



ARIZONA
AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION
FFA FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT

2020-2021



MESSAGE FROM HEATHER RAYNER

2020-2021 FOUNDATION BOARD PRESIDENT

I am pleased to provide you with this annual report showcasing the activities and financial highlights of the Arizona Agricultural Education/FFA Foundation for the 2020–2021 fiscal year. Our Trustees and staff are diligent in using the donations made by individuals, families, companies and other foundations in a responsible manner. We take very seriously the trust given to us by these donations.



The monies donated and the monies raised through our annual Blue & Gold Gala in February and our annual Bustin' Clay for FFA Trapshoot in the spring are all used to support four organizations that make it possible for agricultural education and the FFA to exist in Arizona. They are the University of Arizona's College of Agriculture & Life Sciences Department of Agricultural Education, Technology & Innovation; The Arizona Agricultural Teachers Association; The Arizona Association FFA; and the Arizona FFA Alumni Association.

As the country's premier youth leadership development program, the FFA program, combined with the agricultural education teachers' leadership, provides a fact based hands-on education to help assure the future success of the American Agricultural Industry, food production independence and national security. The importance of the education the FFA students in Arizona receive cannot be over estimated. These students may include a future scientist that finds the cure for another virus, or the ability to increase food production in an area of the world that is starving.

Thank you for your support of our exceptional youth. They are our future.

Heather Rayner

OUR MISSION

The Arizona Agricultural Education/FFA Foundation is dedicated to providing expanded educational and leadership opportunities for the agricultural education programs across the state of Arizona.

OUR VISION

It is the vision of the Arizona Agricultural Education/FFA Foundation to secure resources to support, enhance, and strengthen the educational and leadership effectiveness of the Arizona Association FFA, the Arizona FFA Alumni Association, the Department of Agricultural Education at The University of Arizona, and the Arizona Agriculture Teachers' Association while maintaining positive relationships with students, teachers, business and industry representatives, and the community.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



President
HEATHER RAYNER
Litchfield Park



Vice President
KEVIN ROGERS
Laveen



Secretary
LIZ FOSTER
Gilbert



Treasurer
FARRAH SMITH
Peoria



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GRANT BOICE
Mesa



At-Large
RICHARD
McPHERSON
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Past President
STEPHEN GOUCHER
Glendale

BOARD OF TRUSTEES



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Phoenix
At Large



SCOTT WHITTEN
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At Large



KEN WILLIAMS
Gilbert
Superstition Region



TRAVIS ZIMMERMAN
Waddell
At Large

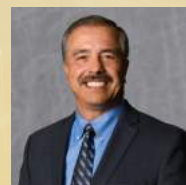
EX-OFFICIO REPRESENTATIVES



RANEY EMBREE
FFA Alumni
Representative



KEVIN HICKS
Arizona Agriculture
Teachers Association
Representative



DR. ROBERT TORRES
UA College of
Agriculture, Dept.
of Agricultural
Education, Technology
& Innovation



BRUCE WATKINS
State Supervisor of
Agriculture Education

STAFF



Executive Director
ROCHELL PLANTY,
CMP, CFE

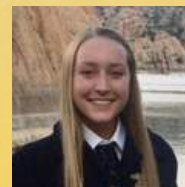


**Administrative
Assistant**
THELMA MUÑOZ
GOUCHER

CONSULTANTS



**State FFA
Executive Secretary**
BETHANY MATOS



**2020-2021
State FFA President**
ASHTON REDD

THE BLUE & Gold GALA



5TH ANNUAL GALA

THE BIGGEST NIGHT
IN ARIZONA AGRICULTURE



STATE FFA OFFICERS
PRESENTING RICHARD LUNT THE
**2020 AGRICULTURALIST
OF THE YEAR AWARD**



STEVE GOUCHER
PRESENTING THE
BLUE & GOLD AWARD
TO DR. GEORGE SEPERICH

\$233,610

RAISED THROUGH THE
BLUE & GOLD GALA
AND FUNDRAISING
FOR AG EDUCATION
RAFFLE.

WITH SUPPORT FROM OUR SPONSORS

THANK YOU
PRESENTING SPONSOR

5th Annual
The BLUE & Gold GALA




THANK YOU
GOLD SPONSORS

5th Annual
The BLUE & Gold GALA







THANK YOU
SILVER SPONSORS

5th Annual
The BLUE & Gold GALA






THANK YOU
BRONZE SPONSORS

5th Annual
The BLUE & Gold GALA










FRIENDS OF THE BLUE & GOLD

Agribusiness & Water Council of Arizona
ANA Fund/Ken & Judy Williams
Arizona Agricultural Teachers Association
Arizona Cattle Growers Association
Arizona Grain Inc.
Arizona Grain Research &
Promotion Council
Georgia Bailey
Bales Hay Co.
Dugan Dairy
Farm Bureau Financial Services -
Steve Goucher, Agent
Geiger Electric
Bruce Heiden
Hickman's Egg Ranch
Lakin Cattle Company
Rick Lehman - Marana Stockyards
Maricopa County Farm Bureau

Mellon Farms
M&S Equipment
Piazzo Dairy
Pinal 40
Riverview LLP
George & Barbara Seperich
Salt River Project
Smithfield Foods
Southwest Risk Management
Summit Electrical, Inc.
Supima
The Accomazzo Company
The Jace D. Roeder Foundation
The Otto & Edna Neely Foundation
TLAY Video Sales
Total Dairy Solutions
Western Milling



FUNDRAISING FOR AG EDUCATION



GRAND PRIZE **JOHN DEERE GATOR** valued at \$10,000

WINNER: Richard & Becci McPherson
Prize sponsored by Stotz Equipment

Pictured: Matt Halverson, Stotz Equipment, Ashton Redd,
State FFA President, Becci & Richard McPherson

1ST PRIZE **STOTZ EQUIPMENT PACKAGE** valued at \$2,500

WINNER: Alice Chaffe
Prize sponsored by Stotz Equipment

Pictured: Alice Chaffe and her family



2ND PRIZE **CUSTOM GRILL** valued at \$1,500

WINNER: James & Traci Loughead
Prize sponsored by Wilbur Ellis – Yuma Division, Yuma County Farm Bureau, Empire – Yuma Division, Santa Maria Seed, Steve Goucher, Agent – Farm Bureau Financial Services and Lyreedale Farms.

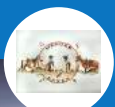
Pictured: Ashton Redd, 2020-2021 State FFA President with James Loughead



3RD PRIZE **½ BEEF PROCESSED & WRAPPED BY MENGES RANCH** valued at \$1,500

WINNER: Brody & Chelsea McGuire
Prize sponsored by Menges Ranch

Pictured: Jeff Menges of Menges Ranch with Samson Harris, 2020-2021 State FFA Officer and Brody McGuire





BUILDING THE BLUE JACKET LEGACY

BLUE JACKET LEGACY PROGRAM

The Official Dress jacket was adopted in 1933. The FFA corduroy jacket is an article of faith, honor and pride. The jacket unifies members in a long-standing tradition and reminds them that they are part of something larger than themselves.

The Arizona Agricultural Education/FFA Foundation kicked off the first year of the FFA Jacket Grant Program in 2019 awarding 80 jackets, representing one from each Chapter in the State. With the generous support of donors, we were able to award 96 jackets in 2020 at the 4th annual Blue & Gold Gala. In 2021 we awarded 109 FFA jackets.

“

The Blue Jacket Program has directly impacted my program in such a positive way. Our program is only 4 years old and started with 55 members to grow into almost 300 members today. While we are still new, the value of the blue jacket runs deep in our members. The joy of those students zipping up their very own jacket for the first time is immeasurable, and they absolutely love showcasing their jackets at events and competitions. One recipient said "It is so amazing that someone loves the organization and its members so much as to offer complete strangers their own jacket!" and my response was "It's because they all know that the members are truly the future of agriculture". We are very blessed for this opportunity, and incredibly grateful for the Foundation's support.

Kerilyn Brothers, Canyon View FFA Advisor

The **7th Bustin Clay for FFA Trap Shoot** presented by UMB came back stronger than ever with nearly 200 participants from across Arizona. In the past this event brought around 75 participants. There was a 266% increase in participation this year. The event was held May 15, 2021, at the Casa Grande Trap & Skeet. **The Trap Shoot raised \$34,898!**



You can view a few photos below and the entire album from this link azffaoundation.smugmug.com/7th-Bustin-Clay-for-FFA-Trap-Shoot. A special thank you to Rebecca Hobert for serving as the event photographer.

TEAM AWARDS

- 1st Place Team** - Empire AG
- 2nd Place Team** - Barkley's Over the Hill Gang
- 3rd Place Team** - Gila Valley Clay Busters

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

- 1st Place Male** - Ken Mylnarz
- 2nd Place Female** - Kaitlin Quan
- 1st Place Youth** - Gage Byers
- Worst Team** - Ditch Riders



TITLE SPONSOR



WATERING HOLE SPONSOR



LUNCH SPONSORS



ARIZONA
CENTER
FOR RURAL
LEADERSHIP



DOUBLE BARREL SPONSORS



It's Your Future.
Let's Protect It.

Steve Goucher | 623-979-3842

FARM BUREAU
FINANCIAL SERVICES

FARM Inc.
Financial And Risk Management



AMMO SPONSORS



TRAP SPONSORS



COFFEE/DONUT SPONSOR



PHOTOGRAPHY SPONSOR

Rebecca Hobert

AWARDS

Apple Annies
Arizona Grain Inc.
IV Movement LLC
On Target Pest Control
Tanque Ranch LLC
James Webb



STATE FFA LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE MEET & GREET RECEPTION

Through the support of generous donors, we celebrate the achievements of the Star Program nominees, Proficiency Award, and scholarship recipients each year during the State FFA Leadership Conference. This year we were pleased to be able to hold the reception in person to recognize so many deserving FFA members and their donors. The State FFA Choir performed during the reception.



ARIZONA AGRICULTURAL
EDUCATION FFA
FOUNDATION

MEET & GREET
RECEPTION

SPONSORS



ARIZONA
AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION
FFA FOUNDATION



ARMY ROTC

Visit
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VISITTUCSON.ORG



A YEAR OF ADVERSITY
A YEAR OF RESILIENCE



1928 SENIOR SOCIETY



The 1928 Senior Society Program launched in the spring of 2021. This program recognizes FFA Seniors for their hard work, dedication and commitment! This is a great way for family, friends, and FFA Alumni to recognize a Senior! Through a one-time donation per Arizona FFA Member High School Senior of \$19.28 you can provide recognition to them as they complete their senior year.

1928 is a significant year when the National FFA Organization was founded. Each High School Senior inductee for that current academic year will receive:

- A Senior Society FFA decal
- Recognition by having their name listed on the State FFA Leadership Conference App
- Recognition on screen at the State FFA Leadership Conference during a session
- Listed on the Foundation website Senior Society page for a year.

LEARN MORE:

azffaoundation.org/1928-senior-society

SEEDS FOR TOMORROW



Making a major or planned gift is a way to make a difference in the lives of young people for generations to come. These gifts are all unique and customized to suit a donor's needs and wishes. This past year the Foundation launched new content on the website to provide more information on how individuals can engage in planned to give and leave a legacy. We invite you to explore the content to learn more about the options to make a difference in the life of FFA members and programs. Shape your own legacy and be a part of helping youth in agriculture!

LEARN MORE:

azffaoundation.org/seeds-for-tomorrow

BENEFICIARIES

WE SUPPORT



ARIZONA
ASSOCIATION FFA

ARIZONA ASSOCIATION FFA

\$354,513.75

The Arizona Association FFA is led by the direction of Bethany Matos, State FFA Executive Director

PROGRAMS SUPPORTED

- Scholarship Program
- FFA Jackets – Pinal County
- FFA Jackets Estrella FFA District
- Arizona FFA Interns
- State FFA Camp
- Estrella FFA District
- State Leadership Conference
- State Proficiency Awards
- State FFA Degree Program
- Jacket Essay
- National Chapter
- State Officer Candidate/Delegate Mixer
- Star Program
- FFA Gator Raffle Chapter Fundraiser
- Career Development Awards & Team Travel
- State Officer Program
- Summit Series
- Pinnacle Conference
- 8 FFA District Horse Evaluation Contests
- AzFFA Website
- SAE for All Program
- Student Recruitment & Retention Program

FACTS & FIGURES



8,083
MEMBERS

48.1%
WOMEN

47.4%
MEN

0.1%
NON-
BINARY

4.4%
NOT
REPORTED



114
ADVISORS



91
STATE DEGREES
AWARDED



78
AGRICULTURAL
EDUCATION
PROGRAMS



567,190
HOURS OF
EXPERIENTIAL
LEARNING



63%
SUPERVISED
AGRICULTURAL
EXPERIENCE
PROGRAMS
(COMPARED TO
58% NATIONALLY)



12,693
HOURS OF
COMMUNITY SERVICE
BY AZFFA MEMBERS



**EVENT
PARTICIPATION**

1500+
SPRING
CONFERENCE
PARTICIPANTS

800
STATE LEADERSHIP
CONFERENCE
ATTENDANCE

110
STATE FFA
LEADERSHIP CAMP
PARTICIPANTS



2020-2021 STATE FFA OFFICER TEAM

President

Ashton Redd

Vice President

Samson Harris

Secretary

Paige Johnson

Treasurer

Nelson Leany

Reporter

Livi Lawrence

Sentinel

Dylan Gilmore

Vice President At-Large

Jose Enrique Lechuga

Vice President At-Large

Avery Sawyer

Vice President At-Large

Caylen Haggard

Vice President At-Large

Kailey Faulkner

Vice President At-Large

Bailey George

“

Why contribute to the Arizona FFA Foundation? The AZ FFA Foundation not only sponsors awards to recognize our students who have excelled in their chosen area of agriculture, it also supports programs that will reach and inspire all of the 8,084 students enrolled in Agricultural Education in Arizona. When every student can be positively impacted by programs, activities, student leadership and retain quality Agriculture Teachers in Arizona, then you have the satisfaction of knowing your donations have truly gone to a great cause.

Dennis Bushong

Arizona Association FFA

Board Treasurer

“

Arizona High School agriculture programs, the teachers, FFA chapters, students, and University of Arizona Agricultural Education program all greatly benefit from the AZ FFA Foundation's support. By supporting AZ FFA programs, events, and activities the Foundation reduces the financial pressure placed on students and their chapters. This, in turn, opens up opportunities to more students. One of the most effective forms of support provided by the Foundation is to help keep FFA Advisors at their schools. The Foundation does this through direct, financial support of the Arizona Agriculture Teachers Association (AATA) and support of the Arizona Agricultural Education Program Evaluation Instrument (AAEPEI). The AAEPEI is a process where Ag Teachers evaluate themselves and their program. Participating in the program qualifies teachers for a financial award. Keeping good teachers in the profession is a vital part of improving Arizona FFA.

Dr. Robert Torres
Department Head and Professor
Agricultural Education,
Technology and Innovation
Neely Family Endowed Professor

BENEFICIARIES

WE SUPPORT



Pictured above: Rayna Fite, Kori Dorsey, Angus Donaldson, Morgan Berrigan, and Victoria Rackley



UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

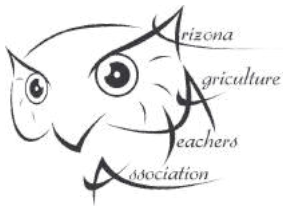
\$50,000

PROGRAMS SUPPORTED

- J.R. Cullison Scholarships
- Student Teacher Travel
- Tom Jones Scholarship
- Teacher Induction Program

BENEFICIARIES

WE SUPPORT



ARIZONA AGRICULTURE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

\$26,473

PROGRAMS SUPPORTED

- Professional Development Conferences
- Awards Program
- Ideas Unlimited
- Fall Retreat Dinner
- Administrative Support
- Arizona Agricultural Education Evaluation Instrument



“

Arizona High School agriculture programs, the teachers, FFA chapters, students, and University of Arizona Agricultural Education programs all greatly benefit from the AZ FFA Foundation's support. By supporting AZ FFA programs, events, and activities the Foundation reduces the financial pressure placed on students and their chapters. This, in turn, opens up opportunities to more students. One of the most effective forms of support provided by the Foundation is to help keep FFA Advisors at their schools. The Foundation does this through direct, financial support of the Arizona Agriculture Teachers Association (AATA) and support of the Arizona Agricultural Education Program Evaluation Instrument (AAEPEI). The AAEPEI is a process where Ag Teachers evaluate themselves and their program. Participating in the program qualifies teachers for a financial award. Keeping good teachers in the profession is a vital part of improving Arizona FFA.

James Kaltenbach
2020-2021 AATA President

STAR PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

A sponsorship with the Arizona Agricultural Education/FFA Foundation is a great way to support our future leaders and the future of the agriculture industry. This is an opportunity for your business to share your products and/or services or as an individual. More than a sponsorship, our programs are designed to create a win-win scenario for participants – many sponsors refer to our sponsorship opportunities as a “partnership”.

Designed with varying levels of participation, our sponsorship offerings afford participants the flexibility to choose a level that compliments the recognition, philanthropic and marketing objectives of their company.

The purpose of the **Star Partnership Program** is to promote those businesses and organizations supporting the longevity of the FFA and agriculture education through their sponsorship. We believe students, teachers, parents, and other participating partners would join us in saying “thank you” for supporting agriculture education and the FFA in Arizona. Your participation helps us ensure a strong financial future for agriculture education programming and promotes your sponsorship in a strong Agricultural Education/Arizona FFA marketplace.

WANT TO SUPPORT OUR PROGRAMS & BECOME AN ANNUAL STAR PARTNER?

To become an Annual Star Partner, contact Arizona Agricultural Education/FFA Foundation Executive Director – Rochell Planty at (602) 705-9211 or email rochell@azffaoundation.org.



OUR STAR PARTNERS

DISTINGUISHED STAR \$25,000+

Kemper & Ethel Marley Foundation
Otto and Edna Neely Foundation

FOUR STAR \$15,000+

Arizona Farm Bureau Federation
Brett Suma Family

THREE STAR \$10,000+

Arizona Cotton Growers Association
Electrical District Number 8
Heather and Ronald Rayner
Ken & Judy Williams
Salt River Project
University of Arizona, CALS
West Valley Mavericks Foundation

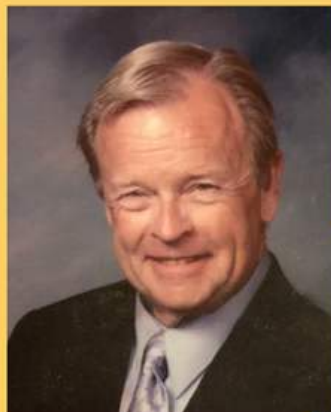
TWO STAR \$5,000+

Arizona Horse Lovers Foundation
Arizona Nursery Association
Bales Hay Co.
Desert Ford Dealers
Dr. Scholl Foundation
Farm Credit West
Farm Inc.
Foothills Bank
Holbrook Pyle Foundation
Wilbur Ellis

ONE STAR \$2,500+

AgriBusiness & Water Council of Arizona
Arizona Agricultural Teachers Association
Arizona Center for Rural Leadership
ASU-Morrison School of Agribusiness
Bingham Equipment Company
Calcot, Ltd.
Coronation Peak Ranches, Inc.
Dykstra Machinery
Empire Machinery - Empire CAT AG
George & Barbara Seperich
Jace Roeder Foundation
John & Alicia Boelts
Rousseau Farming Company
Safari Club International - Colorado Chapter
Summit Electrical
The Accomazzo Co.
The Family of Emil M Rovey
Tom Jones
United Dairymen of Arizona
Kevin & Annie Wulf

In Memory of Jerry Cullison August 13, 2020





BUSINESS INDUSTRY TOURS

The Foundation coordinates the Business Industry Tours for the Arizona Association FFA State Officers each winter. The tours provide an opportunity for the State Officers to learn more about the agriculture industry in Arizona and meet with corporate supporters.

“

FFA State Officer Industry Tours are an invaluable learning experience for not only the FFA Officers but for industry leaders as well. The Tours provide an opportunity for industry leaders to showcase their agricultural operations and provide on-the-ground, real-time, in-person learning experiences, rather than relying only on a mental picture. It is also the most effective way for FFA officers to fully understand industry benefits and challenges and be able to network and expand their understanding of all the mechanics of agriculture in Arizona.

Chris Udall
Executive Director
Agribusiness & Water Council
of Arizona

SUPPORTERS





ARIZONA
AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION
FFA FOUNDATION

WHY SHOULD YOU INVEST?



Pictured at left:
Lynne Westcliffe & Karl A. Burgeson

“

Tomorrow's agriculture depends on today's financial support. Agricultural Education provides the agriculture for tomorrow. I support the Arizona Agricultural Education Foundation through an annual donation to help the students achieve their dreams. The same opportunity was given to me. I encourage everyone to support Arizona FFA.

Karl A. Burgeson, Chandler Chapter FFA Alumni



“

Our family recognizes the impact that giving has in the community and we are committed to the next generation of learners by choosing to give to the Arizona FFA Scholarship program.

Brett Suma





ARIZONA
AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION
FFA FOUNDATION

CONTACT THE FOUNDATION

602-705-9211

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Glendale, AZ 85312

Foundation@azffaoundation.org

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