



National FFA Organization
6060 FFA Drive
P.O. Box 68960
Indianapolis, IN 46278-1370

P: 317-802-6060
F: 317-802-6061

www.ffa.org

NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Julie Adams
(317) 802-4225

The National FFA Organization National Event Winners-- Nursery and Landscape 2008

Indianapolis, Indiana-- Winners of the National FFA Nursery and Landscape Career Development Event were announced Friday at the annual awards banquet. The event was held in conjunction with the 81st National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Ind. Dr. Alan McDaniel of Virginia served as superintendent of this year's event.

The top eleven individuals and the national winning team members received scholarships to further their education at a post-secondary institution of their choice.

The team from Linn HS FFA in Linn, Kansas placed first in the National FFA Nursery and Landscape Career Development Event at the 81st National FFA Convention. The team members were Heather Oentrich, Melissa Pachta, Lindy Singular and Briauna Lohse and were coached by Trenton Horn. The Kansas team placed first in competition against 41 other teams.

This year's participants were:

Top Placing Teams

1st Place--Kansas	Heather Oentrich, Melissa Pachta, Lindy Singular, and Briauna Lohse, all of Linn HS FFA
2nd Place--Iowa	Jackson Kiwala, Chance Millet, Hannah Howard, and Lane Mathis, all of Muscatine HS FFA
3rd Place--Wisconsin	Holly Carlson, Annalise Donart, Michael Poradek, and Brian Sparrow, all of Oconto Falls HS FFA
4th Place--Georgia	Clayton Thornton, Jessica Cox, and Shannon Dru Gunter, all of North Oconee High FFA
5th Place--Missouri	MaryAnn Percival, Casteel Kirk, Tiffany

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	Hardin, and Cassidy Carneal, all of Skyline HS-FFA
6th Place--Connecticut	Eva Banlaki, Stephen Bascom, Stephanie Shamy, and Justin Pierce, all of Suffield Senior HS FFA
7th Place--Washington	Jamie Halpin, Nicole Young, and Allsion Trout, all of Burlington-Edison HS FFA
8th Place--Minnesota	Marie Tate, Jolene Prochazka, Ashley Benda, and Luke Nelson, all of Jackson HS FFA
9th Place--Virginia	Alex Doumlele, Jason Foster, Cory Wilson, and Tony Hines, all of Chesterfield Tech Center FFA
10th Place--North Carolina	Oliver Manzer, Anne Meads, and Chelsea Vogt, all of Northeastern HS FFA

Top Placing Individuals

- 1st Place-- Clayton Thornton of North Oconee High FFA, GA
- 2nd Place-- Beau Norris of Monroe Co Avts FFA, PA
- 3rd Place-- Lane Mathis of Muscatine HS FFA, IA
- 4th Place-- Jason Foster of Chesterfield Tech Center FFA, VA
- 5th Place-- Jeff Hillman of Fullerton HS FFA, CA
- 6th Place-- Lindy Singular of Linn HS FFA, KS
- 7th Place-- Melissa Pachta of Linn HS FFA, KS
- 8th Place-- Eva Banlaki of Suffield Senior HS FFA, CT
- 9th Place-- Heather Oentrich of Linn HS FFA, KS
- 10th Place-- Briana Lohse of Linn HS FFA, KS

Team Emblems Listed

Gold Emblem Teams

Suffield Senior HS FFA, CT
Christiana HS FFA, DE

Skyline HS-FFA, MO
Northeastern HS FFA, NC

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Durant Sr, HS- FFA, FL
North Oconee High FFA, GA
Muscatine HS FFA, IA
Linn HS FFA, KS
Jackson HS FFA, MN

Wauseon HS FFA, OH
Chesterfield Tech Center FFA, VA
Burlington-Edison HS FFA, WA
Oconto Falls HS FFA, WI

Silver Emblem Teams

Elkins HS FFA, AR
Fullerton HS FFA, CA
Rigby HS-FFA, ID
Nashville Comm HS-FFA, IL
East Central HS FFA, IN
Calloway Co HS-FFA, KY
Frederick Co Career Tech CTR, MD
West Holt HS FFA, NE
Burlington Co Inst Of Tech FFA, NJ

Wishek HS FFA, ND
Sequoyah FFA, OK
Dayton HS FFA, OR
Monroe Co Avts FFA, PA
Anderson I & Ii Career And Tech Center, SC
Portland HS FFA, TN
Bellville HS FFA, TX
Hampshire Co. HS-FFA, WV

Bronze Emblem Teams

Speake HS FFA, AL
Highland HS FFA, AZ
Liberty HS FFA, CO
Calvin HS FFA, LA
Millsaps Vo Tech Sch FFA, MS
Wells FFA, NV

Somersworth HS FFA, NH
Mesa Vista HS-FFA, NM
Worcester FFA, NY
Mc Cook Central HS FFA, SD
Davis HS FFA, UT
Middlebury Union HS FFA, VT

Individual Emblems Listed

Gold Emblem Individuals

Hattie Anastasio of Elkins HS FFA, AR
Anthony Scothorne of Elkins HS FFA, AR
Jeff Hillman of Fullerton HS FFA, CA

Ashley Benda of Jackson HS FFA, MN
Luke Nelson of Jackson HS FFA, MN
Marie Tate of Jackson HS FFA, MN

Eva Banlaki of Suffield Senior HS FFA, CT
Stephen Bascom of Suffield Senior HS FFA,
CT

Ellen Baca of Christiana HS FFA, DE
Angelica Montes of Christiana HS FFA, DE

Lauren Butts of Durant Sr, HS- FFA, FL
Brett Miller of Durant Sr, HS- FFA, FL
Suzanne Rawlins of Durant Sr, HS- FFA, FL
Jessica Cox of North Oconee High FFA, GA
Shannon Dru Gunter of North Oconee High
FFA, GA

Clayton Thornton of North Oconee High FFA,
GA

Rachel Bankhead of Rigby HS-FFA, ID
Megan Parry of Rigby HS-FFA, ID
Hannah Howard of Muscatine HS FFA, IA
Jackson Kiwala of Muscatine HS FFA, IA

Lane Mathis of Muscatine HS FFA, IA

Chance Millet of Muscatine HS FFA, IA

Briauna Lohse of Linn HS FFA, KS

Heather Oentrich of Linn HS FFA, KS

Melissa Pachta of Linn HS FFA, KS
Lindy Singular of Linn HS FFA, KS
Stephen Van Lowe of Frederick Co Career
Tech CTR, MD

Tiffany Hardin of Skyline HS-FFA, MO
Casteel Kirk of Skyline HS-FFA, MO

MaryAnn Percival of Skyline HS-FFA, MO
Jeremy Miller of Burlington Co Inst Of Tech
FFA, NJ

Oliver Manzer of Northeastern HS FFA, NC
Anne Meads of Northeastern HS FFA, NC
Chelsea Vogt of Northeastern HS FFA, NC
Adam Bettenhausen of Wishek HS FFA, ND
Evan Bingham of Wauseon HS FFA, OH

Crystal Van Pelt of Wauseon HS FFA, OH

Beau Norris of Monroe Co Avts FFA, PA
Keith Malm of Portland HS FFA, TN
Jonathan Spiess of Bellville HS FFA, TX
Alex Doumlele of Chesterfield Tech Center
FFA, VA

Jason Foster of Chesterfield Tech Center FFA,
VA

Jamie Halpin of Burlington-Edison HS FFA,
WA

Allsion Trout of Burlington-Edison HS FFA,
WA

Nicole Young of Burlington-Edison HS FFA,
WA

Holly Carlson of Oconto Falls HS FFA, WI
Michael Poradek of Oconto Falls HS FFA, WI
Brian Sparrow of Oconto Falls HS FFA, WI

Silver Emblem Individuals

Todd Cross of Speake HS FFA, AL
Jamie England of Speake HS FFA, AL

Kaci Spahan of Wells FFA, NV
Bethany Klick of Somersworth HS FFA, NH

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Amber Henderson of Elkins HS FFA, AR
Emily Henry of Elkins HS FFA, AR

Daniel Caltrider of Fullerton HS FFA, CA

Nick Patrick of Fullerton HS FFA, CA

Jessica Uriarte of Fullerton HS FFA, CA

Josiah James of Liberty HS FFA, CO

Justin Pierce of Suffield Senior HS FFA, CT

Stephanie Shamy of Suffield Senior HS FFA,
CT

Amber Keen of Christiana HS FFA, DE

Dylan Oakes of Christiana HS FFA, DE

Danielle St. Martin of Durant Sr, HS- FFA, FL

Katie Beck of Rigby HS-FFA, ID

Cody Willmore of Rigby HS-FFA, ID

Drew Atnip of Nashville Comm HS-FFA, IL

Caitlyn Marshall of Nashville Comm HS-FFA,
IL

Derek Gagne of East Central HS FFA, IN

Wayne Hartman of East Central HS FFA, IN

Elizabethe Bloem of Calloway Co HS-FFA,
KY

Carey Boggess of Calloway Co HS-FFA, KY

Carrie Love of Calloway Co HS-FFA, KY

Takina Scott of Calloway Co HS-FFA, KY

Shane Brooks of Calvin HS FFA, LA

Sam Hopkins of Frederick Co Career Tech
CTR, MD

Todd Hotchkiss of Frederick Co Career Tech
CTR, MD

Jolene Prochazka of Jackson HS FFA, MN

Damion Poe of Millsaps Vo Tech Sch FFA,
MS

Michele Millers of Somersworth HS FFA, NH
Jonathan Lavdas of Burlington Co Inst Of
Tech FFA, NJ

Michael Rivera of Burlington Co Inst Of Tech
FFA, NJ

Christine Wanner of Wishek HS FFA, ND

Brittany Ballmer of Wauseon HS FFA, OH

Zach Franz of Wauseon HS FFA, OH

Brooke Battenfield of Sequoyah FFA, OK

Austin Clark of Sequoyah FFA, OK

Meggie Froman of Sequoyah FFA, OK

Zach Langley of Sequoyah FFA, OK

McCord Coleman of Dayton HS FFA, OR

Talia DeHart of Dayton HS FFA, OR

Jennifer Goddik of Dayton HS FFA, OR

Leonard Rivera of Monroe Co Avts FFA, PA

David Sincavage of Monroe Co Avts FFA, PA

Rachel Chandler of Anderson I & Ii Career
And Tech Center, SC

Jonathan McClain of Anderson I & Ii Career
And Tech Center, SC

Neal Norris of Anderson I & Ii Career And
Tech Center, SC

Carl Wobig of Mc Cook Central HS FFA, SD

Charlotte Key of Portland HS FFA, TN

Allyson Martin of Portland HS FFA, TN

Chad Blezinger of Bellville HS FFA, TX

Gaylen Krebs of Bellville HS FFA, TX

Brianna Lester of Bellville HS FFA, TX

Scott Niederhauser of Davis HS FFA, UT

Cory Wilson of Chesterfield Tech Center FFA,
VA

Erin Singleton of Millsaps Vo Tech Sch FFA,
MS

Cassidy Carneal of Skyline HS-FFA, MO

Talia Norton of West Holt HS FFA, NE

Cary Ryan of West Holt HS FFA, NE

Tiffany Bishop of Hampshire Co. HS-FFA,
WV

James Ford of Hampshire Co. HS-FFA, WV

Millie Omph of Hampshire Co. HS-FFA, WV

Annalise Donart of Oconto Falls HS FFA, WI

Bronze Emblem Individuals

Emily Smith of Speake HS FFA, AL

Ashley Taylor of Speake HS FFA, AL

Rachel Glenn of Highland HS FFA, AZ

Lexi Harvey of Highland HS FFA, AZ

Lauren Luchesse of Highland HS FFA, AZ

Kalea Taylor of Highland HS FFA, AZ

Josh Behrendsen of Liberty HS FFA, CO

Jediah Drager of Liberty HS FFA, CO

Ethan Malave of Liberty HS FFA, CO

Renee Campbell of Nashville Comm HS-FFA,
IL

Branden Back of East Central HS FFA, IN

Brent Ertel of East Central HS FFA, IN

Jimmy Brock of Calvin HS FFA, LA

Alexis Liles of Calvin HS FFA, LA

Emily Etchison of Frederick Co Career Tech
CTR, MD

Anthony Collins of Millsaps Vo Tech Sch FFA,
MS

Ingrid Spencer of Millsaps Vo Tech Sch FFA,
MS

Kelly Kohle of West Holt HS FFA, NE

Ashton Ohde of West Holt HS FFA, NE

Maggie Howell of Wells FFA, NV

Anna Baecker of Mesa Vista HS-FFA, NM

Erick Gallegos of Mesa Vista HS-FFA, NM

Sonia Suazo of Mesa Vista HS-FFA, NM

Alexandria Vasquez of Mesa Vista HS-FFA,
NM

Tara Fiorentino of Worcester FFA, NY

Natasha Nirschl of Worcester FFA, NY

Elizabeth Owen of Worcester FFA, NY

Crystle Schmiedel of Worcester FFA, NY

Alissa Bettenhausen of Wishek HS FFA, ND

Kara Scherbenske of Wishek HS FFA, ND

Katelyn Tompkins of Dayton HS FFA, OR

Taylor Smith of Anderson I & II Career And
Tech Center, SC

Brittany Gassman of Mc Cook Central HS
FFA, SD

Hannah Kolbeck of Mc Cook Central HS FFA,
SD

Beau McGregor of Mc Cook Central HS FFA,
SD

Chase Pitt of Portland HS FFA, TN

Katie Darby of Davis HS FFA, UT

Cassie Farnsworth of Davis HS FFA, UT

Paul Hyte of Davis HS FFA, UT

Chelsea Drown of Middlebury Union HS FFA,
VT

Myles Nance of Wells FFA, NV	Kara McQuinn of Middlebury Union HS FFA, VT
Roland Freeman of Somersworth HS FFA, NH	Tony Hines of Chesterfield Tech Center FFA, VA
Emmalee Garvin of Somersworth HS FFA, NH	Chris Frey of Hampshire Co. HS-FFA, WV

Jonathan Oxendine of Burlington Co Inst Of Tech FFA, NJ

The National FFA Nursery and Landscape Career Development Event is a competitive activity in which FFA members test their knowledge and skills in nursery practices and landscaping. Contestants must complete a general knowledge exam testing horticultural principles including plant anatomy, production, marketing, turf, landscape design and maintenance. Each participant must also complete practicums involving a landscape drawing, landscape estimating, plant propagation or potting, identification of plants, disorders, and equipment. Each team competed on local and state levels to earn the privilege of representing their state at the National FFA Convention.

This event is one of many educational activities at the National FFA Convention in which FFA members apply classroom knowledge to real-life situations. The event used plant materials donated and loaned by area merchants in the Indianapolis, Ind. area. The event was held at the Indiana State Fairgrounds in Indianapolis, Ind.

The Nursery and Landscape event is sponsored by Arysta LifeScience North America of Cary, North Carolina; Kubota Tractor Corporation of Torrance, California and STIHL Inc. of Virginia Beach, Virginia as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

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.

The FFA Mission: FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education.

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