



ARIZONA
AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION
FFA FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT

2021-2022



MESSAGE FROM HEATHER RAYNER

2021-2022 FOUNDATION BOARD PRESIDENT



Welcome to the Arizona Agricultural Education/FFA Foundation's Annual Report for 2021-2022. This last year marked a record-breaking year for us, with overall donations reaching new highs, especially with monies raised through our Blue & Gold Gala in February. This annual event celebrating our FFA youth and Arizona agriculture grossed \$450,011!

Also very successful was our annual Bustin' Clay for FFA trap shoot held in Casa Grande in April. Along with those two annual events we receive yearly donations to endowments for scholarships, Career & Technical Event support and Proficiency Awards, to name a few.

We want you to know that our Board of Trustees and our staff are diligent in using these donations in a responsible manner. We take very seriously the trust given to us by these donations.

The monies raised are used in support of the Arizona FFA youth, agricultural education and their teachers. The four organizations that we support that make it possible for agricultural education and the FFA to exist in Arizona include 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 overestimated.

Thank you to all our donors who support our exceptional youth and their teachers. Your support makes these programs possible.

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.



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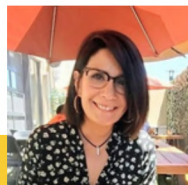


BRUCE WATKINS
State Supervisor of
Agriculture Education

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CMP, CFE
Executive Director



THELMA MUÑOZ
GOUCHER
Administrative
Assistant

CONSULTANT



JACK OWEN
2021-2022 State
FFA President

THE BLUE & Gold GALA

6TH ANNUAL GALA

THE BIGGEST NIGHT
IN ARIZONA AGRICULTURE

\$450,011

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



ABOVE: FARRAH SMITH, GALA CHAIR AND BOARD TREASURER ALONG WITH HEATHER RAYNER, FOUNDATION PRESIDENT, PRESENTED 2022 THE BLUE & GOLD GALA AWARD TO **STOTZ EQUIPMENT**. ACCEPTING THE AWARD WAS TOM ROSZTOCZY, PRESIDENT/CEO.



ABOVE: REILY RICH, STATE FFA REPORTER AND JACK OWEN, STATE FFA PRESIDENT, PRESENTED **MIKE OLSEN** WITH THE 2021 AGRICULTURALIST OF THE YEAR AWARD.

ACCOLADES

AWARD OF EXCELLENCE IN ASSOCIATION MANAGEMENT CREATIVE FUNDING

The Arizona Agricultural Education/FFA Foundation received the Awards of Excellence in Association Management Creative Funding in December 2021 for the Bustin Clay for FFA Trap Shoot by the Arizona Society of Association Executives.



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THE BLUE & GOLD GALA



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FUNDRAISING FOR AG EDUCATION

GRAND PRIZE



CHAD ODOM

John Deere Gator
valued at \$10,000
Prize sponsored by
Stotz Equipment



ABOVE: 1ST PLACE WINNER JAMES BURCHETT, LINDSEY BELL - STATE FFA SECRETARY, TYLER MARTINEZ - STATE FFA TREASURER AND STOTZ EQUIPMENT TUCSON MANAGER - BRYCE ROTH LISBERGER



1ST PLACE

JAMES BURCHETT

Stotz Equipment Package
valued at \$2,500
Prize sponsored by
Stotz Equipment

2ND PLACE

GENE SCHNEIDER

\$1,000 NRS
Shopping Spree



ABOVE: GENE SCHNEIDER, WINNER OF THE \$1,000 NRS SHOPPING SPREE, WITH MIKE OLSEN, FOUNDATION BOARD MEMBER

3RD PLACE

MARE EHLERS

Osborne Jewelers
\$500 Shopping Spree



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 166 jackets in 2022 at the 6th annual Blue & Gold Gala. The Foundation has now gifted 451 jackets during the past six years.



The Blue Jacket Legacy program has made a huge impact on the Rio Rico FFA chapter. Last year 75 students worked on their writing skills and submitted essays for their very own FFA jacket. They received their jackets before the Arizona FFA Spring Conference so they were ready and confident to compete in their chosen Career Development Events. They got off the bus at the UA Campus Ag Center full of pride and respect knowing that they belonged to something bigger than their chapter but were honored to have Rio Rico Arizona on their backs and their own name on the front.

- Richard McPherson, Rio Rico FFA Advisor





BUSTIN CLAY FOR FFA

The 8th Bustin Clay for FFA Trap Shoot presented by United Right of Way brought together nearly 200 participants from across Arizona. The event was held April 23, 2022, at the Casa Grande Trap & Skeet. **The Trap Shoot raised \$33,640!**

TEAM AWARDS

- 1st Place Team** - Barkley's Over the Hill Gang
- 2nd Place Team** - Iron City Polaris
- 3rd Place Team** - Yuma Trap & Skeet

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

- 1st Place Male** - Robert Avila
- 1st Place Female** - Kaitlin Quan
- 1st Place Youth** - Gage Byers
- Worst Team** - Letem Team



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Pork Council



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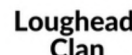
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Rebecca Hobert

AWARDS

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1928 SENIOR SOCIETY



In the 2nd year of the 1928 Senior Society Program there were 56 seniors honored. 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.

The year 1928 is significant because it is the year the National FFA Organization was founded. Each High School Senior inductee for that current academic year will receive a Senior Society FFA decal, recognized by having their name listed in our State FFA Leadership Conference app, recognized on screen with the Senior Society list during a conference session, and listed on this page of the website for a year.



It was an honor for a local community member to donate membership for 10 students into the Senior Society. The seniors were so surprised to receive their items in the mail and felt honored to have their time in the FFA recognized. As a teacher, it always makes my day better when members of our community recognize how hard our students work during their time as FFA Members.

**- Melissa Veo,
Buckeye FFA Advisor**

azffaoundation.org/1928-senior-society



Many graduating Agriculture / FFA students will go to College and the cost has increased. AAEFF needs to support our students by increasing the number of available scholarships. Judy and I are pleased to help outstanding Arizona Agriculture / FFA students attend College through our endowment with the AAEFF!

- Ken & Judy Williams



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. The

Foundation provides information on the Seeds for Tomorrow page of the website to share how individuals can engage in planned giving 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!

azffaoundation.org/seeds-for-tomorrow

ARIZONA AGRICULTURAL
EDUCATION FFA
FOUNDATION

MEET & GREET
RECEPTION

SPONSORS



ARIZONA
AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION
FFA FOUNDATION



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A YEAR OF ADVERSITY
A YEAR OF RESILIENCE

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.





FOUNDATION RECEPTION

The Foundation hosted a reception during the State FFA Leadership Conference for parents, guests, teachers, donors and alumni following the 3rd General Session of the State Conference at the Westin La Paloma. Although it was a late evening reception it was nice for folks to gather and network while the students were enjoying their evening dance.

CAREER & EDUCATION FAIR

Under the leadership of Arizona Agricultural Education/FFA Foundation, Executive Director Rochell Planty this year's Career & Education Fair was a resounding success with more than 900 students interacting with the 44 exhibitors showcasing their industries and job opportunities. Sponsored by the University of Arizona's College of Agriculture & Life Sciences' Department of Agricultural Education, Technology & Innovation, the event was held at the State FFA Leadership Conference's hotel the Westin La Paloma on June 9, 2022. The Foundation is looking forward to continuing to grow the event and provide more contacts and educational opportunities for FFA members. The Career & Education Fair was divided up into nine career pathways:

- Agriculture Education
- Agribusiness Systems
- Animal Systems
- Biotechnology Systems
- Environmental Systems
- Food Products Systems
- Natural Resource Systems
- Plant Systems
- Power Structural Systems

There was also an education area for community colleges and universities to showcase their programs.



The Arizona Nursery Association participates in the FFA State Leadership Conference Career Fair because it is a wonderful opportunity to interact with FFA students and speak to them about careers in the nursery industry. So many students don't think about Landscape Architecture, Plant Science and AgriBusiness as degree options and this event proves to us time and time again, if we can speak with them one-on-one, we can peak their interest!

- Cheryl Goar Koury
Executive Director
Arizona Nursery Association / Arizona
Crop Protection Association

BENEFICIARIES

WE SUPPORT



ARIZONA
ASSOCIATION FFA

ARIZONA ASSOCIATION FFA

\$399,504

The Arizona Association FFA is led by 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
- State FFA Camp Community Service Projects
- Estrella FFA District
- State Leadership Conference
- State FFA Leadership Conference Community Service Project
- State Proficiency Awards
- State FFA Degree Program
- Jacket Essay
- National Chapter
- State Officer Candidate/Delegate Mixer
- Star Program
- FFA Fundraising for Ag Education Raffle for Chapter Fundraiser
- Career Development Awards & Team Travel
- State Officer Program
- Summit Series
- Pinnacle Conference
- AzFFA Website
- SAE for All Program
- Travel Grants

FACTS & FIGURES



11,491
MEMBERS



112
ADVISORS



80
AGRICULTURAL
EDUCATION
PROGRAMS



101
STATE
DEGREES
AWARDED



16,290
HOURS OF
COMMUNITY
SERVICE BY
AZFFA MEMBERS



58%
SUPERVISED
AGRICULTURAL
EXPERIENCE
PROGRAMS
(COMPARED TO 48%
NATIONALLY)



EVENT PARTICIPATION

1,500+
SPRING CONFERENCE
PARTICIPANTS

1,200
STATE LEADERSHIP
CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS

240
STATE FFA LEADERSHIP
CAMP PARTICIPANTS

120
SPRING CHAPTER OFFICER
LEADERSHIP TRAINING
PARTICIPANTS



2021-2022 STATE FFA OFFICER TEAM

Jack Owen
President

Reilly Rich
Reporter

Taylor Groat
Vice President

Carson Shannon
Sentinel

Lindsey Bell
Secretary

Kori Hewitt
Vice President At-Large

Tyler Martinez
Treasurer

Kinsey Speer
Vice President At-Large



The Arizona FFA Foundation is a valuable resource for our students. The financial support given to our students, chapters and the state association provides opportunities that we would otherwise be without. Through the FFA Jacket program – students can own their very own jacket and feel included in our organization. Through the Fundraiser for Ag Ed Raffle, local programs have a way to increase their own funding through an easy to manage and easy to promote event. In addition to the financial support, the foundation continues to serve as a resource for teachers and students alike. It is an opportunity to continue to connect the agriculture industry with our students through business and industry guest speakers, visits to facilities, providing judges for competitions, and ensuring our students continue to grow and learn with agricultural knowledge. Our state association is stronger because of the FFA Foundation.

- Sharon Metzger, Arizona Association FFA Board President and AgriScience Instructor and FFA Advisor at Basha High School



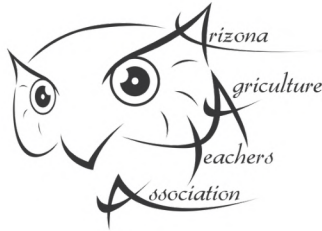
BENEFICIARIES

WE SUPPORT

“

The Arizona Agricultural Education/FFA Foundation has grown to become an amazing support system for agricultural education in Arizona. Over the years I have seen so much growth and impact among our students, teachers, and FFA chapters. Additionally, The Foundation has been a huge support advocate for the University of Arizona Agricultural Education programs in providing opportunities for students to become a part of our agriculture teacher profession. One of the most valuable impacts made by the Foundation would have to be the recognition of hard work and dedication through the financial support of agriculture teachers utilizing the Arizona Agricultural Education Program Evaluation Instrument (AAEPEI). The Arizona Agriculture Teachers Association (AATA) is indebted to the kind contributions of our agriculture community and industry members. We truly appreciate the effort and dedication of the Foundation in supporting our profession and the impact it has made on Arizona FFA and agriculture education.

- Mike Gaspar
2021-2022 AATA President



ARIZONA AGRICULTURE
TEACHERS ASSOCIATION
\$52,200



PROGRAMS SUPPORTED

- Professional Development Conferences & Travel
- Awards Program
- Ideas Unlimited
- Fall Retreat Dinner
- Summer Conference BBQ
- Administrative Support
- Arizona Agricultural Education Evaluation Instrument
- Agriculture Industry Tours



BENEFICIARIES

WE SUPPORT



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL & LIFE SCIENCES
**Agricultural Education,
Technology & Innovation**

UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

\$58,500



PROGRAMS SUPPORTED

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



The JR Cullison scholarship program is vital to offering preservice teacher support to engage in coursework at The University of Arizona and through their student teaching internship. Without the generous donation from the Cullison family, numerous prospective agriculture teachers would not be able to afford the cost of earning their degree. The Teach Ag Academy is a newer initiative with the same goal- increase the pipeline of agriculture teachers. High school students get a chance to experience college life through a multi-day experience on The University of Arizona campus. This creates excitement for a career in teaching and allows faculty and staff at the university to assist in the transition from high school to college. The Teach Ag Academy, along with the JR Cullison program, represents two critical ways the Foundation shows their investment and support in the recruitment of agriculture teachers in Arizona.

- Dr. Amber Rice
Associate Professor of Agricultural Education, Director of Graduate Studies; Agricultural Education, Technology and Innovation, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, The University of Arizona

2021-2022 STAR PROGRAM PARTNERS

DISTINGUISHED STAR **\$25,000+**

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Kemper & Ethel Marley Foundation
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Heather and Ronald Rayner

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THREE STAR **\$10,000+**

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The Jace Roeder Foundation
Michael Brooks
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Christine and John Augustine
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Buckeye FFA
Stotz Equipment
Wilbur Ellis
CopperPoint Insurance Companies
Coronation Peak Ranches, Inc.
Desert Ford Dealers
Marshall Foundation
Southwest Risk Management

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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.



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. In February 2022 the State Officer Team explored the west valley of Maricopa County.



Maricopa County Farm Bureau supports the Business Industry Tours for the State FFA Officers and the Agriculture Education Teachers because our organization recognizes and appreciates the value of first-hand experience outside of a textbook and the classroom. Visiting and touring agri-businesses in person provides a deeper level of understanding that we believe becomes priceless to our FFA Officers and Ag Education Teachers. Maricopa County Farm Bureau is grateful to continue supporting these tours and we hope they continue well into the future.

- Erin Kuiper, Executive Director,
Maricopa County Farm Bureau

SUPPORTERS



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WHY SHOULD YOU INVEST?

Tomorrow's agriculture depends on today's financial support. Agricultural Education provides the agriculture for tomorrow.

The Arizona Agricultural Education/ FFA Foundation helps empower future leaders and their passions through generous donations and collaborative relationships with numerous individuals, organizations and corporations. By contributing through a charitable donation, you are investing in the future of agriculture and our future leaders of tomorrow.



We support FFA because we believe in the importance of the program and in the future of agricultural related occupations. We are absolutely blown away by the caliber of people produced by FFA. They are kind, compassionate, committed, thoughtful, hardworking, and well mannered. Everything today's youth should strive to be. Everything the future of our great nation needs.

- Matthew Roeder & Kallie Knight



Vocational Agriculture and the FFA were so impactful in my personal growth and development during high school in Coolidge, Arizona. The lessons learned by doing have been used repeatedly in my life and my work, even to this day. My initial career out of college as an agriculture teacher and FFA advisor spanned 13 years. Knowing the positive influence my agriculture teachers had on me and that I hopefully was able to provide to my students, it is an easy decision to give financial support to the Agricultural Education/FFA Foundation to assist current and future teachers and students.

- Tom & Diana Jones





ARIZONA
AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION
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CONTACT THE FOUNDATION

602-705-9211

PO Box 5310

Glendale, AZ 85312

Foundation@azffaoundation.org

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