishments in FFA and agricultural education.

The American Star Awards, including American Star Farmer, American Star in Agribusiness, American Star in Agricultural Placement and American Star in Agriscience, are presented to FFA members who demonstrate outstanding agricultural skills and competencies through completion of an SAE. A required activity in FFA, an SAE allows students to learn by doing, by either owning or operating an agricultural business, working or serving an internship at an agriculture-based business or conducting an agriculture-based scientific experiment and reporting results.

Sixteen American Star Award finalists from throughout the U.S. are nominated by a panel of judges who then interview the finalists during the national convention and expo. Four are named winners and receive cash awards totaling \$4,000.

--Blake Frascht of the Charles City FFA Chapter was selected as an American Star Farmer Finalist.

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Agriscience Fair National Finalists

The Agriscience Fair is for FFA members who are interested in the science and technology of agriculture. Students can compete in 36 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 7-8), intermediate (grades 9-10) and senior (grades 11-12) projects and whether the project is conducted by an individual or a pair.

- Animal Systems Div. 1: Allison Knipper, Beckman Catholic FFA **National Finalist****
- Animal Systems Div. 3: Hannah Doellinger, MMCRU FFA (Bronze)
- Animal Systems Div. 4: Kayla Burkle & Libby Hageman, Beckman Catholic FFA **National Finalist****
- Animal Systems Div. 5: Alyssa Bassett, Lynnville-Sully FFA (Bronze)
- Animal Systems Div. 6: Jasmyn Hoeger & Gabrielle Hoeger, Beckman Catholic FFA **National Finalist****
- Environmental Services/Natural Resource Systems Div. 1: Ryan Squires, North Scott Middle FFA **National Finalist****
- Environmental Services/Natural Resource Systems Div. 2: Leah Funke & Valerie Rahe, Beckman Catholic FFA **National Finalist****
- Environmental Services/Natural Resource Systems Div. 3: Haley Kluesner, Beckman Catholic FFA (Bronze)
- Environmental Services/Natural Resource Systems Div. 6: Joseph Schneider & John Paul Grebner, Beckman Catholic FFA **National Finalist****
- Food Products and Processing Systems Div. 1: Brianna Pirc, Beckman Catholic FFA (Bronze)
- Food Products and Processing Systems Div. 2: Chloe Thier & Amaya Koelker, Beckman Catholic FFA **National Finalist****
- Food Products and Processing Systems Div. 3: Kelly Snyder, Beckman Catholic FFA **National Finalist****
- Food Products and Processing Systems Div. 5: Libby Knipper, Beckman Catholic FFA **National Finalist****
- Food Products and Processing Systems Div. 6: Taylor Mayhue & Cole Wessel, North Scott FFA **National Finalist****
- Plant Systems Div. 2: Taylor Crain & Emma Handley, North Scott Middle FFA (Bronze)
- Plant Systems Div. 3: Maria Kruse, Beckman Catholic FFA **National Finalist****
- Plant Systems Div. 4: Benjamin Schuckert & Noah Gaul, Beckman Catholic FFA **National Finalist****
- Plant Systems Div. 5: Grace Helle, Beckman Catholic FFA **National Finalist****
- Plant Systems Div. 6: Leah Their & Olivia Mensen, Beckman Catholic FFA **National Finalist****
- Power, Structural and Technical Systems Div. 1: Jorge Azuela, North Scott Middle FFA (Bronze)
- Power, Structural and Technical Systems Div. 2: Marlayna Cockshoot & Cael Mess, North Scott Middle FFA (Bronze)
- Power, Structural and Technical Systems Div. 3: Andrew Salrin, Beckman Catholic FFA **National Finalist****
- Power, Structural and Technical Systems Div. 5: Tessa Tauke, Beckman Catholic FFA **National Finalist****
- Social Science Div. 2: Hannah Schlichte & Isabel Kluesner, Beckman Catholic FFA **National Finalist****
- Social Science Div. 3: Madelyn Reiter, Beckman Catholic FFA (Bronze)
- Social Science Div. 5: Lauren Cherne, Beckman Catholic FFA **National Finalist****
- Social Science Div. 6: Alice Duckett & Marissa Strough, Stanton FFA (Bronze)

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National Chapter Award

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.

Belmond-Klemme FFA, Two Star	North Fayette Valley FFA, One Star
Benton Community FFA, Three Star	North Linn FFA, Three Star
Brokaw FFA, Two Star	North Scott FFA, Three Star
Central Trail FFA, Two Star	Sibley-Ocheyedan FFA, Two Star
Charles City FFA, Three Star	South Winneshiek FFA, Two Star
Creston FFA, Two Star	Sumner-Fredericksburg FFA, One Star
Decorah FFA, Two Star	Vinton-Shellsburg FFA, Three Star
East Buchanan FFA, Three Star	Wapsie Valley FFA, Two Star
La Porte-Dysart FFA, Three Star	Waverly-Shell Rock, Two Star
Little Switzerland at Waukon FFA, Two Star	Webster City FFA, Two Star
Marengo FFA, Two Star	Western Christian FFA, Three Star
Midland FFA, Two Star	West Liberty FFA, Three Star
Newton FFA, Two Star	

Proficiency Awards National Finalists

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.

--Agricultural Communications: Megan Clark, DeWitt Central FFA
--Diversified Agricultural Production: Evan Mogler, West Lyon FFA
--Forage Production: Hayden Holdgrafer, Easton Valley FFA

National FFA Band, Chorus, and Talent

Every year, members from across the nation audition to be involved in the National FFA Band, Chorus, and Talent. National FFA Band and Chorus members have various rehearsals and perform on stage at National FFA Convention. Talent has the opportunity to perform on stage at one of the General Sessions. One of the Talent acts is selected after multiple competition rounds as top talent at the end of convention.

--National Band:	--National Chorus:
John Heitman, Storm Lake FFA	Rachel Haupt, AGWSR FFA
Charles Moeller, Holland FFA	Aaron Lee, Le Mars
Kjersten Ouverson, Clear Lake FFA	Laura Steinkamp, Carroll Area
Rachel Rollinger, Vinton-Shellsburg FFA	--National Talent:
	Samuel Roberts, Williamsburg 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 – Montezuma FFA, Team Members: Camryn Brennan, Makenna Johannes, Alivia Cline and Madison Van Zee
--Agricultural Issues Forum – Calamus-Wheatland FFA, Team Members: Kyle VanderHeiden, Emily Boeckmann, Ava Cavey, Megan Forret, Courtney Knoche, Malana Mohr and Kahlie Hill
--Agricultural Sales – Muscatine FFA, Team Members: Grace Williams, Avery Schroeder, Ella Schroeder and Addison Karen Weggen

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- Agricultural Technology & Mechanical Systems – West Lyon FFA, Team Members: Nathan Knapp, Kendon Knoblock, Jesse Wulf and Kortlin Knoblock
- Agronomy – Denison FFA, Team Members: Maci Kaub, Cole Carlson, Emma Reisz and Johnathan Graeve
- Conduct of Chapter Meetings – East Buchanan FFA, Team Members: Lindsay Beyer, Kreighton Peck, Ayda Cook, Kalli Sherman, Tristan Lindsay, Kate Dolan and Mikel Dolan
- Creed Speaking – Emma Lihs, Bondurant-Farrar FFA
- Dairy Cattle Evaluation and Management – North Fayette Valley FFA, Team Members: Kerigan Alexander, Dillion Sparrgrove, Kylie Oakland and Alexis Steffens
- Dairy Cattle Handlers' Activity – Blake Sparrgrove, North Fayette Valley FFA
- Employment Skills – Tucker Rohrig, Creston FFA
- Extemporaneous Public Speaking – Megan Clark, DeWitt Central FFA
- Environmental & Natural Resources – Algona FFA, Team Members: Aidan Morris, Logan Lentz, Ian Fehr and Reid Louwagie
- Farm Business Management – Montezuma FFA, Team Members: Mia Boulton, Colton Benson, Madison Johannes and Maguire De Jong
- Floriculture – West Liberty FFA, Team Members: Ava Morrison, Sophie Buysse, Pearson Hall and Seth Axsom
- Food Science and Technology – Diamond Trail FFA, Team Members: Nate Richards, Trey Voeller, Meredith Chipps and Rylee DeHaai
- Forestry – Muscatine FFA, Team Members: Landon Castle, Camden Furnas, Belinda Brain and William Eichelberger
- Horse Evaluation – Newton FFA, Team Members: Cadence Horn, Addison Ross, Madison Henwood and Trinity-Ann Hanson
- Livestock Evaluation – DeWitt Central FFA, Team Members: Coly Tobey, Nicholas, Reemtsma, Ryan McGarry and Caleb Kruse
- Marketing Plan – Montezuma FFA, Team Members: Kallie Robison, Owen Cook and Abby Pope
- Meats Evaluation and Technology – Muscatine FFA, Team Members: Robert Carver, Jenna Lovstad, Cory Shank and Hadley Carver
- Milk Quality and Products – West Dubuque FFA, Team Members: Kyla Higgins, Libby Lansing, Maci Cook and Adrianna Shepherd
- Nursery/Landscape – West Liberty FFA, Team Members: Cole Daufeldt, Cael Daufeldt, Caden Laughlin and Cameron Iske
- Parliamentary Procedure – West Liberty FFA, Team Members: Finley Hall, Paige Werling, Dominic Hernandez, Amerie Alvarado, Addyson Lehman and David Mahoney
- Poultry Evaluation – Louisa-Muscatine FFA, Team Members: Brelynn Randall, Kendal Pugh, Skyler Beck and William Hoopes
- Prepared Public Speaking – Emma Humphreys, Columbus FFA
- Veterinary Science – Williamsburg FFA, Team Members: Brett Fenton, Erin Driscoll, Mariana Stevenson and Sage Huber

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 158 American Degree recipients from Iowa.

Jaden Carney, AC-GC FFA
Rylee Sloss, AC-GC FFA
Emma Vogl, AC-GC FFA
Kaitlyn Jimmerson, Adel-Desoto-Minburn FFA
Josh Bartling, AGWSR FFA
Trevor Clawson, AGWSR FFA
Nicholas Stephen Heffron, Albia FFA
McKenna Ann Striegel, Albia FFA

Emily Armstrong, Alburnett FFA
Jordan Balderston, Alburnett FFA
Grant Soukup, Alburnett FFA
Caleb Christensen, Algona FFA
Elizabeth Maurita Riniker, Anamosa FFA
Diana Mulder, Aplington-Parkersburg FFA
Taylor Marie McCreedy, Atlantic FFA
Caroline Rita Pellett, Atlantic FFA

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Alisha Petersen, Audubon FFA
Abby Feldpausch, BCLUW FFA
Deidra Green, BCLUW FFA
Laina Marbach, Beckman Catholic FFA
Shelby Ann Westhoff, Beckman Catholic FFA
Zach Brecht, Belle Plaine FFA
Hannah Cook, Belle Plaine FFA
Katelyn Cook, Belle Plaine FFA
Tori Hlas, Belle Plaine FFA
Garrett Coffland, Benton Community FFA
Machaela Marie Ingalls, Benton Community FFA
Quintin Volesky, Benton Community FFA
Megan Osborn, Boone A&M FFA
Emily Kristine Plagman, CAM FFA
Nathan Randy Kroeger, Carroll Area FFA
Emily Jo Trumm, Cascade FFA
Gabe Kooiker, Central Lyon FFA
Korinna Thedens, Central Lyon FFA
Trey Vande Kop, Central Lyon FFA
Breyton Cline, Central Plains FFA
Blake Peterson, Central Plains FFA
Ethan Bundt, Central Trail FFA
Morgan Nordyke, Central Trail FFA
Maxwell Deeter, Charles City FFA
Bronson Forsyth, Charles City FFA
Blake Frascht, Charles City FFA
Tanner Heitz, Charles City FFA
Lynn Hoeft, Charles City FFA
Danika Schultes, Creston FFA
Sam Martin, Davis-Rodgers FFA
Quentin Slater, Davis-Rodgers FFA
Cory Miller, Denison FFA
Heather Cernek, Dewitt Central FFA
Kailey Clark, Dewitt Central FFA
Carson Deppe, Dewitt Central FFA
Spencer Paysen, Dewitt Central FFA
DeAnn Lentz, East Buchanan FFA
Kanyon K. Huntington, East Union FFA
Darin Banowetz, Easton Valley FFA
Maddi Klemme, Easton Valley FFA
Sophia Jo Mineart, Fairfield FFA
Bradley Smithburg, Fairfield FFA
Natalie Elizabeth Jefson, Forest City FFA

Conner Murty, GMG FFA
Layne Murty, GMG FFA
Tieryn Tucker, Greene County FFA
Leah Mosher, Grundy Center FFA
Logan John Studer, Hawkeye FFA
Cole Joseph Thilges, Hawkeye FFA
Brandon Andrew Yoch, Hawkeye FFA
Kamryn Lesle, IKM-Manning FFA
Avery Hanaway, Independence FFA
Mara Leslie Cosenza, Indianola FFA
Jenna Nichole Tlach, Indianola FFA
Brock Thompson, Interstate 35 FFA
Mickayla Renee McGill, Knoxville FFA
Brooke Stanley, Lansing FFA
Bailey McKenna, Lawton-Bronson FFA
Haley Williams, Lawton-Bronson FFA
Kiley Allan, Le Mars FFA
Chelsey Hoakison, Lenox FFA
Paige Elizabeth Adams, Linn-Mar FFA
Camric Hamann, MVAO FFA
Noah Oberreuter, MVAO FFA
Lane Stender, Maquoketa FFA
Nichole Gerard, Marengo FFA
Paige Jergens, Marengo FFA
Kole Michaud, Midland FFA
Kirstin Schaefer, Midland FFA
David Murray, Mid-Prairie FFA
Katie Lynn Bush, MMCUR FFA
Adele Hogan, Monticello FFA
Marissa Recker, Monticello FFA
Brice Phelps, Mount Ayr FFA
Ally Shelley, Mount Ayr FFA
Hailey Chew, Murray FFA
Bailey Frederick, Murray FFA
Chance Lecy, Murray FFA
Cole Lecy, Murray FFA
Daniel Little, Murray FFA
James Sprague, Muscatine FFA
Taylor Bearman, New Hampton FFA
Madison Kolbet, New Hampton FFA
Lexie Maloy, New Hampton FFA
Jayda Nehl, New Hampton FFA
Jennifer Louise Holliday, Nodaway Valley FFA
Mariah Behrens, North Cedar FFA

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Kesley Ann Holdgrafer, Northeast FFA
Beth Marie Lamp, Northeast FFA
Sierra Elizabeth Wegener, Northeast FFA
Kaitlyn Riessen, OA-BCIG FFA
Jackson Vande Vorde, Oelwein FFA
Adam Lee Barnard, Osceola Big Chief FFA
Reagan Gibson, Panorama FFA
Trenton James William Major, Pleasantville FFA
Madison Riley Orewiler, Pleasantville FFA
Chad Robert Eastman, Riceville FFA
Christopher Eastman, Riceville FFA
Maggie Hain, Rockford FFA
Ben Hargens, Sioux Central FFA
Carson Brincks, South Winneshiek FFA
Dylan James Alexander, Southeast Warren FFA
Logan Alexander, Southeast Warren FFA
Allison Rae Cooper, Southeast Warren FFA

Kylie Jo Forkner, Southeast Warren FFA
Justin Daniel McCaulley, Southeast Warren FFA
Luke Ashton Wickett, Southeast Warren FFA
Ty Schoelerman, Spencer FFA
Sydney Therese Patterson, St. Ansgar FFA
Keith Urmie, Tipton FFA
Isaac Franzen, Turkey Valley FFA
Raegan Kime, Turkey Valley FFA
Savannah Schmitt, Turkey Valley FFA
Audrey Smith, Van Buren Harmony FFA
Philip Kalina, Vinton-Shellsburg FFA
Christopher Ewart, Wapello FFA
Brady Benning, Wapsie Valley FFA
Kaylee Jean Kleitsch, Wapsie Valley FFA
Ethan Oltrogge, Wapsie Valley FFA
Courtney Anne Schmitz, Wapsie Valley FFA
Dallas Ray Wittenburg, Wapsie Valley FFA
Ellie Bell, Washington FFA
Leah Evans, Washington FFA
Emily Harold, West Branch FFA
Lindsey Laughlin, West Liberty FFA
Chancellor Thrasher, West Liberty FFA
Jordan Klarenbeek, West Lyon FFA
Delaney Nichols, West Marshall FFA
Kolton Eisma, West Sioux FFA
Kyle Joseph Lund, Wilton FFA

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About Iowa FFA Association

The Iowa FFA Association is a youth organization of more than 18,600 student members as part of 254 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.