



NEWS RELEASE

National FFA Organization
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The National FFA Organization National Event Winners-- Creed Speaking 2009

Indianapolis, Indiana-- Winners of the National Creed Speaking Career Development Event (CDE) were announced Friday during the seventh session of the 82nd National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Ind. Dr. Kimberly Bellah of Texas served as superintendent of the event.

The top four individuals received stipends to attend the Washington Leadership Conference held annually in our nation's capital. The stipends and the Creed speaking event is sponsored by CHS Foundation of Inver Grove Heights, Minnesota and the National FFA Foundation.

This year's participants were:

Top Placing Individuals

- 1st Place-- Newt Gilman of East Jackson High FFA, GA
- 2nd Place-- Nate Compton of Bellville HS FFA, TX
- 3rd Place-- Brianda Louro of Tulare HS FFA, CA
- 4th Place-- Spencer Struck of Kingfisher HS FFA, OK

Individual Emblems Listed

Gold Emblem Individuals

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| Brianda Louro of Tulare HS FFA, CA | Spencer Struck of Kingfisher HS FFA, OK |
| Newt Gilman of East Jackson High FFA, GA | Nate Compton of Bellville HS FFA, TX |

-- MORE --

Silver Emblem Individuals

Megan Skiles of San Simon HS FFA, AZ

Amanda Bacon of Har-Ber FFA, AR

Megan Stillwell of Meridian HS-FFA, ID

Eric Kubacki of Minooka HS-FFA, IL

Tana Simmons of Tipton HS FFA, IN

Shelby Cornelius of Decorah HS FFA, IA

Shannon Maxwell of Holton HS FFA, KS

Abbyjo Imberg of Dassel Cokato HS FFA,
MN

Amy Hager of Shields Valley HS FFA, MT

Kristina Mathis of Conrad Weiser HS FFA,
PA

Katherine Pieper of Payson HS FFA, UT

Bethany Dado of Amery HS FFA, WI

Bronze Emblem Individuals

Danielle Cassady of East Limestone HS FFA,
AL

Alexandrea Grover of McClave HS FFA, CO

Emily Von Edwins of Lyman Memorial HS
Lebanon Reg, CT

Kacie Schmeck of Appoquinimink, DE

Cecelia Koon of Lafayette Sr. HS - FFA, FL

Amelia Samuel of Gallatin Co HS-FFA, KY

Caitlin James of Calvin HS FFA, LA

Desiree Lavalley of Caribou Technology
Center-Caribou FFA, ME

Katelynn Perzynski of Harford Tech FFA, MD

Aila Murphy of Norfolk Co Ag Sch FFA, MA

Stacy Bangert of Homer FFA, MI

Matthew Tucker of Carthage HS FFA, MS

Samantha Mankey of Lake Career And
Technical Center, MO

Trent Ronhovde of Waverly High School -
FFA, NE

Katie Hillman of Goddard HS-FFA, NM

Christina Kackos of Tri Valley Central HS
FFA, NY

Lauren Evoy of Mountain Heritage HS FFA,
NC

Trisha Sem of Divide Co HS FFA, ND

Devon Alexander of Anna HS FFA, OH

Rebecca Armstrong of Bonanza HS FFA, OR

Darira Cabrera of S U Epifanio Estrada FFA,
PR

Lauren Breene of Exeter West Greenwich HS
FFA, RI

Clay Garrison of Woodmont HS FFA, SC

Andy Rausch of Hoven HS FFA, SD

Kaley Lee of Franklin Co HS FFA, TN

Garth Buck of Vergennes Union HS-FFA, VT

Whitney Bowman of North Fork Middle
School FFA, VA

Maja Olson of Pullman HS FFA, WA

-- MORE --

Cory Shrecengost of Silver Sage FFA, NV
Clayton Grandstaff of Pinkerton Academy
Clicking Cla, NH

Allie Cole of Roane Co FFA, WV
Bryce McKenzie of Buffalo HS FFA, WY

Sarah McCaffrey of South Hunterdon Middle
FFA, NJ

The National FFA Creed Speaking CDE is designed to recognize outstanding FFA members for their ability to present the National FFA Creed in a competitive setting. Members deliver the Creed from memory and respond to three questions. The event gives FFA members the opportunity to develop their ability to communicate in a powerful, organized and professional manner.

The event, held at the Marriott Hotel in Indianapolis, Ind., is one of many educational activities at the national FFA convention in which FFA members practice the lessons taught in agricultural education classes.

The National FFA Organization, formerly known as the Future Farmers of America, is a national youth organization of 506,199 student members - all preparing for leadership and careers in the science, business and technology of agriculture - as part of 7,429 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. The National FFA Organization operates under a Federal Charter granted by the 81st Congress of the United States, and is an integral part of public instruction in agriculture. The U. S. Department of Education provides leadership and helps set direction for FFA as a service to state and local agricultural education programs. 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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