



News Release – 11/03/25

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Georgia Celebrates 6 National Champions at 98th National FFA Convention

INDIANAPOLIS – The Georgia FFA Association’s success at the 98th National FFA Convention was highlighted by 6 national champions. Among Georgia’s national winners were four national proficiency award winners and two national Career Development Event (CDE) and Leadership Development Event (LDE) winners.

Brooklyn Parlor of Jeff Davis (Equine Science - Entrepreneurship), Lindsay Moore of Ware County (Specialty Animal Production), Olivia Hogg of LaGrange (Environmental Science & Natural Resources Management), and Elizabeth Griner of Pierce County (Forest Management & Products) were each named national FFA proficiency award winners for success in their Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) programs. Only four students in the nation are named National Finalists in each of 45 proficiency areas. Georgia had 16 national proficiency award finalists and four proficiency winners.

Two Georgia chapters earned 1st place finishes in national Career/Leadership Development Events at the convention. Georgia CDE/LDE success was highlighted by the following individuals and chapters: Makena Blalock of Sonorville (Employment Skills LDE) and Ryan Bertram, Liam Parks, Joseph Thompson, and Carter Johnson of Mary Persons (Forestry CDE). Georgia’s other top-5 finishers in CDE/LDEs include Jabe Andrews of Banks County (2nd place – Prepared Public Speaking LDE), Bella Grace Hambrick of Madison County (2nd place – Agricultural Education), and Joel Vasquez-Marisiott of Washington Middle and Samantha Pazmino of Central of Carroll (3rd place, 5th place; respectively –Spanish Creed Invitational).

Along with the six national champions, Georgia FFA had four runner-ups in the national Agriscience Fair including Macie Davis of Youth Middle (Food Products & Processing – Division 1), Avery Adams and Ella Gran of Youth Middle (Food Products & Processing – Division 2) , Abigail Griffin of Berrien County (Environmental/Natural Resources – Division 5), and Katie Brown & Anna Barker of Youth Middle (Plant Systems – Division 2). Georgia FFA also had 8 agriscience fair projects placing in the top 5 of their division.

The National Chapter Award Program is designed to recognize FFA chapters that actively implement the mission and strategies of the organization. Georgia was represented well by two chapters who were chosen as finalists in this award program. Hahira Middle and Pine Grove Middle were both named finalists in the Middle School Models of Excellence division. Along with being finalists in the Middle School Models of Excellence division, Hahira Middle was a finalist in the Strengthening Agriculture division while Pine Grove Middle was a finalist in the Growing Leaders division.

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Thirty-seven Georgia chapters received a national 3-Star ranking, the highest ranking offered in the National Chapter Award program. Georgia's 3-Star chapters are Apalachee, Atkinson County, Berrien County, Brooks County, Cambridge, Camden County, Commerce, Commerce Middle, Creekview, Denmark, Franklin County, Franklin County Middle, Golden Isles Career Academy, Hahira Middle, Jackson-Empower, Jefferson City, Lafayette Middle, Lakeview Ft Oglethorpe, Loganville Middle, Madison County, Madison County Middle, Malcom Bridge Middle, Morgan County Middle, Newton College and Career Academy, North Oconee, Oglethorpe County, Peach County, Pine Grove Middle, Rabun County, Russell Middle, Screven County, South Effingham, Sumter County, T.J. Elder Middle, Walnut Grove, Winder-Barrow, and Youth Middle.

Eight Georgia FFA members performed as a part of the National FFA Band, Chorus, and Talent program. The National FFA Band, Chorus, and Talent feature musically talented FFA members from across the nation who showcase their skills throughout general sessions, luncheons, and other events throughout convention. Leland Guay and Tristen Robins of Northwest Whitfield, Daniel Jones of Rabun County, Laney Fussell of West Laurens, and Will Bean of Dawson represented Georgia in the National FFA Band. Georgia FFA members who performed as talent participants include Trevor Dooley of Newton College and Career Academy and Hunter Boswell and Remington Boswell of Oglethorpe County.

One hundred and eighty-two Georgia FFA members received the prestigious American FFA Degree, the highest degree offered to an active member. These students spent years developing their Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) programs to reach this honor. Less than 1% of FFA members receive the prestigious American FFA Degree.

To see a complete list of Georgia's 2025 American FFA Degree recipients, visit https://www.georgiaffa.org/docs/sidemodules/American%20Degree%20recipient%20list%20-%20GA%202025_12825.pdf

Thirteen Georgians received the Honorary American FFA Degree for their outstanding contribution to Agricultural Education and the FFA. Georgia's recipients of the Honorary Degree included: Ms. Kailee Bennett, Dr. Tracy Champagne, Mr. Seth Crawford, Mr. Nick DiLuzio, Mr. Dana Goff, Mr. Spencer Highsmith, Mr. Nathan Lingenfelter, Mrs. Kellie Lingenfelter, Mr. Jody Kemp, Ms. Lanie Riner, Mr. Joshua Rogers, Mr. Jerry Stone, and Mr. Cale Watkins.

A complete set of results and a variety of highlights from the 98th National FFA Convention can be found at <https://www.georgiaffa.org/NationalFFAConvention>

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