

June 3, 2008

UPDATE

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Education

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

2008 Scholarship Results Are In!

The 2008 scholarship program was a success with more than \$2.2 million in scholarship funds available through the donations of 133 sponsors. More than 8,400 students submitted applications and a total of 1,642 scholarships were awarded. Visit ffa.org to view results. Acceptance packets were mailed to recipients in May. The packets contained detailed instructions for claiming the scholarship funds. Information and applications for the 2009 scholarship program will be available mid-November, 2008. Contact Teri Buchholtz, 317 802-4419 or tbuchholtz@ffa.org, for more information.

STATE STAFF NEWS

National Officer Schedules Nearly Booked

If you are interested in hosting a national officer, act now. Their availability is limited for the remainder of the year. Requests are processed on a first-come, first-serve basis. Travel expenses for the national officers are the responsibility of the requesting organization. The national officer request [form is available online](#). Contact Charles Parker, 317 802-4455 or cparker@ffa.org, for details.

2008 State Information Forms Available

For states hosting Experiencing Growth, Discovery and Excellence (EDGE), Made For Excellence (MFE) and Advanced Leadership Development (ALD) conferences, the state information forms will be available June 3. Click [here](#) to visit the webpage with the forms. Contact Crystal Hart, 317-802-4321 or chart@ffa.org for more information.

MERCHANDISING

Check Out the 2008 State Convention Merchandise Sales Program

This is a great opportunity to make extra money for your state organization and play a key role in your state's convention by providing FFA merchandise to those who attend. If you are interested in this sales program or have any questions, contact Dawn Sharp, Merchandise Buyer, 317-802-4271 or dsharp@ffa.org.

DATES TO REMEMBER

2008 NLCSO

Conferences

June 14-18: Wyoming

June 17-20:

Mississippi

June 17-20: Nebraska

June 23-27:

Tennessee

June 27-July 1: New York

June 30-July 3: Illinois

July 1-4: Colorado

July 7-11: North Carolina

July 28-31: Delaware

July 30-Aug. 2: Idaho

June 13: State Presidents' Conference (SPC) registration forms due

June 15: Application deadline for American Degree, Honorary American Degree-Teacher and Honorary American Degree-Other

Application deadline for Stars Over America

Application deadline for Distinguished Service and VIP

Send Us Your Recipes for the National FFA Cookbook!

Voyageur Publishing, an FFA licensee, is looking for great FFA recipes from members (current and former), past national and state officers, advisors, state staff and alumni for an exciting new cookbook scheduled for release in Spring 2009. The National FFA Cookbook will be sold at fine bookstores throughout the United States, and it will also be available to FFA chapters, state associations, foundations and alumni for fundraising. Spread the word and check ffa.org and [FFA Marketplace](#) in July for complete details.

Turn Your Boat Design Into Cash

The Lund Boat Company will launch a design contest this August – open to all FFA chapters, landlocked or not! Lund will provide the basic boat design, and chapters can go online to apply the finishing touches – from colors to graphics to seat coverings. It's all up to you! The winning chapter will receive a cash prize from Lund. Visit ffa.org and look for a link to the contest website in August.

News from Wyndham Hotels and Resorts

FFA members, advisors and families will automatically receive the special FFA discounted rate at Wyndham Hotels and Resorts when they make their online reservations at <http://www.wyndham.com/rates/main.wnt?corporateid=1000005345>.

To receive the FFA discount at all other hotels in the Wyndham Hotel Group, including Ramada and Travelodge, please continue to make your online reservations at [Wyndham Hotel FFA Discount Program](#) and use the corporate code **1000005345** at the time of booking.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT EVENTS

Important Information Regarding CDE Certification and Payment

The CDE Certification Form deadline is just around the corner (postmarked July 7). The document containing information on CDE certification and payment information [is available here](#). For more information, contact Melissa Brown, 317-802-4288 or mbrown@ffa.org.

ALUMNI

Coming Soon: The 2008 National FFA Alumni Benefit Auctions

To raise funds for Washington Leadership Conference and collegiate scholarships, the National FFA Alumni will be holding the following benefit auctions:

- From Wednesday, Oct. 15 to Wednesday, Oct. 29, the National FFA Alumni Timed Online Benefit Auction will be available for you to bid online before, during and after the national convention. Review the auction catalog (available this fall), register and bid online at www.unitedcountry.com/ffaauction/.
- On Friday, Oct. 24 at 6 p.m. (EDT) the Live Benefit Auction will be simultaneously broadcast from the national convention via the Internet for all to participate. Review the auction catalog (available this fall), register and bid online at www.unitedcountry.com/ffaauction/.

programs (applications must be received at the National FFA Center by the deadline date, not merely postmarked)

2008 Delegate Process applications due

June 30: H.O. Sargent Award applications due

July 1: Local Program Support Grant and Alumni Award applications due

National Band, Chorus and Talent applications due

July 15: Agriscience Teacher of the Year applications due

Agriscience Student of the Year applications due

Proficiency applications due

Application deadline for the Agri-Entrepreneurship program

Application for National Chapter Award must be received by

July 15-20: Washington, D.C. FFA Alumni State Leaders Conference

2008 CDE Deadlines
July 7: Team Certification Forms due (postmarked)

CDE Special Needs Requests due

Donations for the benefit auctions are currently being accepted. FFA Alumni would love to have outstanding student projects donated to the auction in order to feature the skills being taught in our Ag Ed programs. Click here to download the [donation form](#).

The 2007 National FFA Alumni Benefit Auctions raised \$147,000 to provide scholarships and collegiate agricultural education scholarships to hundreds of the nation's students.

Alumni Seeks Candidates for Council Positions

Applications are currently being accepted for two Member-at-Large positions for the National FFA Alumni Council. Both three-year terms run from 2008 to 2011 and are open to all alumni members regardless of region. Elections for these positions will be held at the National FFA Alumni Convention business session on Oct. 24. For a summary of responsibilities and required meetings, contact 317-802-4292 or alumni@ffa.org. You can also visit www.ffa.org/alumni; a link to the National FFA Alumni Council Nomination form is on the right under National Forms & Information. Nominations are due to the National FFA Alumni office by July 1.

Can Hunger— Million Can Challenge!

Kicking off its second year, the Toyota/National FFA Alumni Can Hunger— Million Can Challenge will select 12 states to host food drives. Visit www.ffa.org/alumni to nominate your state and get involved, get rewarded and assist in the fight against hunger!

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW PREVIOUSLY REPORTED NEWS](#)

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.

The Agricultural Education Mission Agricultural Education prepares students for successful careers and a lifetime of informed choices in the global agriculture, food, and fiber and natural resources systems.

The National FFA Organization is a resource and support organization that does not select, control or supervise state association, local chapter or individual member activities. Educational materials are developed by FFA in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Education as a service to state and local agricultural education agencies.

The National FFA Organization affirms its belief in the value of all human beings and seeks diversity in its membership, leadership and staff as an equal opportunity employer.

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Visit ffa.org for more information.

Student Waiver Forms due (postmarked)

State Assistants Forms due (postmarked)

State Speaking Judges Forms due (postmarked)

Aug. 15: Prepared Public Speaking Manuscripts due

Aug. 15: Agriscience Fair Forms due

Sept. 15: Agricultural Communications Portfolios due

Agricultural Issues Portfolios due

Job Interview Portfolios due

Marketing Plan Portfolios due

Oct. 8: Add/Delete Forms due (by 5 p.m. EST)

Oct. 22-Oct. 24: Silent Auction

Oct. 24: Live Auction

[SHOP FFA Marketplace and FFA Unlimited!](#)