



NATIONAL FFA CONVENTION
October 22-25, 2008

National FFA Organization
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NEWS RELEASE

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FFA Hosts 42nd Annual Career Show in Indianapolis

By Rachel Rudnick and Carla Saunders

INDIANAPOLIS – The FFA National Agricultural Career Show opened its doors for the 42nd time in its history today for the 81st National FFA Convention in downtown Indianapolis.

An opening ceremony launched the event in the Indiana Convention Center while hundreds of eager FFA members waited their turn to enter the show. The FFA National Band played a number of songs, and representatives from the U.S. Armed Services presented the color guard. The National FFA Officers were also present and offered numerous words of wisdom to the energetic crowd.

Southern Region Vice President Brady Revels reminded members that “Personal growth is always emphasized in FFA. Take this time to grow, learn and explore all the possibilities agriculture has to offer.”

The officers performed a ribbon-cutting ceremony in order to designate the official opening of the front doors. Students then poured in through every available entrance and stormed the halls.

National FFA Secretary Becky Sullivan said, “I look forward to this part of the convention every year.” Sullivan added she feels the most rewarding part of the career show is the opportunity for students to learn and gain exposure to the diverse opportunities available to them in the realm of agriculture.

The career show plays host to more than 400 booths from a variety of colleges, agriculture-related companies, fundraising companies, U.S. Armed Services, and auto and truck manufacturers. The booths offer anything from interactive games such as the Nintendo

Wii, mechanical bulls, and cars and trucks on display, to brochures, pamphlets and other handouts to take home.

According to the career show manager, Jack Pitzer, this event is unlike most trade shows because these individuals are at the convention to educate students, not solicit them. The show also caters to chapter advisors, offering a ‘teachers lounge’ and an assortment of teaching aids available free of charge.

The career show will run from 12:30 - 6 p.m. on Wednesday Oct. 22 , 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. on Thursday Oct. 23 and 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Friday, Oct. 24. For more information, visit www.convention.ffa.org.

The National FFA Organization, formerly known as the Future Farmers of America, is a national youth organization of 507,763 student members – all preparing for leadership and careers in the science, business and technology of agriculture – as part of 7,439 local FFA chapters in all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. The National FFA Organization changed to its present name in 1988, in recognition of the growth and diversity of agriculture and agricultural education. 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. Visit www.ffa.org for more information.

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