



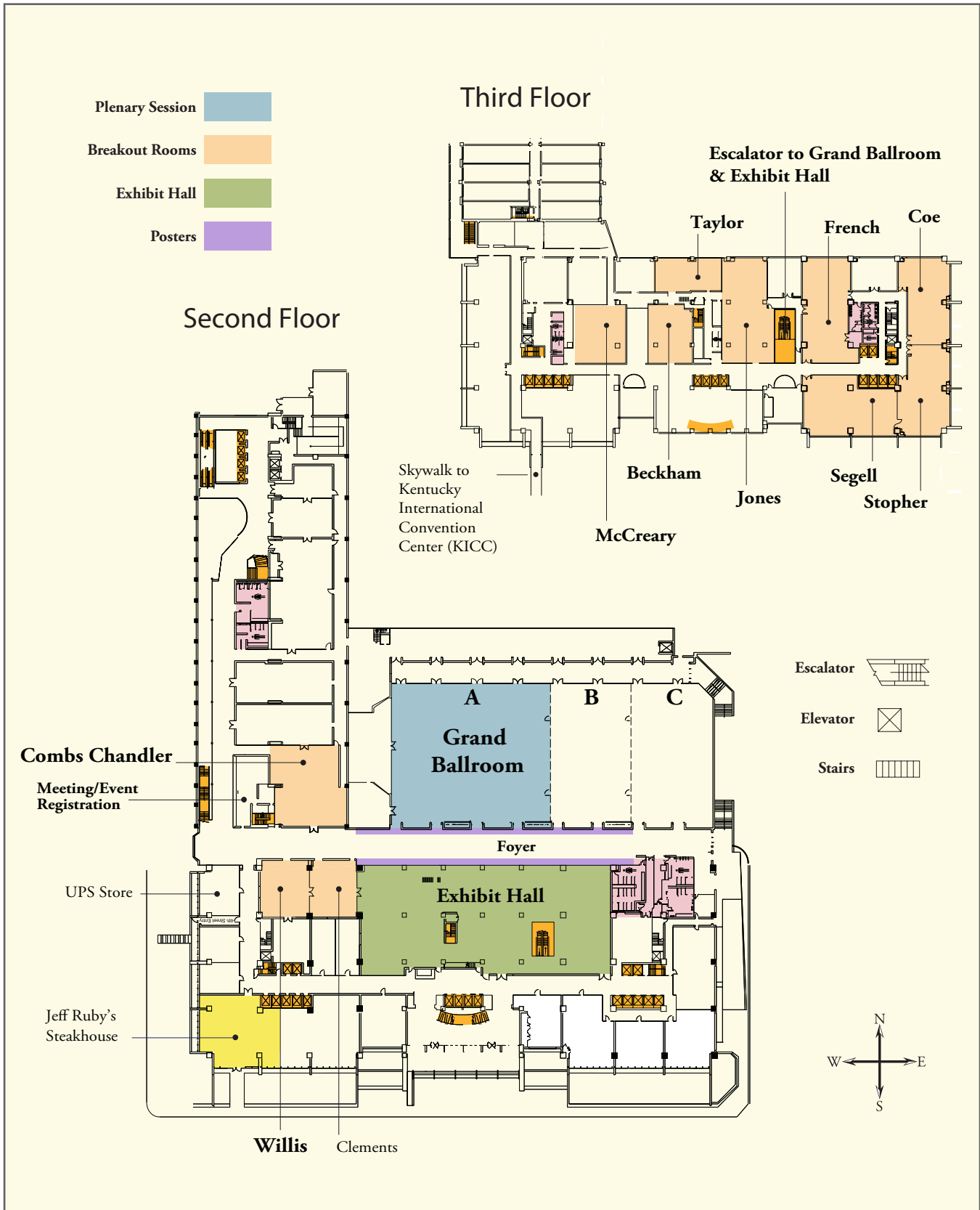
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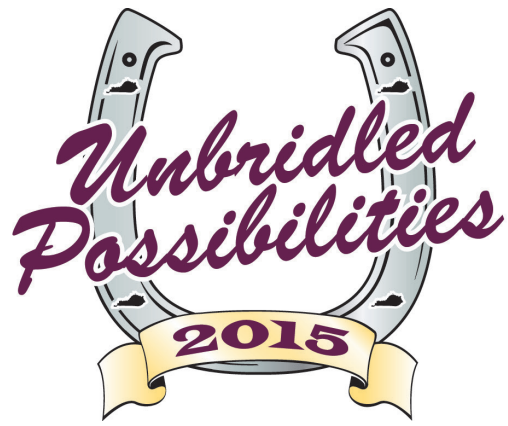
NATIONAL AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM CONFERENCE

JUNE 16-20, 2015
GALT HOUSE HOTEL
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY



GALT HOUSE - SUITE TOWER MEETING ROOMS





WELCOME

TO THE 2015
NATIONAL AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM
CONFERENCE

LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

EXHIBIT MAP

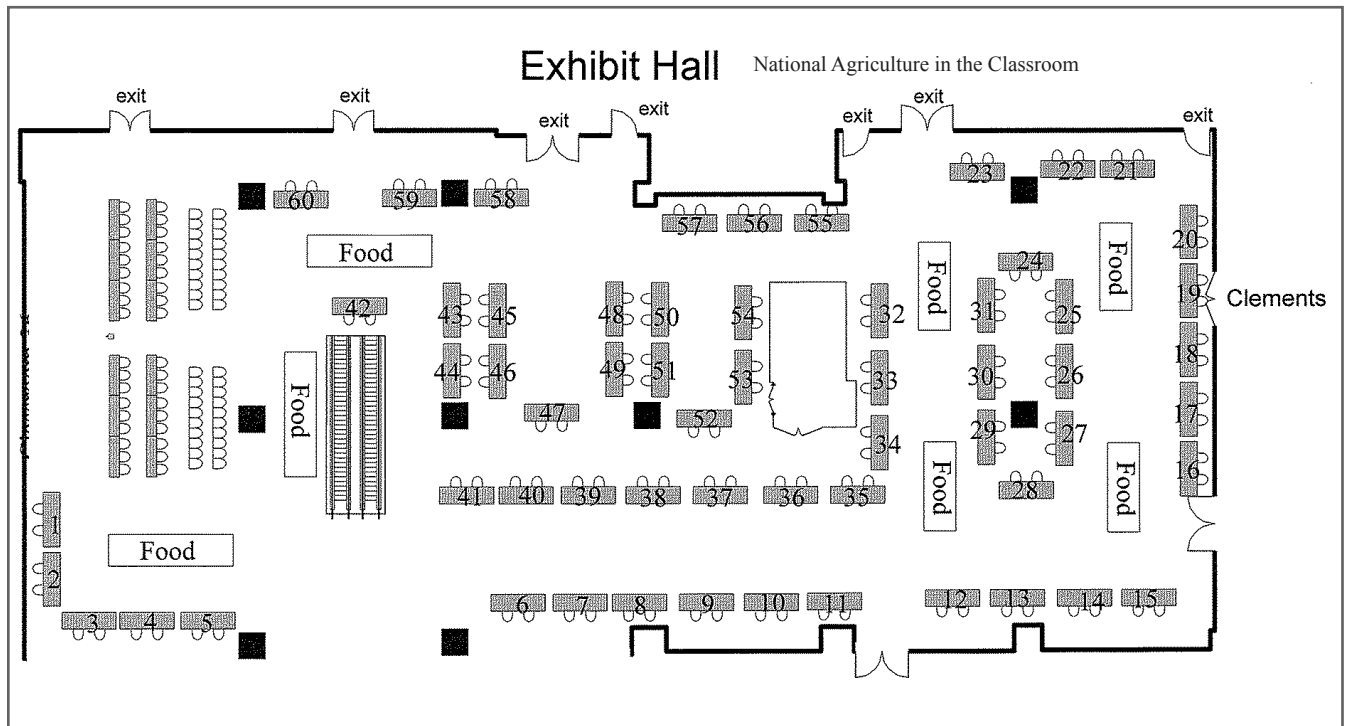




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WELCOME TO LOUISVILLE



Welcome to Louisville!

We would like to officially welcome you to the Commonwealth of Kentucky, the *Bluegrass State*. The bluegrass pastures and fertile soils of Kentucky have provided sustainable agriculture since the first settlers in the 1770's. The business of raising crops and livestock continues to be the backbone of rural Kentucky.

Kentucky is home to a wide variety of agriculture production; from horses to beef cattle to tobacco and corn. In recent years, more diversified farm operations have emerged including new ventures in poultry, aquaculture and horticulture. Today, Kentucky is home to over 76,500 farms averaging 170 acres per farm.

During your visit to the commonwealth, we hope you are able to experience some of the sights, sounds, smells and tastes of not only Kentucky agriculture, but also the unique food and beverages for which the state is known!

As the bugler calls us to the post to race for a deeper understanding of Agricultural Literacy....I'd place my bets on 'Unbridled Possibilities' because the possibilities are truly unending and that is what Kentucky agriculture is all about!

We hope you enjoy your time in our great state!

Scott Christmas
Kentucky Farm Bureau
AITC State Contact

WELCOME TO NATIONAL AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM CONFERENCE



On behalf of the National Agriculture in the Classroom Planning Committee,

I would like to welcome you to the 2015 National AITC Conference. In past years, the entire conference planning has been the responsibility of a single state program. This limited the ability of some states to host the conference based on the size of state staff or resources that might be needed to host the conference. This is our first year of the National AITC Organization facilitating the majority of the conference planning, leaning on the host state to provide support and most importantly local flavor. The tours, traveling workshops and the feel of Kentucky has been the responsibility of the Kentucky AITC program, and what a job they have done! We are certain that you will have felt the southern hospitality from the Southern Region of AITC and the Kentucky program. As we plan for the upcoming conferences, we will welcome your comments on the evaluation you will receive via email at the end of the conference. Your input will help us plan for future conference!

Again, welcome to Louisville, and we hope you enjoy all of the "Unbridled Possibilities" of AITC!

Kevin Daugherty

Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom Education Director
National Agriculture in the Classroom Organization Conference Committee Chair

ABOUT AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM

The Agriculture in the Classroom's Mission and Vision

The mission of Agriculture in the Classroom is to "increase agricultural literacy through K-12 education." An agriculturally literate person is defined as "one who understands and can communicate the source and value of agriculture as it affects quality of life." Agriculture in the Classroom (AITC) programs seek to improve student achievement by applying authentic, agricultural-based content as the context to teach core curriculum concepts in science, social studies, language arts and nutrition. By encouraging teachers to embed agriculture into their classroom, AITC cultivates an understanding and appreciation of the food and fiber system that we all rely on every day. AITC's vision that "agriculture is valued by all" is unique within the agricultural education community and positions itself as the lead organization to serve the full spectrum of K-12 formal education.

Agriculture in the Classroom Program Structure

The National Agriculture in the Classroom Organization (NAITCO) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)–Agriculture in the Classroom Team, support state programs by providing a network of opportunities to improve agricultural literacy – awareness, knowledge, and appreciation – among PreK-12 teachers and their students.

State Agriculture in the Classroom programs are implemented by each state according to state needs and interests. Depending on how state governments implemented their programs with the request from USDA in 1981, state AITC programs may be housed in farm organizations, private associations, foundations, institutions of higher education, or within governmental organizations.

The USDA provides program guidance and grants to the NAITCO to develop and conduct programs and initiatives that meet the overall mission and goals for advancing agricultural literacy. Specifically, USDA- NIFA supports: an annual national conference; a national website and online curriculum map and resource directory; professional development for state contacts, and regional AITC meetings.

The NAITCO is a professional organization networking state programs. Its purpose is to assume and maintain a national leadership role in promoting agricultural literacy with the vision that "agriculture is valued by all!"



MESSAGE FROM THE USDA-NIFA DIRECTOR



United States Department of Agriculture National Institute of Food and Agriculture

On behalf of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) at the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), it is my great pleasure to welcome you to Louisville, Kentucky to the 2015 Agriculture in the Classroom (AITC) National Conference. NIFA is pleased to provide support for the conference's many exciting educational opportunities, such as workshops, outstanding speakers, and professional networking.

For over three decades, AITC staff and volunteers have engaged teachers and students in learning the important role food and agriculture play in all facets of our daily lives. Our food production must at least double in the coming years if our humanity is to be able to feed the projected population of over 9 billion people by 2050 in the context of climate change, diminishing land and water resources, changing incomes and diets, and the need for better health outcomes. With that in mind, it is more important than ever for young people to understand the relationships between agriculture and the environment, food and fiber production systems, health, energy, the economy, and technology. It is critical that all people become informed consumers, advocates, and policy makers regarding agriculture, food, and natural resources.

AITC was developed in 1977 by Jean Ibendahl, a Tamaroa, IL, farm woman and teacher. In June 1981, former Secretary of Agriculture John Block invited 53 agricultural and educational leaders to Washington, DC, to discuss ways to work cooperatively to educate the public about the role of agriculture in society. This meeting resulted in a task force that created a nationwide program built on Ms. Ibendahl's vision. USDA coordinated this effort and has continued to provide leadership and support to AITC, in partnership with state AITC staff and volunteers. We at NIFA are pleased to continue this long legacy and program stewardship.

We commend the state AITC contacts, staff, and volunteers who dedicate their careers and time to advancing agricultural literacy. We particularly recognize and appreciate the tireless efforts of the classroom teachers who give so much to educate our most precious resource—our youth.

Thank you!

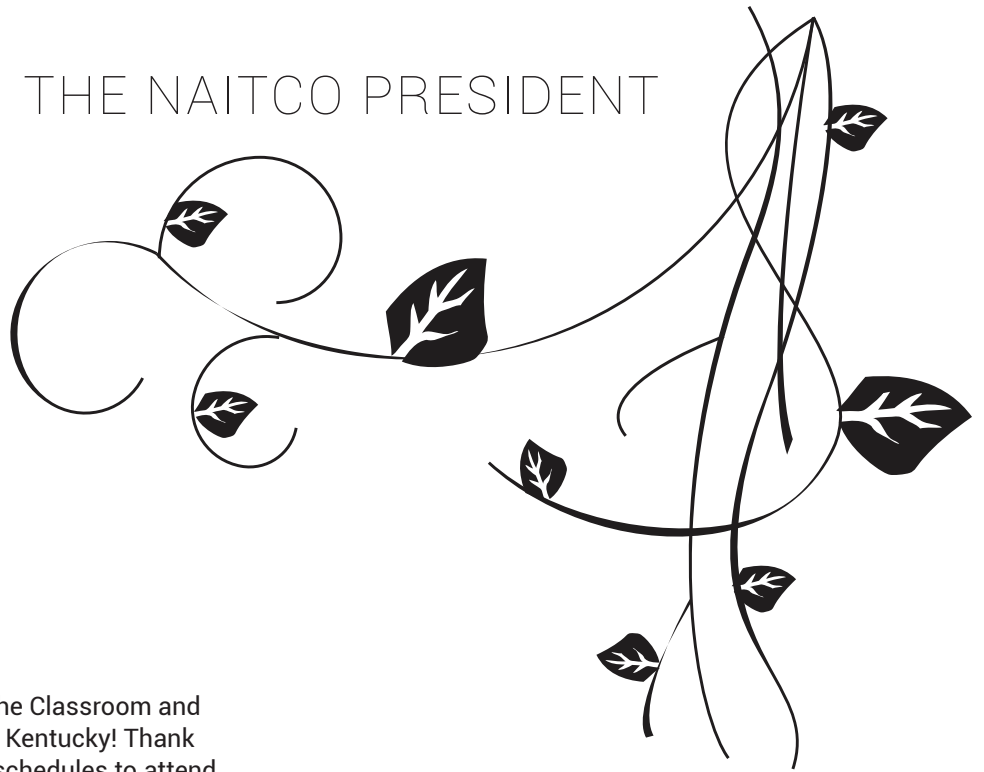
A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sonny Ramaswamy". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Sonny Ramaswamy
Director, National Institute of Food and Agriculture
United States Department of Agriculture



Sonny Ramaswamy

MESSAGE FROM THE NAITCO PRESIDENT



On behalf of National Agriculture in the Classroom and its state representatives, welcome to Kentucky! Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedules to attend, and learn about the 'Unbridled Possibilities' of using agricultural concepts to teach kindergarten through 12th grade students reading, writing, math, nutrition, science, social studies and more.

We have come a long way since Agriculture in the Classroom began in 1981. The National Agriculture in the Classroom Organization (NAITCO) - which hosts this event each year - now represents 48 states and six territories and reaches more than 6 million students and 150,000 teachers annually.

Our mission is to provide educational materials and training opportunities to help teachers use agricultural concepts to strengthen their classroom instruction. Our task is becoming increasingly important as Americans become more and more removed from the source of their food, fiber and fuel. Simply stated, we have a lot of work to do!

Toward that end, we will launch at this conference our new National Agricultural Literacy Curriculum Matrix, a database of more than 100 hundred K-12 lesson plans and companion videos, books, activities and more that are searchable by subject area, grade level, keyword and educational standard. This state-of-the-art collection of educational resources is correlated to national educational standards, free of charge and easy to use for educators looking for innovative ways to teach complicated subject matter such as plant nutrients, food science and more. Please visit <http://www.agclassroom.org/teacher/matrix/> to learn more about a world of free resources available to you. Thank you to CHS, Inc. and the USDA-NIFA for their support of the project.

In addition, a partnership NAITCO has with marketing firm 8Point Promotions and its Certified Agriculture Dealership program at RAM dealerships across the country promises to pay dividends to NAITCO. Dozens of dealerships nationwide have embraced the program that educates RAM employees about agriculture to better meet their farmer customers' needs and we have 8Point Promotions' Pat Driscoll to thank for his unwavering support of NAITCO as he rolls out this program.

Our goal with the national conference is to provide a productive learning and networking environment for teachers and educators who attend. We also try to give educators new ideas and teaching strategies to energize their classroom instruction and make learning fun for their students. Hosting the national conference is a lot of work so thank you to Kentucky Agriculture in the Classroom and the Southern Region Agriculture in the Classroom states for graciously hosting what promises to be a great national conference.

Finally, we encourage conference goers to participate in our silent and live auctions during the conference, proceeds of which support the work of NAITCO.

It's been a pleasure to serve as president of NAITCO this past year, and I extend a big 'thank you' to the teachers attending the conference for working hard throughout the school year to bring agriculture to life in classrooms across the country.

Lisa Gaskalla

NAITCO President and Florida State Contact

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K1 Event Planning & Fundraising

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Financing farmers and ranchers since 1916...



...and we'll be here tomorrow.



AGENDA



LOUISVILLE VISITOR CENTER by Moberly Photography





SCHEDULE AT-A-GLANCE

TUESDAY, JUNE 16, 2015		
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	NAITCO Meeting (state contacts)	Combs Chandler
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM	Pre-Conference Tour	Offsite
12:00 PM - 6:00 PM	Exhibit Hall Setup	Exhibit Hall
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM	NAITCO Evening Event (state contacts)	Evan Williams
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17, 2015		
6:30 AM - 10:00 AM	Exhibit Hall Setup	Exhibit Hall
6:30 AM - 9:00 PM	Registration Open	Registration Booth
8:30 AM - 9:30 AM	Exhibit Hall Continental Breakfast for Exhibitors and NAITCO State Contacts	Exhibit Hall
10:00 AM - 6:30 PM	Exhibits Open	Exhibit Hall
12:00 PM - 2:00 PM	Opening Luncheon	Grand Ballroom A
WORKSHOP SESSION 1		
2:00 PM - 3:15 PM	'School Gardening-The Gateway to Agriculture Education' Steve Meredith, Angela G. Blank	Combs Chandler
	'Founding Farmers and You' Brad Banning, Kevin Daugherty, Peggy Thomas	Willis
	'Dairy and Nutrition' Ashley Prue	Coe
	'24 Agriculture Careers You Might Not Know About' Arlette Roberge	Stopher
	'Biotech, What the Heck?' Katie Aikins	Segell
	'What's Bugging You?' Suzanne Squires, Stephanie Etcheverria	French
	'"AG"centuating the Positives of Agriculture' Karrie Perrin	Jones
	'Connect to Agriculture - A Community Based Delivery Model' Cathy Musick	Beckham
	'What's Happening on the Farm' Tammy Maxey	McCreary
	'Harvest the "Fruits of Your Labor" through Career Exploration' Denise Stewardson, Debra Spielmaker	Taylor
3:15 PM - 3:30 PM	'An Incredible Eggucation' Jacinta LeDonne, Mia Roberts	Exhibit Hall Classroom
	Coffee Break	Exhibit Hall
WORKSHOP SESSION 2		
3:30 PM - 4:45 PM	'"Unbridled Possibilities" Linking Activities and Books to Agriculture' Mary Zumwalt	Combs Chandler
	'Run to These Resources - Books and Websites that Win by a Mile' Pam Hosimer	Willis
	'Critically thinking about Agriculture' Kristen Wescott	Coe
	'Strategies for Great Teaching' Will Fett	Stopher
	'Ag Science Lets You "Eat, Drink and Be Merry." Find Out Some of The Hows and Whys!' Craig Wilson, Baron Bartels	Segell
	'STEM Careers in Sustainable Energy' Stephanie Etcheverria	French

SCHEDULE AT-A-GLANCE

3:30 PM - 4:45 PM (continued)	'Increasing Food Production with Precision Agriculture' Molly Brandt, Jennifer Melander, Cory Forbes, Joe Luck	Jones
	'Saddle Up and AGsplore the Wild West: Developing The Center for Agriscience Education' Michelle Schilling, Jennifer Gray	Beckham
	'From Soil to Food' Carole Lee	McCreary
	'From Farm to Market: A Fully STEM-Integrated Augmented Reality Game' Farah L. Vallera	Taylor
	'From Apples to Applesauce, Diving into Energy and Agriculture' Craig Rebich	Exhibit Hall Classroom
4:45 PM - 6:30 PM	Exhibits and Silent Auction Open	Exhibit Hall
5:30 PM - 6:30 PM	Reception in Exhibit Hall	Exhibit Hall
6:30 PM - 9:30 PM	Welcome to Kentucky Dinner, Honoring the 2015 Ag Advocate. GUEST SPEAKER: Author Peggy Thomas; 'Founding Farmers - Connecting History and Agriculture' Live Auction	Grand Ballroom A
THURSDAY, JUNE 18, 2015		
7:30 AM - 9:00 AM	Breakfast honoring AFBF White Reinhart Winners and CHS Winners	Grand Ballroom A
7:30 AM - 9:00 PM	Registration Open	Registration Booth
9:00 AM - 7:00 PM	Exhibits and Silent Auction Open	Exhibit Hall
WORKSHOP SESSION 3		
9:15 AM - 10:30 AM	'Black Blizzard' Cheryl Bombenger	Combs Chandler
	'The Gumbo Pot' Jo Ann Hebert	Willis
	'Survival of the Fittest State' Lisa Gaskalla, Becky Sponholtz	Coe
	'The Three Sisters' Lynn Black, Tammy Maxey	Stopher
	'Horses, History & Hoofbeats' Mary Beth Bennett, Georgette Plaugher	Segell
	'Integrating Nutrition Lessons with Agriculture' Monica Pastor	French
	'Alternate Container Gardening in Urban Schools' Sherri Harkins	Jones
	'Planning and Planting with Plant Parts in your School Garden' Tanna Nicely, Wendy Howard	Beckham
	'Factoring In your Roots' Donna Musick	McCreary
	'Lives and Landscapes - Ag Literature Circles' Brad Banning	Taylor
	'The Puzzle of Perceptions and The Power of Persuasion' Rod Wenzel, Betty Wolanyk	Exhibit Hall Classroom
10:30 AM - 10:45 AM	Coffee Break	Exhibit Hall
WORKSHOP SESSION 4		
10:45 AM - 12:00 PM	""Get Real"" with a Non-Fiction Ag Lit Day Book' Becky Sponholtz, Lisa Gaskalla	Combs Chandler
	'Tasty Ag Connections to Writing' Virginia Deitz, Jill Vigesaa	Willis
	'Bushels or Bust - Teaching Economics Through Game Based Learning' Jennifer Elwell	Coe

SCHEDULE AT-A-GLANCE

10:45 AM - 12:00 PM (continued)	'Planting the Seed' Jennifer Bates	Stopher
	'Dive On In: America's Food Waste' Lauren Arbogast	Segell
	'Growing STEAM in the Garden' Darleen Horton	French
	'The Big 8: Food Allergies and Ag' Sherry Collins	Jones
	'Compliment and Connect' Suzi Myers, Debbie Ruff	Beckham
	'Harvesting Books of Agriculture' Kevin Daugherty	McCreary
	'Beef Up Your Classroom' Tiffany Selchow	Taylor
	'Implementation of K-5 Agricultural Research Experiences by an Elementary School in Collaboration with a Teacher Education Program' Joe Evans, Dana McCauley, Kevin Evans, Brittany German	Exhibit Hall Classroom
12:15 PM - 2:00 PM	Luncheon Honoring National Award for Excellence in Teaching About Agriculture	Grand Ballroom A
WORKSHOP SESSION 5		
2:15 PM - 3:30 PM	'Cultivating Creativity: Integrating Science and Art' Lynn Wallin	Combs Chandler
	'Science, Agri, and a Really Good Book 2' Sarah Glenn, Lisa Ann Taylor	Willis
	'Cultivating Seeds of Knowledge' Andrea Seagraves	Coe
	'Increasing Student Engagement Using Multi-Media: Online Modules, Interactive Gaming, YouTube, & More' Kerry Richards, Kelly Over Lowery	Stopher
	'Food for Thought - Exploring Geography and Agriculture' Sue Knott	Segell
	'From Table to Space' Leslie Meredith, Michael Goodman	French
	'How Water is Used to Raise and Grow Your Food and Fiber' Nancy Carlson	Jones
	'Feeding 9 Billion' Chris Fleming	Beckham
	'Under Your Feet: Exploring Soil Science' Melissa Buehler, Joan Kyle	McCreary
	'Meat Magic = Prime Lessons' Laurie Rice, Karissa Dishon, Jon Gandy	Taylor
	'Using Agricultural Statistics in the Classroom' David Knopf	Exhibit Hall Classroom
3:30 PM - 3:45 PM	Coffee Break	Exhibit Hall
WORKSHOP SESSION 6		
3:45 PM - 5:00 PM	'Building Agricultural Responsibility in Our Neighborhood' Dana McCauley, Brittany German, Sarah Deacon	Combs Chandler
	'Design a Farm: A Cross Curricular Approach to Ag Education' Suzanne Holcomb	Willis
	'Corn, Soybeans, and Science' Cindy Hall	Coe
	'Inspire, Innovate, and Ignite; An Ag Science Night of Collaboration' Michele Reedy	Stopher

SCHEDULE AT-A-GLANCE

3:45 PM - 5:00 PM (continued)	'Biofuels as Renewable Energy' Alan Withers, Sue Knott	Segell
	'Down and Dirty Garden Activities in 5 to 15 minutes' Darleen Horton	French
	'Using Nonfiction Materials to Teach About Protein Sources' Nancy Carlson	Jones
	'So I Want a School Garden... Now What?'' Missy Locke	Beckham
	'What's APPening?'' Shawn Dzielawa, Angela McCullough	McCreary
	'Serving History with Agriculture - It's in the Bag!'' Louise Stearns	Taylor
	'Local Heroes - Your Hardworking Pollinators'' Susan Schultz, Debbie Ruff	Exhibit Hall Classroom
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Reception in Exhibit Hall - Silent Auction Closes	Exhibit Hall
7:00 PM - 11:30 PM	Exhibit Breakdown	Exhibit Hall
FRIDAY, JUNE 19, 2015		
7:00 AM - 11:30 AM	Exhibit Breakdown	Exhibit Hall
7:30 AM - 9:30 AM	Closing Breakfast: Goodbye Louisville, Hello Arizona!	Grand Ballroom A
7:30 AM - 12:00 PM	Registration Open	Registration Booth
MINI WORKSHOPS		
8:45 AM - 10:45 AM	'It's All in the Bag' Debra Deskin	Combs Chandler
	'Thank a Farmer Every Day!'' Darlene Petranick	Willis
	'P is for Pumpkin Pie'' Karen King	Coe
	'Out of this world adaptations & futuristic GMOs'' Leslie Meredith, Michael Goodman	Stopher
	'Passport to the Farm Camp'' Diane Merrion	Segell
	'Scientific Flower Pens'' Craig Rebich	French
	'MUSIC= Magical Ingredient for AG education '' Kj Reimensnyder-Wagner, Lisa Wiggins	Jones
	'Plant Cell in a Pizza Box'' Carole Willis	Beckham
	'Farming Around the World: It's What's For Lunch'' Kimberly Baker	McCreary
	'Groundwater Safety Activity-It's Educational, Replicable, and Easy!'' Kelly Over Lowery	Taylor
	Exhibit Breakdown	Exhibit Hall Classroom
TRAVELING WORKSHOPS		
11:00 AM Departure	Historic Kentucky	Offsite
	Heart of Kentucky	Offsite
	Famous Kentucky	Offsite
	Rolling on the River	Offsite
	Horse Country	Offsite
	Down Under and Over the River	Offsite

PRESENTER LISTING

AIKINS, Katie

Arizona Farm Bureau
katieaikins@azfb.org

As Associate Director of Education for Arizona Farm Bureau, Katie Aikins performs the educational functions of the farm bureau that contributes to an increase in agriculture awareness in the K-12 classroom and beyond. This includes the development of new curriculum and programs that engage the public in hot button issues in agriculture. Aikins holds a Masters of Science in Agricultural Education from the University of Arizona. She has worked in both the classroom and research side of agricultural literacy. Her Thesis Project entitled "The Academic Impact of Summer Ag Institute on AIMS Test Scores of 3rd and 5th Grade Students in the Gilbert Unified School District," allowed Aikins to work with teachers and discover what is important when selecting curriculum to use in their classrooms.

ARBOGAST, Lauren

Virginia Cooperative Extension
lauren.arbogast@gmail.com

Lauren Arbogast is the Farm to Table Coordinator for Virginia Cooperative Extension. In this role, she works directly with producers, consumers, and everyone in between to strengthen the food system in Virginia. Lauren coordinates the Shenandoah Valley chapter of "Buy Fresh Buy Local", as well as the "Farm to School and Farm to Institution" regional movement. A former teacher, Lauren knows the beauty of the AITC organizations, and has benefitted from many conferences and workshops. She is an advocate for agriculture literacy in the classroom and in the community. When not at work, Lauren enjoys time on her family farm, where they raise poultry and run a cow-calf operation. She is also the creator and writer for her blog, PaintTheTownAG.com, where she advocates for agriculture.



COWS by louisvillepics.com

BAKER, Kimberly

Frederick Co. Public Schools, MAEF, Frederick County Farm Bureau
kimberly.baker@fcps.org

I am currently a Frederick County Public School teacher and the STEM leader for our school. I have put in a Learning Garden at my school through grant funding from MAEF and the Gladhill Educational Foundation. Our garden serves 1,000 students and collaborates with the local Senior Center as well, to harvest and maintain our garden over the summer. During the creation of the garden my students worked with the local FFA to plant, germinate and implement our garden. Our family owns and operates a cow calf operation in Maryland and crop farms 2,200-2,500 acres. I am a Frederick Co. 4-H volunteer and parent. I belong to the Frederick County Farm Bureau and assisted in the organization of Farm Safety Camp this year. I have also written a collaborative curriculum for Frederick County Public Schools and the Frederick County Fair Board. I enjoy watching children interact with plants and animals and hope to be able to share some of the fabulous things that I have experienced with others. I believe that students learn best through hands-on experiences that allow them to take risks that they may not normally take. This also gives students the opportunity to shine outside of the traditional classroom setting. I believe that everyone can learn something about themselves through the lens of agriculture.

BANNING, Brad

Illinois Ag in the Classroom
bbanning@ilfb.org

Brad Banning has been an Education Specialist at Illinois Ag in The Classroom since 2015. He is a graduate of Illinois State University in Bloomington-Normal, Illinois where he studied Middle-Level Education with a focus on English Language Arts, Reading, and Social Studies. Originally from Plainfield, Illinois, he has lived in Bloomington since 2009. He is close with his family which has, in recent years, spread out as far as Kansas City and Detroit, affording many enjoyable opportunities for Brad to travel. He maintains his Chicagoland roots by dutifully cheering on the Cubs, Bears, and Blackhawks.

PRESENTER LISTING

BARTELS, Baron

Texas Farm Bureau

bbartels@txfb.org

Baron Bartels is a graduate of Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas. He currently works for Texas Farm Bureau as Associate Director Urban Relations and is heavily involved in running a series of 15 science teacher summer workshops across Texas. The focus is on promoting Ag in the Classroom (AIRC) hands-on activities with K-8 teachers. He has helped to refine and develop the Texas Farm Bureau (TFB) Harvest Experience simulator. TFB's Harvest Experience simulator debuted during the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo as part of the Planet Agriculture exhibit in the Ag-Venture building. Visitors enter the 360-degree simulator and sit in an actual cab of a combine. Video screens surround the cab and show footage of a combine rolling through a corn field, harvesting the crop and dropping the shelled kernels into the grain bin in the back. Baron was interviewed and quoted as saying: "Throughout the first week of the Houston show, visitors to Planet Agriculture have reacted very positively about the addition of the Harvest Experience trailer. For many of our visitors, this is their first interaction with a combine, and they come away amazed by the process it takes to harvest corn." "As an organization, we felt it was important to invest in an interactive resource for consumers to understand how their food and fiber are harvested," Bartels said. He invests a lot of his own time and energy in supporting science teachers.

BATES, Jennifer

Tennessee Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom

jenniferbates1@bellsouth.net

Jennifer grew up on a tobacco and beef farm in Middle Tennessee. She brings her experience to her first grade classroom. Her classroom comes alive with guest speakers, such as; the local high school FFA chapter, UT's Extension Agency, USDA's Soil and Water Conservation office, and her local Farm Bureau. Stories are brought to life with hands-on, agricultural literacy activities in her classroom. She was Tennessee's 2012 White-Reinhardt Winner and 2013 USDA Award applicant. Jennifer has a master's degree in education, with a reading specialist endorsement.

BENNETT, Mary Beth

Berkeley County Extension Office

MBBennett@mail.wvu.edu

Mary Beth Bennett currently works as a county Agriculture and Natural Resource Extension Agent in West Virginia and helps with the county 4-H program in livestock and agricultural project areas and teaches at 4-H camp. A county agent for the last 21 years, I spent my life living and working in agriculture. I was a Peace Corps volunteer in Brazil for 2 years and worked with U.S.A.I.D. as an Agricultural Project Officer in Rwanda and Cape Verde Africa for 4 years. I have an A.A. in Agricultural Business and a B.S. M.S. and Ph. D. in Agriculture and Extension Education, minor in International Agriculture and Education, Theory and Policy. In my free time I love to garden, work on all kinds of crafts, especially yarn related ones, and play with my pets.

BLACK, Lynn

Virginia Agriculture in the Classroom

lynn.black@vafb.com

As an Education Coordinator with Virginia Agriculture in the Classroom, Lynn is responsible for curriculum writing, resource development, and the facilitation of educator workshops. A graduate of the University of Virginia, she received her Masters of Teaching and began her career as a Social Studies and then Gifted and Talented teacher in Hanover County before joining Virginia AIRC in 2007. She lives outside Richmond, VA with her husband and son.

BLANK, Angela G.

Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy

Director of Public Affairs/Public Relations

langelag.blank@ky.gov

Angela G. Blank, serves as the Director of Public Affairs/ Public Relations for the Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy (GOAP). In this position, her focus is on public relations, governmental affairs and program management and implementation. She has worked collaboratively to develop relationships and enhance the public's understanding of the mission of GOAP and the Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund. She has been instrumental in the agricultural export initiatives within GOAP as well as the First Lady's Governor's Garden Program. Angela also serves as GOAP's Legislative Liaison for the office.

BOMBENGER, Cheryl

Classroom Teacher and Presenter at State, National, and International Conferences
musicmovesmyclassroom@yahoo.com

Cheryl Bombenger is an educator and presenter who enjoys bringing excitement into the classroom where she has engaged students in learning for over 25 years. TA-DA, Teaching Activities Done Aesthetically, is the program that she has designed that incorporates right brain activities, focusing primarily on music, to increase learning. She has presented at state, regional, national, and international conferences, has written a teacher resource book, along with a CD that incorporates the use of music to improve literacy. Cheryl's passion is to help students know the love of learning. She has authored the "North Dakota AgMag", authored national educational journal articles, and has also won the national White-Reinhardt Teacher Scholarship award promoting agricultural literacy. Her passion for STEAM (STEM) education has also previously won her a teacher internship in industry, allowing her to use this experience to blend science, technology, engineering, agriculture and the arts, and math with lessons for elementary students.

BRANDT, Molly

University of Nebraska-Lincoln
molly.brandt@huskers.unl.edu

Molly Brandt is a graduate student at the University of Nebraska - Lincoln. She is seeking a Masters degree in Applied Science. Molly is working an assistantship through the National Center for Agricultural Literacy where she focuses on K-6 assessment development. Molly received her undergraduate degree from the University of Nebraska - Lincoln in Agricultural Education in May 2014. Molly is passionate about 4-H, youth development, and agricultural literacy.

BUEHLER, Melissa

Nutrients for Life Foundation
mbuehler@nutrientsforlife.org

Melissa is a graduate of the University of Nebraska - Lincoln earning her bachelor's degree in Agricultural Education. After graduating, she embarked on a sales career spanning over 10 years with Land 'O Lakes Purina Feeds, Inc. and Stine Seed Co., before coming to work for Nutrients for Life. Melissa and her husband reside in Fairbury, NE. where they are active in the family purebred Hereford cattle and Boer Goat operation.

CARLSON, Nancy

Northwest Arm Press
ncarlsonag.ed@gmail.com

Nancy is a strong Ag in the Classroom advocate. She is a retired classroom teacher with 33 years of experience, including being an Ag in the Classroom teacher herself. Nancy is the author of the book, "Water Sources, Uses and Conservation". This book provides basic water information and how agriculture uses water to grow and raise food and fiber for 3-6 grade students. Currently she is involved in beef education in the K12 curriculum with the Colorado CattleWomen and the American National CattleWomen. She also is a local, state and national member of the FFA Alumni supporting Ag Advisors in their work with today's youth. Nancy grew up in Colorado on cattle ranches and after retiring has gone back to working with her father raising a small beef cattle herd.

COLLINS, Sherry

National Peanut Board
sccollins@nationalpeanutboard.org

Sherry Coleman Collins is a Masters-level Registered Dietitian Nutritionist who specializes in converting the science of nutrition into bite-size nuggets for consumers and professionals. Her experience includes clinical pediatrics, school foodservice, and working with individuals of all ages. She consults as the nutrition and food allergy expert for the National Peanut Board, providing education for experts across the country, including educators, school nutrition professionals, dietitians, nurses, and other health professionals. And as @PeanutRD, she interacts with the world via Twitter. Sherry is active with her local and national nutrition and dietetics professional associations.

DAUGHERTY, Kevin

Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom
kdaugherty@ilfb.org

Kevin Daugherty is the Education Director for the Illinois AITC Program. He holds a BS in Secondary Education from the University Illinois and an MS in Higher Education from Eastern Illinois University. A former Junior High and High School History and English teacher, Daugherty worked as a implementation and curriculum developer for a publishing company before joining the Illinois Farm Bureau AITC Program in 2000. He is the Illinois AITC Contact, and Chairman of the National Conference Planning Committee. He hosted National Conferences in 2001 in Chicago, and 2009 in St. Louis. Daugherty is married, and has 3 children. He is active in his church, and serves as the President of the LeRoy CUSD #2 Board of Education in LeRoy, IL.

PRESENTER LISTING

DEACON, Sarah

Crellin Elementary School
sdeacon12@gmail.com

Sarah Deacon has a Bachelor of Science (BS) in Environmental Studies from Florida State University and a Master of Science (MS) in Forestry from West Virginia University. Sarah teaches for American Public University and works as a STEM consultant for Crellin Elementary school. She has a decade of research experience studying everything from soils and small mammals to hydrology and biogeochemical cycles in wetlands. Her newfound passion is education. She enjoys the challenge of breaking down complex scientific concepts in a way that makes them understandable for younger students. Currently Sarah is helping Crellin Elementary expand their agriculture and environmental learning.

DEITZ, Virginia

North Dakota Ag in the Classroom
deitzv@gmail.com

Virginia (Ginger) Deitz is a retired teacher from Fargo, North Dakota after forty-one years of teaching at the elementary level. She continues as an instructor for the Department of Distance and Continuing Education at North Dakota State University, and facilitates Project Food, Land & People Workshops for educators. She is also a frequent presenter for water festivals across the state, and has a long list of awards for her educational efforts with Project WET. Ginger is a former North Dakota Teacher of the Year, and received an Excellence in Teaching About Agriculture National Award in 2010. Ginger enjoys volunteering in surrounding schools and community on her many topics of agriculture, and its importance in our lives.

DESKIN, Debra

Luther Public Schools
Tanema@sbcglobal.net

Debra Deskin is an experienced elementary teacher from the Luther Public Schools in rural Luther, Oklahoma where she teaches 3rd grade. She is currently working on her Masters in Educational Leadership with plans to become a principal. Debra has been an active Oklahoma Ag in the Classroom teacher and has presented numerous times at their state AITC conference. She is currently the 2014 Luther District Teacher of the Year and has served as a mentor teacher the past two years. Debra is very active in agriculture, even when not in the classroom. She and her husband own a livestock show supply company and attend numerous 4H/FFA and national livestock shows across Oklahoma and the surrounding states on nearly a weekly basis. Debra incorporates a very interactive classroom environment and promotes a project based teaching style.

DISHON, Karissa

OSU Extension Service - Lane County
Karissa.Dishon@oregonstate.edu

Karissa Dishon has been with Extension Service and Oregon State University since 2010. She is currently working toward a Masters in Business Administration majoring in Marketing. After moving to a county recently devastated by a financial crisis and removal, building school and community partnerships became a top priority. The development and implementation of new classroom lessons became the tool with which to engage students, teachers, and community partners.

DZIELAWA, Shawn

West Chester Area School District
Sdzielawa@wcasd.net

I am a 5th grade teacher with twenty-four years elementary experience in all grades kindergarten through fifth. I am also a student and graduate of the Pennsylvania Ag in the Classroom 2012. Over the last two summers, both Angela and I have written lessons for Pennsylvania Preferred and the Pennsylvania Apple Marketing Board. This past summer I also presented at the National Ag in the Classroom mini-lessons for Pennsylvania Preferred.

ELWELL, Jennifer

Kentucky Agriculture and Environment in the Classroom
Jennifer@teachKYag.org

Jennifer has been the Executive Director of the Kentucky Agriculture & Environment in the Classroom and CEO of Farm Scholar, LLC, an education resource company, since September 2014. Prior to taking this position, Jennifer was the director of communications and education with the Kentucky Corn and Small Grain Growers Associations for 17 years. Her work in ag literacy and public relations programs have earned her a number of state and national awards. Jennifer earned her degrees in Animal Sciences and Communications from the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture and is a 2014 graduate of the Kentucky Agricultural Leadership Program.

ETCHEVERRIA, Stephanie

California Foundation for Agriculture in the Class
Stephanie@LearnAboutAg.org

Stephanie Etcheverria has been a program coordinator for California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom for six years. Stephanie works with teachers throughout California by exhibiting at conferences, presenting workshops, and sharing resources to pre-service teachers through university student teacher programs, to show educators how to incorporate materials about agriculture into their curriculum while meeting Common Core and Next Generation standards. She also coordinates the Imagine this- Story Writing Contest and has been the coordinator for San Francisco Farm Day and the California Agriculture in the Classroom Conference.

EVANS, Joe

Glennville State College
joe.evans@glennville.edu

Joe Evans earned a Bachelor of Arts in Education Degree: Mathematics and Physical Science from Glennville State College in 1963. He completed his Master of Science: Science Education at Ohio State University in 1969. His college teaching career began in 1970 at Glennville State College. He completed his Doctor of Education in Curriculum and Instruction: Science Education and Natural Science at West Virginia University in 1976. Following the awarding of his doctorate, he returned to his alma mater where he is a full professor in Physical Science and Science Education. Joe teaches all of the science methods courses for elementary and secondary science majors at Glennville. Under his direction, clinical experiences have been arranged for his methods students with schools in Gilmer County, WV and Garrett County, MD. He has also conducted numerous in-service workshops for public school science and math teachers: he received his first workshop grant in 1985 and has been receiving funding up through the present. Evans has participated and continues to participate in several education initiatives. He has been part of every science curriculum reform effort in West Virginia since 1974. He was recently appointed to the leadership team for the adoption of the Next Generation of Science Standards, which were created by the National Research Council and the National Science Teachers Association to develop a framework for the scientific curricula taught in public schools around the country.

EVANS, Kevin

Glennville State College
kevin.evans@glennville.edu

Kevin L. Evans earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Chemistry from Glennville State College in 1987. He received his Doctoral degree in Organic Chemistry in 1993 from Louisiana State University. His college teaching career began in 1995 at Davidson College in North Carolina as a Visiting Assistant Professor of Chemistry. He was also a Visiting Assistant Professor of Chemistry at Grinnell College in Iowa and Assistant Professor of Chemistry at Ohio Northern University. He returned to his alma mater in 2001 as Associate Professor of Chemistry and was promoted to Professor of Chemistry in 2011. While at Glennville State College, he served as the NASA Program Facilitator from 2007-2010. In addition to his teaching responsibilities as an Associate Professor, he coordinated science workshops for middle and high school science teachers, high school students, and coordinated undergraduate STEM research. He remains very active in coordinating workshops for both teachers and students and in undergraduate STEM research. Kevin has been the recipient of numerous grants in three distinct areas. He has received four College Equipment grants from the Spectroscopy Society of Pittsburgh for research instrumentation. He has received two grants from Health Sciences & Technology Academy for coordinating Forensic Science Institute for high school teachers and high school students. He has also received the Improving Teaching Quality grant to conduct a workshop for middle school teachers on climate.

FETT, Will

Iowa Agriculture Literacy Foundation
wfett@iowaagliteracy.org

Will Fett is the Executive Director of the Iowa Agriculture Literacy Foundation. He previously worked for the National FFA Foundation in Indianapolis, Ind. and prior to that was an agricultural educator in Montana. He directs and facilitates the Ag in the Classroom program. In this position, he builds partnerships with Iowa agribusiness and individuals to fund the programs and is responsible for the marketing, public relations, and the strategic plan of the organization.

PRESENTER LISTING

FLEMING, Chris

Tennessee Foundation for AITC
cfleming@tfbf.com

Chris Fleming serves as an associate director of Tennessee Farm Bureau and state coordinator of Agriculture in the Classroom. Before joining TFBF, he served as a high school Agriculture Education teacher for 12 years. He has a bachelor's degree in Agriculture Education from the University of Tennessee and a Master's from Middle Tennessee State University. Chris lives on the family beef farm with his wife Teresa, and their three sons, Jed, Luke and Adam. Chris has presented AITC programs at state, regional and national conferences during his seventeen years of involvement.

FORBES, Cory

University of Nebraska-Lincoln
cforbes3@unl.edu

Cory Forbes is an Associate Professor of Science Education and Science Literacy Coordinator at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He directs multiple externally-funded projects that involve regional, national, and international partnerships with education researchers, STEM faculty, and teachers, and other stakeholders, including the National Center for Agricultural Literacy. He is actively involved in science teacher education and professional development and has pursued a research and development agenda that foregrounds teachers' capacities for pedagogical design in science learning environments. Forbes was recently awarded the 2014 Early Career Research Award by the National Association for Research in Science Teaching (NARST).

GANDY, Jon

OSU Extension Service - Jefferson County
Jon.Gandy@oregonstate.edu

Jon Gandy has been with Extension Service since 2010 working as the Jefferson County 4-H Coordinator. He is currently working towards his General Agriculture degree with an emphasis in Animal Science. Through a partnership with the Jefferson County School District he provides activities that brings awareness to science and agriculture.

GASKALLA, Lisa

Florida Agriculture in the Classroom, Inc.
gaskalla@ufl.edu

Lisa Gaskalla is executive director of Florida Agriculture in the Classroom, Inc, a post she has held for eleven years. Before that, she worked as executive director of Polk County Farm Bureau and citrus grower organization Florida Citrus Mutual. She has a bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Florida and worked as a newspaper reporter for 13 years before going to work from the agriculture industry in Florida.

GERMAN, Brittany

Crellin Elementary School
brittany.german@garrettcountyschools.org

Mrs. Brittany German has been a teacher for the past 10 years. Currently she is a fifth grade teacher at Crellin Elementary School, as such she has been a vital part of the growth and implementation of the BARN (Building Agricultural Responsibility in our Neighborhood) program. She was instrumental in the development of daily care routines, assisting in data collection and interpretation, and providing students with a hands on experience. Mrs. German worked with other classroom teachers and staff to provide agricultural learning experiences in and out of the classroom. As a classroom teacher, she has continued to provide her students with knowledge about agriculture and encouraged them to continue to wonder.

GLENN, Sarah

Huntsville Intermediate School
sglenn@1hsd.org

Sarah Glenn- currently a 4th Grade Teacher at Huntsville Intermediate School. She has a B.A. in Psychology from Arkansas Tech University 1994-worked in the mental health field for 10 years before getting my nontraditional teacher certification for Preschool through 8th grade all subjects. ESL Certification, MET-Polly M. Jackson Master Economics Teacher, 2009-present-presenter at Economics Arkansas workshops, GATE member, (sponsored by the Council of Economics) Northwest Arkansas Economics Advisory Board 2009- Present , 2008 Bessie B. Moore Excellence in Teaching Economics Award Winner Newcomer Division, 2009 Bessie B. Moore Excellence in Teaching Economics Award Winner Veteran Category, 2009 Madison County Farm Bureau Teacher of the Year, 2010 Arkansas Ag in the Classroom Outstanding Teacher of the Year, 2011 Excellence in Teaching About Agriculture National Award Winner. White-Reinhardt Scholarship winner 2013. Arkansas Game and Fish Grant recipient, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014 State Farm Bureau Mini-Garden Grant recipient totaling \$4500.00, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014. Presenter NAITC-Hershey PA; Economics Arkansas Grant \$750 each year, 2009 Arkansas Reading Association Presentation "A Balanced Literacy Program" and Integrate Literacy with Economics 2010, December 2008 Presentation to Economics Arkansas Board Members in Little Rock, 2009 Presentation to Governor Bessie B. Moore Economics Project

GOODMAN, Michael

Retired Teacher from West Hardin Middle School
fourgood@windstream.net

I have a B.A. in Business Education, and a M.A. in K-8 Education from Western KY University. I retired from teaching after 30 years, and the last 18 I spent teaching 7th grade Science. As a certified K-8 teacher, I have taught elementary and middle school students. I live on a farm that my family has maintained for 4 generations, and I currently tend to a small herd of beef cattle. I enjoy mountain biking, kayaking, hiking and spending time with family and friends.

GRAY, Jennifer

Liberty Elementary School
Jgray@liberty.k12.az.us

Ms. Jennifer Gray serves Liberty Elementary School as the site Principal.

HALL, Cindy

Iowa Agriculture Literacy Foundation
chall@iowaagliteracy.org

Cindy Hall is the Education Program Manager for the Iowa Agriculture Literacy Foundation. Most recently, Cindy served as the Ag in the Classroom Program Director for Polk County Farm Bureau for 8 years. She created strong AITC programs in the Des Moines Metro area like the Learning Test Plot project and FarmSkype program. Cindy grew up on a family farm in SE Iowa. She earned a BS in horticulture from Iowa State University and a MS in Non-profit Leadership in Horticulture from the University of Delaware. She tailored both programs to her interest in education. She started her career working with education and volunteer programs at botanical gardens.



Photo courtesy of Louisville Convention and Visitor's Bureau

HARKINS, Sherri

Okaloosa Farm Bureau member and 5th grade teacher
harkinss@mail.okaloosa.k12.fl.us

A graduate of Auburn University, I am a veteran teacher in the Florida panhandle and have taught for 31 years. I was blessed to have grown up on a farm in northwest Florida. Each summer was filled with days spent picking enough vegetables from our garden to feed all of the county, or so it seemed at the time! I will be forever thankful for those days on the farm. I am grateful that I have had the opportunity to instruct students from first to fifth grade, but I have found my true passion to be science. After attending the State Ag in the Classroom Convention in 2010, I set my goals to build a GreenSpace that would become an integral part of our elementary campus. We had a newly built greenhouse and some space to grow and the conference sparked a passion to reach my students through agriculture. My school is a full Title 1 school with over 74% of our students considered economically disadvantaged. The GreenSpace has provided these students with an opportunity to experience the joy of watching a seed sprout and grow to maturity, the thrill of picking produce that you helped grow. Students love to eat what we produce and during the summer months, to share their efforts with the community through our local Farmer's Market where the members of the Urban Ag club share pictures and produce with interested community members.

Kentucky
Soybean Board
welcomes
National Ag in the Classroom attendees.

Kentucky's number one agricultural product is poultry, and all of those broilers and layers enjoy high-protein soybean meal as an important part of their diet.

In 2014, soybeans were our state's number one grain crop!

For more information on soybeans in Kentucky, visit www.kysoy.org.

PRESENTER LISTING

HEBERT, Jo Ann

Valverda Elementary, AG in the Classroom
Joann.Hebert@pcpsb.net

I am a fourth grade teacher that tries to incorporate agriculture in the classroom. One way that was a huge success was the gumbo project. We shared wonderful stories from grandparents. What type of gumbo did they cook, what types of meat was in their gumbo, when did they cook gumbo, how was the gumbo cooked, did they use file, did they use flour? All of these questions stemmed from a simple recipe that the students brought from home. From the recipe, we conducted research on their particular ingredient and made class presentations. My students also received first hand experience when they crushed their own leaves for file and flour. Letters were written to local farmers for ELA. We studied maps to see where our crop was grown.

HOLCOMB, Suzanne

Elkhart County Farm Bureau
winelover80@gmail.com

Suzanne grew up raising sheep and dairy feeders as well as being a ten year 4 H member. She continues to help on the family farm as time allows. She has been a classroom teacher for the last twelve years in inner city schools in Northern Indiana. Suzanne has implemented the Design A Farm project in her room for the last four years with increasing success. She has used the AITC program for the last six years in her classroom as well. Suzanne has also worked with other teachers in the community to implement AITC in their classroom. In addition, Suzanne has been the organizational leader of a 4-H club through her school for four years.

HORTON, Darleen

Environmental Education Consultant
johnanddarleenhorton@outlook.com

Darleen Horton is an experienced educator who fosters real-world connections through teaching, guiding, inspiring and challenging students. Teaching experiences range from kindergarten to adult learners and encompass subjects across the curriculum in addition to: Designing and building world class, standards based Outdoor Classrooms with an emphasis on gardening; Creating standards based lessons in environmental literacy and environmental education to be embedded into current curriculum for all grade levels; Building partnerships with local business and industry and creating an advisory council from that group; Working with environmental and educational leaders in the district, community, state, and nation to develop curriculum; Creating and presenting professional development for local, state, and national educators with emphasis on STEM and agriculture connections in the classroom as well as science; Mentoring of pre-service teachers; working with school administrative teams; grant writing; and teacher development. Bachelors of Science Degree, Western Kentucky University Graduate: Education and Environmental Education, University of Louisville Professional affiliations include National Science Teachers Association; National Association of Environmental Educators; Kentucky Association of Environmental Educators; Kentucky Science Teachers Association; Society of Presidential Awardees in Science Teaching; National and Kentucky Education Association Awards include the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching; National Amgen Award for Science Teaching Excellence; Ashland Inc. Teacher Achievement Award; Aegon Teacher Award; Outstanding Individual for Excellence in Environmental Education Award, and more. Her focus is to provide outlearning experiences that connect real life emphasis to the curriculum, thus enhancing the love and understanding of nature and the world.

Photo courtesy of farmflavor.net and Kentucky Agriculture



HOSIMER, Pam

*University of Maryland Extension
Master Gardener
gatorbear2@verizon.net*

Pam Hosimer is an Agricultural Education Resource Librarian with a passion for connecting people to information. Pam is an active speaker for the University of Maryland Extension Master Gardeners and a member of the Grow It Eat It! state team supporting sustainable food gardening in the state of Maryland since its inception in 2008. Pam's engaging program, merging traditional print materials with state of the art online tools and innovative technology to give teachers a look at 21st century resources they can use for teaching agricultural and environmental curriculums, has taken her around the country. Her commitment to creating a toolbox of resources accessible to all teachers has led to being selected to lead workshops at conferences such as the 2011 International Master Gardener Conference in Charleston, WV, the 2014 Maryland Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education Conference in Ocean City, Maryland and the 2014 American Horticultural Society's National Children & Youth Garden Symposium in Columbus, OH. Pam has a Master of Library and Information Science degree from University of Maryland College Park.

HOWARD, Wendy

*University of Tennessee ECO Garden
whoward5@utk.edu*

A graduate of Mary Washington College and the University of New Orleans with a bachelor in science and masters of education in secondary science. Currently teaching gardening in the classroom with the Human Dimensions Research lab at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. I have 4 children, enjoy photography, reading, and gardening!

KING, Karen

*Indiana (Clark County) Farm Bureau
ksdlking@sbcglobal.net*

I am a retired elementary teacher and principal, wife, mother of two, grandmother of six, and a very active volunteer. I have been involved with Ag in the Classroom for a couple of years, but decided to really get the message out to the local schools this year and get into the classes with a variety of subjects, changing every two months. My goal was to present at least 30 times during the 2014-2015 school year. I sent information letters with a schedule of topics for the different months to each school in the county. The information was received so well that I have 50+ programs scheduled now through May. I have stopped scheduling until after the first of the year. I am so excited that the program is so well received. Teachers are so stressed with the demands of the testing programs that they do not have the time or the funds to present the extra projects. I was a hands-on teacher that allowed students to experience cooking, experiments, and variety of learning opportunities in their school days. I have volunteered with Ronald McDonald House in Louisville, Saint Catherine Regional Hospital Auxiliary, Communities in Schools 3,2,1 Read Program, and Clark County Ag Day where we invite all third grade students from Clark County (about 1200-1400 students).

KNOPF, David

*USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service
david.knopf@nass.usda.gov*

David Knopf was born on a diversified farm in Michigan. His love of agriculture and statistics has led to a career of sharing data with others. Currently Mr. Knopf is the Regional Director of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, Eastern Mountain Regional Field Office. He resides in Louisville, KY, with his wife Beth and six children.

KNOTT, Sue

*Minnesota Agriculture in the Classroom
sue.knott@state.mn.us*

Sue Knott's agriculture roots were established on her family's farm in southwestern Minnesota. Experiences in 4-H, FFA and helping raise crops and livestock, inspired her to earn a degree in agricultural education from the University of Minnesota. She taught high school agriculture classes for nine years before joining the Minnesota Agriculture in the Classroom team as Education Specialist. She has served in this role for three years and has enjoyed opportunities to provide professional development that builds educators comfort and confidence in utilizing agricultural content to enhance their curricula.

PRESENTER LISTING

KYLE, Joan

Nutrients for Life Foundation

jmcguire@nutrientsforlife.org

Joan Kyle is the Nutrients for Life Foundation's Florida Regional Representative. Based in Clermont, she provides educational, grassroots, and public awareness in the state about soil science and the importance of crop nutrients.

LEDONNE, Jacinta

American Egg Board

jledonne@aeb.org

As Director of State Programs, Jacinta LeDonne works closely with premier education organizations, including Discovery Education and the Education Center, to collaborate on materials for teachers and students. This includes working on an annual Virtual Farm Field trip and lesson plans.

LEE, Carole

University of Maine at Farmington

carole.lee@maine.edu

Carole Lee is the Assistant Professor in University of Maine at Farmington. She teaches science methods to pre-service elementary teachers. Her interest is in teacher professional development of science and inquiry-based science learning and teaching.

LOCKE, Missy

TN Foundation for Ag-in-the-Classroom

m_locke@bellsouth.net

I teach 4th grade science and am in my 11th year of teaching. I have had a school garden/classroom for 3 years. I was a White-Reinhardt winner in 2013 and a USDA National Excellence in Teaching about Agriculture in 2014. I am also an Educational Consultant for TN Foundation of Ag-in-the-Classroom.

LOWERY, Kelly Over

Penn State Pesticide Education

kdo5011@psu.edu

Kelly Over Lowery is an Education Program Associate with the Penn State Pesticide Education Program, which is part of Penn State Cooperative Extension. With a Master's Degree in Education, Kelly enjoys delivering quality programs to all audiences. Her responsibilities include providing educator, consumer, and youth outreach; conducting presentations for elementary students; and assisting in the development of educator curriculum resources. Her past experiences with FFA and dairy promotion have exposed her to the importance of sharing informative messages through engaging activities to support agricultural literacy.

LUCK, Joe

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

jluck2@unl.edu

Joe Luck is an Assistant Professor and Precision Agriculture Engineer in the Department of Biological Systems Engineering at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. His primary efforts are directed towards creating extension programs to educate stakeholders across Nebraska on technology adoption and on-farm data management usage to improve production efficiency. He has developed an applied research program focused on improving agricultural product application systems and sensor technologies. Luck also provides instruction in two courses, site-specific crop management and sensors and controls systems for agri-industries for agricultural engineering, agronomy, and mechanized systems management undergraduate students.

MAXEY, Tammy

Virginia Agriculture in the Classroom

tammy.maxey@vafb.com

Tammy Maxey serves as state contact and senior education program coordinator for Virginia Agriculture in the Classroom. Prior to her tenure with AITC she served as a teacher and administrator in a rural school division for 18 years. Tammy lives on a small beef cattle operation. She received a post masters from Virginia Commonwealth University in educational leadership, a masters from Virginia Tech in vocational technical education, and her undergraduate from Virginia Commonwealth University.

MCCAULEY, Dana
Crellin Elementary School
dana.mccauley@garrettcountyschools.org

Dana McCauley has been a teaching principal at Crellin Elementary, located in Western Maryland, for 13 years. She earned her undergraduate degree and masters degree at Frostburg State University and her EdD in Curriculum and Instruction at West Virginia University. Prior to her current position she served as a classroom teacher and Coordinator of Staff Development and School Improvement for the Garrett County Public School system for ten years. Currently, as a teaching principal, she is responsible for direct instruction and has taught various content areas at each grade level, kindergarten through fifth grade. These experiences guide her administrative decisions and influence the role she plays as the instructional leader. Under her leadership Crellin Elementary has created a unique learning environment that encompasses an on-site Environmental Education Laboratory and agricultural program. The agriculture program initiated through a State Farm Youth Advisory Board Grant, is designed to teach agricultural practices and responsibilities and sustainability. The schoolyard houses Sunshine Farm, which includes two barns occupied by farm animals and a greenhouse.

MCCULLOUGH, Angela
West Chester Area School District
Amccullough@wcasd.net

I am a 2nd grade teacher, who was selected as the Pennsylvania Outstanding Ag in the Classroom Teacher in 2011 and as a 2014 PA Keystones Technology Innovator. I am also a former student and graduate Pennsylvania Ag in the Classroom and attendee of two National Ag Conventions in 2013 and 2014. My teaching career has spanned 29 years and many elementary ages. I have also written lessons for the Pennsylvania Preferred and Pennsylvania Apple Marketing Board.



BARRELS WITH FIRE by Louisville Convention & Visitors Bureau

MELANDER, Jennifer
University of Nebraska-Lincoln
jmelander7@unl.edu

Jenny Melander is an Assistant Professor of Biological Systems Engineering and Science Literacy Specialist in the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. She is also the coordinator for the National Center for Agricultural Literacy. She is active in promoting science and engineering education in both formal and informal settings through her research, extension, and outreach activities. Dr. Melander is actively engaged in several cross-disciplinary regional and national efforts related to STEM education and outreach. Most recently, she was part of a team that received NSF funding to engage youth in STEM through wearable technologies. She is also involved in organizing and promoting FIRST Lego League and FIRST Tech Challenge robotics competitions.

MEREDITH, Leslie
West Hardin Middle School
lesliepreston@yahoo.com

I have a B.S. in Plant and Soil Science from the University of Kentucky, and M.A.T. in middle grades from Bellarmine University. I have been a science and social studies teacher for 13 years. I have been named the Hardin County Environmental Educator, received the Kentucky Farm Bureau's Excellence in Ag Literacy Award, the Kentucky Environmental Quality Commission Earth Day award, and the Kentucky Association for Environmental Education Outstanding Individual Award. I enjoy traveling, photography, and spending time with my family.

MEREDITH, Steve
Governor's Office of Agriculture Policy
The Governor's Garden Initiative
steve.meredith@ky.gov

Steve Meredith is a former National FFA President with a lifelong passion for agriculture. He and his son, Alex, operate a farm and horticulture business in Central Kentucky. Steve has taught high school horticulture, served as a Farm-to-School Coordinator in Louisville, Kentucky, and works for the Governor's Garden Initiative for the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

PRESENTER LISTING

MERRION, Diane

Cook County Farm Bureau-Ag in the Classroom
aitc@cookcfb.org

Diane Merrion is the Ag in the Classroom Coordinator for the Cook County Farm Bureau near Chicago, IL. Her AITC program reaches out to a large urban community and includes visiting over 20,000 students each year in school classrooms and community programming. Noting the absence of a camp for youth interested in summer learning, specifically in agriculture, the idea behind this program evolved and filled to capacity immediately. The Passport to the Farm Camp received the AFBF County Activities of Excellence Award in 2013 and was also supported with a White Reinhardt mini grant. Ms. Merrion continues to develop new ways to connect urban students with agriculture such as Ag Days for 3rd graders, Job Shadowing and Ag Leadership Academy for High School students and community programs such as summer library visits and teacher professional development. Ms. Merrion was a recipient of the 2014 Perry Schneider Special Award for contributions in improving and expanding Illinois Agriculture Education.

MUSICK, Cathy

Kansas Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom
Ksfac@ksu.edu

Cathy Musick - Eight years as Executive Director of Kansas Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom. Fourteen years as Educator for K-State Research and Extension in the areas of youth education, agriculture and community development. Masters degree from Kansas State University in Adult Education with a focus on Cooperative Extension work. Undergraduate degree in Agriculture with a focus on Animal Science.

MUSICK, Donna

Science Teacher at Damascus Middle School
donnam@wcs.k12.va.us

I live on a beef cattle farm in Southwest Virginia with my husband. I received my undergraduate degrees from VT in Agriculture Technology and Education K-6 from Virginia Intermont. I also received a masters from Tusculum College in elementary education and a masters in math with math specialist endorsement from UVA Charlottesville. I teach in a rural middle school in Southwest Virginia. I currently teach sixth grade science. Prior to that I taught math in the third and fourth grades. I have taught for a total of 19 years. I am an avid supporter of Agriculture in the Classroom and I incorporate agriculture in my lessons as often as possible. I sponsor AGsploring Virginia, which is one of the clubs that students may participate monthly. I am also in charge of Opportunity Ag, which is a program that will involve students and community members in regards to agricultural activities. This program is in the beginning stages, but looks very promising. I am also a member of the Farm Bureau Women's Committee of Washington County and the FFA Alumni.

MYERS, Suzi

Kane County Farm Bureau
aitc@kanecfb.com

Suzi Myers taught students in grades three and four, as well as gifted student programs for 20 years. She was a member of the Science Curriculum Council and writer of district testing materials. She holds a Masters Degree in Educational Psychology. Following her retirement in 2004, she became the Ag Literacy Coordinator for Kane County Farm Bureau. She serves on the Illinois mAGic (Multidisciplinary Agricultural Integrated Curriculum) Kit team as a writer. She teaches outdoor education in the area, is a Certified Naturalist, Saint Charles Tree Commissioner, and member of EEAI (Environmental Educator Association of Illinois).

The advertisement is for the Farm Time Network's 'In the Classroom' program. It features a green background with a yellow border. At the top, the 'FARM TIME NETWORK' logo is displayed above the title 'In the Classroom' in a stylized font. Below the title, the text reads 'HAVE FUN LEARNING' in large, bold letters, followed by 'All about farming with our cool informative 4-page readers. For students in grades 1-4; with a new issue every month!'. A section titled 'STUDENTS WILL ENJOY...' lists 'FUN FARM FACTS', 'COOL GAMES', 'CREATIVITY PAGE', and 'QUIZZES'. Below this, there are images of a 'Carrots' issue and a 'FUN FARM FACTS' issue. The 'FUN FARM FACTS' issue is highlighted with a starburst that says '2015 SUBSCRIPTION AVAILABLE NOW'. At the bottom, it says 'Go online to order yours today!' and provides the website 'www.farmtimeclassroom.com'.

NICELY, Tanna

Knox County Schools and TN Foundation for AG in the Classroom

tbnicely@yahoo.com

Tanna grew up on a beef cattle and tobacco farm east of Knoxville. She is a graduate of the University of TN and Johnson University. She is currently working on her doctorate in leadership from East TN State University and teaches science methods at South College. She is an elementary principal for one of the largest urban school in the Knoxville area and has been in education for 22+ years. Tanna also works as an educational consultant for the TN Foundation for Ag in the Classroom. She has served on the TN Science Teachers Association board and has presented at a variety of workshops including the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, National Staff Development Conference as well as the National Agriculture in the Classroom Conference. Her passions for farming and agriculture garnered her a White/Reinhardt scholarship as well as a Presidential Award in Science. It brings Tanna great pleasure to see all of the school gardens growing in our region. She lives on Sycamore Farms with her husband, Brad, and two wonderful kids, Courtney and Drew.

PASTOR, Monica

University of AZ Cooperative Extension

mpastor@email.arizona.edu

Monica Pastor is an Associate Programmatic Area Agent - Agricultural Literacy and School Garden Food Safety for the University of Arizona College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Cooperative Extension. Monica is responsible for an extension educational program which improves the agricultural literacy of youth and assists schools that have gardens to ensure they provide safe food for the students. Monica delivers these programs through collaboration with educators, school districts, the Arizona Department of Education, and the AZ Department of Health Services. Monica is also Director of Project Central, Arizona's center for rural leadership. This is a public/private partnership between the University and a non-profit organization with the goal to "Equip and Empower Leaders to Meet the Needs of Rural Arizona." Monica has been with the University since 1997. Prior to joining Cooperative Extension, she worked for 18 years in various responsibilities with Farm Bureau which is a non-profit organization for farmers and ranchers. Monica has a Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction from Arizona State University and a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Economics from the University of Arizona.

PERRIN, Karrie

Stephens County Farm Bureau/ Toccoa Elementary School

karrie.perrin@stephenscountyschools.org

Karrie Perrin is a 5th grade teacher from Toccoa, Georgia. She has been teaching for seventeen years and actively involved in promoting AG in the Classroom since 2010. She's been married for 14 years and is the proud mother of two boys, Jared, 13, and Aiden, 5. Karrie was the recipient of Georgia's Excellence in Teaching Agriculture and a 2014 White-Reinhardt Scholarship recipient. She has presented three times at the National AG in the Classroom Conferences (Colorado, Minnesota, and Pennsylvania). She has also been recognized as a Georgia Master teacher and was 2008 Stephens County Teacher of the Year.

PETRANICK, Darlene

NC Farm Bureau AITC

darlene.petranick@ncagintheclassroom.com

I was born and raised on a farm in the mountains of NC where my daddy raised beef cattle and Christmas trees. I am a K-5 Science Laboratory Teacher and Science Facilitator in Charlotte-Mecklenburg School System. I received my BA in Elementary Education and Masters in School Administration from UNC Charlotte. I have 20 combined years of experience as a teacher as well as an Assistant Principal. I am a Curriculum Specialist for NC Farm Bureau's Agriculture in the Classroom Program and present pre-service and practicing teacher workshops across the state. I am a finalist for the Cato Excellence in Teaching Award, and attended the Mickelson ExxonMobil Teacher academy.

PLAUGHER, Georgette

WVU Extension Service

George.plaughter@mail.wvu.edu

Georgette Plaughter has been an Agriculture and natural resources Extension Agent for the past 11 years. She works primarily with natural gas exploration, adult and youth agricultural education, and forestry education.

PRESENTER LISTING

PRUE, Ashley

*Brown County Dairy Promotions/Substitute
Teacher Green Bay School District
apdairyeducator@gmail.com*

I am a substitute teacher in Green Bay and Mishicot School District in Wisconsin. When I am not teaching, I work with the Brown County Dairy Promotions giving presentations about Wisconsin agriculture, dairy, and cheese. Attending Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom conferences, bus tours, and other trainings helped me gain more resources to share with other educators while educating the people in Green Bay about agricultural businesses in our area. It is important for students and community members to know where their food comes from. A lot of people do not understand where their food comes from or how it got to the store. As a dairy ambassador I love sharing the farmers story and helping with farm tours. I love being a dairy ambassador because I can share fun agriculture facts about Green Bay and Wisconsin. As a Green Bay East High School FFA Alumni member I attended FFA conferences and one National FFA Alumni Development Conference. I shared Wisconsin history and agriculture facts with other FFA members from around the United States. In 2014 I attended my first National Ag in the Classroom Conference as a White-Reinhardt Volunteer winner, which inspired me to be a presenter for the 2015 Conference. During my free time I love playing with my black lab/pit-bull dog, Jake and spending time with my family. I love sharing my ideas with others and my goal is to share at least one agricultural fact from Wisconsin with others.

REBICH, Craig

*American Farm Bureau Foundation
for Agriculture
educationdirector@fb.org*

Sometimes Craig's two children can't help but roll their eyes. An educator to the core, Craig does not pass up opportunities to turn something into a learning experience. He's quick to answer their questions with questions. It's more than a delay tactic; it's part of a rooted belief that inquiry is central to learning. Craig carried that belief with him during his four years as a CTE teacher and two years as a curriculum specialist at the Indiana Department of Education. He then joined a full-service consulting firm in Indianapolis as the leader of an instructional design team and manager of major education outreach projects for clients. Craig joined Vivayic, a leader in the field of learning services and knowledge transfer in 2010, and has provided educational resource support for the American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture since 2011. As senior learning strategist, Craig spends a lot of time asking clients and internal project teams discovery questions. He asks these questions with the goal of designing the best strategies and solutions to make an effective impact for the organizations we serve. He believes that the best answers are out there, waiting to be discovered. Craig and his wife, Tiffany, daughter Hannah and son Evan live in Lawrenceburg, Indiana. Craig is on board for any activity that can "do good things for people." He can be counted on to show up and lend a hand.



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GET EGGUCATED

REEDY, Michele

North Carolina Farm Bureau Ag in the Classroom
michele.reedy@ncfb.org

Michele Reedy grew up on a 4th generation farm in southeast Virginia. There her family grew peanuts, cotton, soybeans, corn, and watermelons while also raising beef cattle and market hogs. Currently those farms are in full operation with her guidance. She received her BS degree in Animal Science from Ferrum College. Upon graduation she worked for Murphy Brown and later began a career in management with Southern States. In 1994 she began her teaching career and since then has taught grades three through twelve as well as college students in pursuit of a degree in Elementary Education. While teaching she earned a MA degree in Adult Education with a concentration in Curriculum and Instruction from Central Michigan University. She has also completed the coursework for her Doctorate in Higher Education Leadership and is ABD status. She works as the director for NCFB AITC and serves on several state agriculture committees such as the NC Forestry Association and the Industry Innovation Council for North Carolina New Schools. Michele currently resides in Raleigh, NC. She has three children two of which are in college and one who is in high school. She finds her position with NCFB AITC rewarding and fulfilling as all of her work experiences and education fits into one role. Educating K-12 students, teachers, and university pre-service teachers on the importance of NC agriculture is vital to the growth of the state and meeting the needs of an expanding world population.

REIMENSNYDER-WAGNER, Kj

Kj Smile
kjsmile@ptd.net

Kj is a part of the award winning Learning Early Network that has developed methods for using a full scheme of arts to stimulate cognitive development in young learners. She is a singer/songwriter/performer/motivational speaker travels around the nation sharing positive-energy performances. She also has been chosen as the Keynote Speaker for many conferences featuring healthy attitudes and career inspirations. She is also the composer for a series of Ag related songs used in classrooms around the country.

RICE, Laurie

Oregon State University Extension - Lake County
laurie.rice@oregonstate.edu

Laurie Rice has been with Extension Service since 2002 working as a 4-H Program Assistant. She is currently working toward a Masters of Education and an Oregon Teaching Credential. Her primary responsibility is school enrichment where she partners with classroom teachers to teach science and math through agriculture.

RICHARDS, Kerry

Penn State Pesticide Education
kmh14@psu.edu

Dr. Kerry Richards is the Director of the Penn State Pesticide Education Program and has been with the program for over twenty years. Her diverse responsibilities include coordinating the development of certification exam study materials, providing pesticide safety training for certification, and presenting update training seminars for pesticide applicators. Kerry also develops pest management and pesticide safety curriculum for high school science and agriculture programs. She provides pesticide safety in-service training for technical service employees, faculty, extension educators, and high school agricultural and general science teachers. Along that same line, consumer and youth outreach education is another focus of her efforts.

ROBERGE, Arlette

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Arlette.Roberge@FreshFromFlorida.com

Arlette Roberge has been employed in the fields of advertising, visual communications and public relations for over 25 years, working for various advertising agencies and publishing companies. While serving as Public Information Director for the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, she was responsible for the development of environmental, consumer, food safety and agriculture commodity campaigns in print media. Currently working in the area of agriculture education, she develops and expands agriculture education programs to assist the goals of related agriculture education organizations.

ROBERTS, Mia

American Egg Board
mroberts@aeb.org

Mia Roberts is the Vice President of Strategic Operations. In her role at AEB, Mia oversees industry relations, as well as maintaining key relationships with strategic partners.

RUFF, Debbie

NRCS-CD Pontiac, IL
debra.ruff@il.nacdnet.net

Debbie Ruff has served as the Education Coordinator for Livingston County's Farm Bureau and Soil and Water Conservation District for the past 20 years. Debbie is also serves on the Illinois mAGic (Multi-disciplinary Agricultural Integrated Curriculum) Kit team as a writer. Debbie does volunteer walk and talks at a local nature center and is an Illinois Master Naturalist.

PRESENTER LISTING

SCHILLING, Michelle

Liberty Elementary School - The Center for Agriscience Education
mschilling@liberty.k12.az.us

Liberty Elementary School has the oldest working school house in the Wild West! The district coined the school in 2013 as "The Center for Agriscience Education". We will ignite the campfire and share the tale of our dusty ride in developing a ten thousand square foot garden, roping in community support and giving teachers the courage to saddle up by sharing our original garden engineering lessons. I have an unbridled passion for agricultural education. I am a former FFA member, served the association as a past Arizona State FFA Officer, earned my Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Education, taught high school agricultural education, served as an FFA advisor and was named Outstanding Teacher of The Year for my school and county. Then I jumped off my pony and took a science position within a general K-8 school district, earned my Master's Degree in Educational Leadership and quickly became heartbroken. I lived in agricultural based community in which students in kindergarten believed their food and fiber came from Wal-Mart. My heart is repaired; I am back riding my pony and serving my community as the Agriscience Integration Coach for Liberty Elementary School - The Center for Agriscience Education.

SCHULTZ, Susan

National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD)
susan-schultz@nacdnet.org

Susan has been involved in the environmental & conservation family across Indiana, the U.S. and abroad. Susan is a former Indiana district employee as well as one of the original founders of IDEA (Indiana District Employee Association). Susan spent 4 years in banking, 7 years at the Hancock County Soil and Water Conservation District office, 10 years with Greenfield-Central Community Schools, 11 months with Indiana Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (Project WET 319 grant) and 5 years with Purdue University (State Coordinator Project WET); 2 1/2 years with Shelby County Soil and Water Conservation District and Solid Waste Management District (recycling). Susan has been working since March 2006 with the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD). Susan works with the Stewardship & Education program, poster and photo contest, NACD Marketplace and other conservation projects. Susan has coordinated four Indiana Youth Environmental Summits and served on various local and state, national boards. Many of the projects under Susan's direction have received local, state and national awards. Susan assisted in bringing an international water education program to Japan. She has conducted over 5 trainings for Japan since 2002. Susan received the IPL Golden Eagle Environmental Professional of the Year award in 2002 for her long-term work in the field, Project Learning Tree national outstanding educator finalist and Project Learning Tree Gold Star Award. Susan is also involved in local and state-wide projects, including the Pathway to Water Quality at the Indiana State Fair for over 16 years.

SEAGRAVES, Andrea

Stratford Academy kindergarten teacher, Farm Bureau Member
andreaionesseagraves@gmail.com

Eighteen year teaching veteran of Pre-kindergarten and kindergarten classrooms. Undergrad degree from The University of Georgia and a Masters degree from Piedmont College. 2012 Georgia state winner of Excellence in Teaching About Agriculture Award. 2013 National winner of Excellence in Teaching About Agriculture Award. Recipient of Flint Energies Bright Ideas Grant 2012 and 2013 for programs related to agriculture. Recipient of Joe B Crane Memorial Grant through the Georgia Agribusiness Council, 2011. Classroom featured on Georgia Department of Agriculture website with Georgia Commissioner of Agriculture Gary W. Black. Mother of three children. George, age 13, and twin girls, Mary Frank and Molly Edward, age 8. Member of Musella Baptist Church where I teach Sunday School and direct our Vacation Bible School program.



The American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture has standards based educational resources for PreK-12. Find out more at agfoundation.org.

SELCHOW, Tiffany

Arizona Beef Council

tinselchow@arizonabeef.org

Tiffany Selchow is the Director of Consumer Education and Producer Communications with the Arizona Beef Council focusing on high school students resulting in numerous hours spent in culinary and agriculture classrooms. Her other favorite projects include a biannual Gate to Plate tour for registered dietitians, chefs, teachers, and food service professionals. She is a graduate of the University of Arizona where she studied Animal Science and, as alumni, was recently awarded the 2014 Ag Woman of the Year from the Sigma Alpha Professional Agricultural Sorority. She often returns to the UA to lecture in Animal Science courses about beef and its contribution to the health of those who consume it. She is a Wildcat for life and only enjoys sports if the University of Arizona is playing.

SPIELMAKER, Debra

USDA-NIFA Agriculture in the Classroom Project Director; Utah State University

debra.spielmaker@usu.edu

Debra Spielmaker is an Associate Professor at Utah State University and recently earned her Ph. D. in Education, Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis on Instructional Technology Learning Sciences. She is the Career and Technical Education Graduate and Extension Educator in the School of Applied Sciences, Education, and Technology. In addition to her role at Utah State University, Debra serves as the Project Director for the United States Department of Agriculture-National Agriculture in the Classroom program. Debra taught agricultural science for seven years in Utah and Montana, and has directed the Utah Agriculture in the Classroom program for nearly 18 years. She conducts teacher trainings, and has developed numerous K-12 classroom resources for science, social studies, nutrition, and Career and Technical Education.

SPONHOLTZ, Becky

Florida Agriculture in the Classroom, Inc.

sponholtz@ufl.edu

Becky Sponholtz is the Education Program Manager of Florida Agriculture in the Classroom, Inc., a post she has held for the past 2 years. Before that, she was a middle and high school agri-science instructor and FFA advisor for 9 years. She has a bachelor's degree in Animal Science and her Master of Agriculture from Auburn University.

SQUIRES, Suzanne

Los Olivos Elementary School/ CFAITC

ssquires.losolivos@gmail.com

Suzanne Squires is a 7/8 grade teacher at Los Olivos Elementary School in Los Olivos, California. She currently teaches science, agriculture, art, multimedia, and health and has been in the classroom for more than 19 years. Sue graduated from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo with an animal science degree and pursued a career as a zookeeper. Educational outreach was always a passion and she often took animals and Medflies into the classroom. Realizing that teaching was one of her strengths and passions, she pursued her teaching credential and was hired at Los Olivos Elementary School where she is able to weave agriculture into core science classes and electives. Sue incorporates hands-on experiences as much as she can so the students can see how important it is to understand the world around us. Teaching agriculture in the classroom provides many opportunities for that.

STEARNS, Louise

Southern Illinois University - Carbondale

booklady@siu.edu

Louise Stearns currently teaches reading and language studies and social studies methods at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, where she has been a teacher educator for over 26 years. She has worked with Illinois Ag in the Classroom for 15 years, incorporating AITC's resources into her elementary education methods courses and into many workshops for practicing teachers. Louise and her husband live near the Shawnee National Forest where they enjoy spending time with their grandchildren.

STEWARDSON, Denise

Utah Agriculture in the Classroom, Director

denise.stewardson@usu.edu

Denise Stewardson is an Extension Assistant Professor and Director of the Utah Agriculture in the Classroom program at Utah State University. Formerly a lecturer in the School of Applied Sciences, Technology and Education at USU, she taught in the agricultural communication program. Denise has a B.S. degree in technology education from Eastern Illinois University and a M.S. degree in Industrial Arts from the University of Maryland. Denise was born and raised in central Illinois "the Land of Lincoln" amongst the corn and soybean fields. Combining her formal education in technology education with an emphasis in communication, and her work experience with Agriculture in the Classroom, it seems only fitting that she is now paying homage to her roots as an advocate for agricultural literacy.

PRESENTER LISTING

TAYLOR, Lisa Ann
Huntsville School District & Springdale School District
ltaylor5@sdaile.org

Lisa Ann Taylor -Arkansas Tech University, Russellville, Arkansas; 1994- Dec. 1997; B.S. in Early Education, Endorsement: K-8 Social Studies Harding University, Searcy, Arkansas; 2009- Current; working on Masters in EDL. Employment: Huntsville Intermediate Schools, Arkansas 1998-2001-3rd Grade Teacher Springdale School District, Springdale, AR 2001- Current 3rd Grade teacher/ 4th Grade teacher Professional Memberships: NCSS, National Council for the Social Studies NSTA, National Science Teachers Association NCTM, National Council of Teachers of Mathematics GATE, (sponsored by the Council of Economics) IRA, International Reading Association, Arkansas Reading Association ASCD, Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development: ESL Strategies, I worked with a team of literacy specialist and grade level teachers to design a strategy guide for classroom teachers in our district. Summer 2009, Spring 2010, Northwest Arkansas Economics Advisory Board 2009-Present Awards, Presentations, and Grants: 2009 National Trainer of Writers, Washington, D.C. Sponsored by The Council of Economic Education 2007, 2008, 2009 Arkansas Game and Fish Grant: Outdoor Classroom \$5,000 2009 State Farm Mini-Garden Grant \$500 2009 Economics Arkansas Grant \$750 2009 Arkansas Reading Association Presentation "A Balanced Literacy Program" and Integrate Literacy with Economics 2010 AIAA Foundation Classroom Grant \$200 May 2010 Presentation to Economics Arkansas Board Members 2010 1st Place Stock Market Game Advisor 2010 Bessie B. Moore Awards for Excellence in Teaching Economics, Newcomers Division August 2010 Presentation to the Donors of Economics Arkansas following the Keynote Speaker Former President Clinton, June 2011 National Agriculture in the Classroom Conference, Florida July 2011 NSTA Exxon Mobile Mickelson Academy, New York

THOMAS, Peggy
Children's Book Writer and Speaker
pegtwrite@aol.com

Peggy Thomas has been researching and writing award-winning children's nonfiction for more than 20 years. With a background in anthropology her titles span a wide range of topics from science and history. Her most recent book, "Thomas Jefferson Grows a Nation" (Fall 2015), continues the story of early American agriculture that "Farmer George Plants a Nation" started. Co-author of "Anatomy of Nonfiction", the only writing guide that dissects the art, craft and business of telling true stories to children, Thomas celebrates all things nonfiction and is a frequent speaker at schools, libraries, and conferences. Her research has taken her deep into dusty archives, down the Peruvian Amazon, and most recently to Thailand to study elephants -- whatever it takes to connect young readers to the world around them. To learn more check out: Peggythomaswrites.com

VALLERA, Farah L.
Lehigh University
fav203@lehigh.edu

Farah L. Valleria is a doctoral candidate at Lehigh University in the Teaching, Learning, and Technology program, where she focuses on curricular and instructional design. Her dissertation study will test the effectiveness of a fully STEM-integrated, project-based agricultural literacy curriculum module administered to upper-elementary students. The intention is to find support for the development of more fully STEM-integrated, project-based agricultural curricula nationwide. Ms. Valleria is also an adjunct sociology professor, a project-based learning teacher coach, and has been teaching agricultural education to various grade levels, homeschool groups, Boy and Girl Scout troops, and other organizations at Flint Hill Farm Agricultural Education Center for the past five years. She has been farming since the age of five and has a pet goat named Red, who has inspired the design of many of her curricular learning activities.

VIGESAA, Jill
North Dakota Farm Bureau
jill.vigesaa@gmail.com

Jill Vigesaa works with the soil conservation in North Dakota and is the State Coordinator for a highly successful conservation education program.



WALLIN, Lynn

Utah Agriculture in the Classroom

lynn.wallin@usu.edu

Lynn Wallin is an Education Specialist for Utah Agriculture in the Classroom. She develops curriculum materials for K-6 educators and conducts professional development workshops throughout the state of Utah. Prior to her work with Utah AITC, Lynn taught grades 1, 2, 3, and 4 in Utah and Arizona. Lynn graduated from Brigham Young University with a bachelor's degree in elementary education and is currently pursuing a Master's of Education with a reading endorsement at Utah State University.

WENZEL, Rod

Project Food, Land & People, Inc. (FLP)

flpflp2010@gmail.com

Rod Wenzel is the general manager for organization and special projects for Project Food, Land & People, Inc. He presented workshops of a related nature at AITC conferences in Florida and Colorado. He has served as an editor, researcher, and creative consultant for the development of various lessons provided by FLP to classrooms across the United States. He served as the senior editor of FLP's

WESCOTT, Kristen

Maine Agriculture in the Classroom

kristenwescott@rsu57.org

I grew up on a Dairy Farm in Albion, Maine. My summers were filled with haying and showing my calves at the fair. After graduating from the University of Maine at Orono, I began my 26 year teaching career. In this time I have taught grades 3 thru 6, including 7 years as a 3,4,5 multiage classroom teacher. It was in these years I created a school garden, teaching agricultural ideas through science topics. Later, I became the Social Studies teacher for all 4th graders. In teaching about Maine Economics I learned to incorporate the teaching of Agriculture through literature. During our learning my students came up with the idea of an Economics Fair. At this Fair we create Maine goods (wreaths, wooden candle holders, etc), sell these during parent teacher conferences, and use the money to have a Maine Day, and donate to the heifer foundation. On this day we invite local blueberry, maple syrup, apple harvesters, etc. They tell the students about their industries. We have a Maine lunch with Salmon, baked potatoes, etc. To end our day we have a blueberry pie eating activity. My students great idea helped me earn the titles on Maine Agricultural teacher of the year, National Agricultural teacher of the year, White Reinhardt Award recipient, and York County Soil and Conservation teacher of the year. I have also been a presenter at Maine's Agricultural Summer institute and the National Agricultural Conventions in St. Louis Missouri, Loveland Colorado, and Hershey Pennsylvania.

WIGGINS, Lisa

Northwestern State University and Natchitoches Parish School Board

lwiggins@nat.k12.la.us

Mrs. Lisa Wiggins earned her Master's degree at Louisiana State University in school counseling and holds a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from Northwestern State University. She has been teaching in the elementary setting for 17 years and is currently working as a librarian at NSU Elementary Lab School. She has been nominated as teacher of the year for 2000 and 2012 and the Louisiana Ag teacher of the year for 2011. She continually strives to stay in tune with today's learners through engaging students in meaningful, hands on projects.

WILLIS, Carole

TN Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom

kchastine@tbf.com

Bob and I live in Hillsboro at the foot of Monteagle Mt. He and his son Don farm corn, soybeans and wheat. They also manage several dairy replacement herds and 200+ beef cattle. Together we have 4 children and 8 grandchildren from ages 12 to 25. I have spent all my life in schools - the past 47 years either teaching elementary students or as I'm currently doing - supervising student teachers in about 3 counties. My hobbies include reading, especially anything to do with history or historical fiction, drawing, painting and quilting. In my spare time, I'm a consultant for Ag in the Classroom, serve on the Coffee Co. Planning Commission, our Hillsboro Homecoming Association, WMU Director, and teach my Sunday School class.

WILSON, Craig**USDA/ARS & Texas A&M University****cwilson@science.tamu.edu**

Dr. Wilson works within the College of Science in the Center for Mathematics and Science Education at Texas A&M University. His research interests are in hands-on/inquiry-based science teaching and in successfully linking K-12 science teachers with research scientists. He coordinated a NASA funded program-the National Space Biomedical Research Institute-Teacher Academy Project (NSBRI TAP) looking at the impact of long duration space flight on the human body and this allowed him to work with teachers in all fifty states and to teach in many of these including Hawaii, Alaska and Puerto Rico. He currently directs the USDA/HSINP Future Scientists Program that is expanding nationwide to California and Arizona (2009-2010) and to Florida and Puerto Rico (2010-2011). The program has been adopted by schools in thirty other states and by two schools in England, bringing Life and Agricultural Science into classrooms grades K-12. The program was the recipient of the USDA Administrator's Outreach, Diversity, and Equal Opportunity Award for 2007-2008. It is recognized as an Exemplary Science Program (ESP) by NSTA. It is now administered as a nationwide program through the USDA/Hispanic Serving Institutions National Program (HSINP). Dr. Wilson, outside his office at the USDA/ARS in College Station has created a Monarch Waystation (butterfly garden), pond, and "pocket prairie" where students are able to spend a day working on related science activities. He has taught for over thirty-five years on three continents in situations ranging from the Kalahari Desert (Botswana, Africa) to experimenting with weightlessness on NASA's KC-135.

WITHERS, Alan**MN Ag in the Classroom - MN Dept. of Agriculture****alan.withers@state.mn.us**

Al Withers is the long-time program director and state contact in Minnesota, having initiated the program in 1985. The program provides various student-directed educational materials, teacher professional development and outreach to the K-16 education community. The program is based at the MN Department of Agriculture and partners with the MN Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation. Withers has a B.A. in Speech Communications and Marketing from the University of Minnesota.

WOLANYK, Betty

Betty is the former chair of Project Food Land & People's National Board of Directors, is a nationally recognized speaker on myths, misconceptions and perceptions about agriculture, and is the owner of Ag Literacy Works, Inc., of Barker, New York. She is the former education director for Ag In the Classroom and also held a similar position with the American Farm Bureau Federation. She has been an agriculture teacher in the state of New York and holds bachelor's and master's degree in agriculture from Cornell University.

ZUMWALT, Mary**Altamont Lutheran School****alisfourth@gmail.com**

Mary Zumwalt has been a 4th grade teacher at Altamont Lutheran School in Altamont, Illinois for 29 years. She has also taught at the first grade level for several years and in a multi-grade(1st to 4th) grade classroom. She was raised on a grain and cattle farm but her involvement with Ag in the Classroom began in 1995 by attending a Summer Ag Institute. Since then she has brought a hands on approach to teaching about agriculture to her students. Her awards have been Illinois Ag in the Classroom Teacher of the Year Runner Up in 2014 and Illinois Ag in the Classroom Teacher of the Year in 2015. She has twin daughters, Elizabeth and Catherine and a son, David, and four grandsons. She enjoys helping on the family farm, camping and spending time with her family.

WEDNESDAY



LOUISVILLE, KY SKYLINE 10 by Rich Hoyer





WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17, 2015

EXHIBIT HALL SETUP	6:30 AM - 10:00 AM	<i>Exhibit Hall</i>
REGISTRATION OPEN	6:30 AM - 9:00 PM	<i>Registration Booth</i>
EXHIBIT HALL CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST FOR EXHIBITORS AND NAITCO STATE CONTACTS	8:30 AM - 9:30 AM	<i>Exhibit Hall</i>
EXHIBITS OPEN	10:00 AM - 6:30 PM	<i>Exhibit Hall</i>
OPENING LUNCHEON	12:00 PM - 2:00 PM	<i>Grand Ballroom A</i>

WORKSHOP SESSION 1	2:00PM - 3:15PM
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"AG"CENTUATING THE POSITIVES OF AGRICULTURE	Karrie Perrin	<i>Jones</i>
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Come and enjoy one teacher's journey in promoting agriculture in her school and class. You too can "AG"centuate the positives of agriculture with these quick and easy tips and activities this teacher has to offer. All who attend will get resources for their classroom and tips and tricks for bringing agriculture into all content areas. Participants will receive an "AG 2 GO" kit with examples and activities to share with their colleagues.

SCHOOL GARDENING – THE GATEWAY TO AGRICULTURE EDUCATION	Steve Meredith, Angela G. Blank	<i>Combs Chandler</i>
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Steve and Angela will take an in depth look at school gardening as a means of connecting agriculture to the full range of school curriculum. Highlighting successful projects including the Kentucky Governor's Garden Program, this session will share ideas for productive gardens that lead students and teachers toward a positive understanding of both traditional and modern agriculture. Attendees are guaranteed to be enlightened with new ideas on connecting agriculture to today's curriculum demands.

24 AGRICULTURE CAREERS YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW ABOUT	Arlette Roberge	<i>Stopher</i>
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More than 21 million people are employed in nontraditional agriculture careers, many of which require advanced degrees. These careers encompass a wide range of jobs in food production, natural resources, plant systems, animal management and more. To help youth consider agriculture careers, a game entitled "24 Agriculture Careers You Might Not Know About" was developed for middle and high school students. The game can serve as a supplement to formal and informal agriculture lessons and will be demonstrated for use in several different ways. All participants will receive digital and hard copy versions of the game.

AN INCREDIBLE EGGUCATION	Jacinta LeDonne, Mia Roberts	<i>Exhibit Hall Classroom</i>
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AEB will present an update on our latest lesson plans, eggsperiments, and activities for all grade levels, and talk about our continuing efforts to provide consumers with knowledge about how America's egg farmers give back to the community and their commitment to caring for their hens and the environment.

BIOTECH, WHAT THE HECK?	Katie Aikins	<i>Segell</i>
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Biotech, What the heck? will introduce participants to the world of biotechnology and GMOs. This unbiased and interactive workshop will provide the biotech basics necessary to be able to talk with educators and other consumers about this highly controversial topic.

WEDNESDAY

CONNECT TO AGRICULTURE - A COMMUNITY BASED DELIVERY MODEL	Cathy Musick	<i>Beckham</i>
<p>Connect to Agriculture - A Community Based Delivery Model 2nd year of implementation in Kansas! Share challenges and success of building a teacher cohort group in school districts that encourage integration of agriculture into current standards based curriculum. Components: 2 year investment in a school district offering two 3.5 day summer institutes. Partners include: FFA, FCCLA, Community College instructors and young adults who collect and present information about agriculture careers to adopted elementary classrooms. Local agriculture business' provide expert advice to elementary classrooms and help fund facilitation of teacher training as well as student learning projects. Templates for this model will be provided.</p>		
DAIRY AND NUTRITION	Ashley Prue	<i>Coe</i>
<p>Many children are not getting the appropriate nutrients their body needs and that is a huge concern. Nutrition Jar is a demonstration that shows how the body is complete when balanced meals are eaten. When the body does not get the appropriate nutrients, then educators can discuss what could happen. Name Garden/Farm activity is a fun activity for teachers to talk about crops grown in their state, how crops are used, and different equipment seen on a farm. Educators will be asked to share one agriculture fact from their state and they will learn some fun agriculture facts about Wisconsin.</p>		
FOUNDING FARMERS AND YOU	Brad Banning, Kevin Daugherty, Peggy Thomas	<i>Willis</i>
<p>Join the Illinois AITC program as we highlight lessons ready to implement based on the agriculture in the Peggy Thomas books, "Farmer George Plants a Nation", and "Thomas Jefferson Grows a Nation". Historical fiction, non-fiction, social studies and science come together in this workshop session. You might be on the lookout for a special visitor too!</p>		
HARVEST THE "FRUITS OF YOUR LABOR" THROUGH CAREER EXPLORATION	Denise Stewardson, Debra Spielmaker	<i>Taylor</i>
<p>With global populations growing, agriculture will need critical thinkers and problem solvers who can help people meet basic needs of food, clothing, and shelter using limited resources. Agricultural STEM innovators (scientists, engineers), implementers (technicians), and business leaders are needed to fill a variety of agricultural careers. While an agricultural career may not involve working directly on a farm, the "fruits of your labor" may be linked to farm production through the processing and distribution of farmed goods and related services. Attendees will participate in hands-on exploration of a variety of agricultural careers and be introduced to many free, classroom-ready resources.</p>		
WHAT'S BUGGING YOU?	Suzanne Squires, Stephanie Etcheverria	<i>French</i>
<p>Pest management is an important component of agricultural production and healthy living situations in the home. The activity is making a insect observation chamber to be placed outside and monitored. Students will learn about the agricultural pests around their homes, what attracts them then research how they can be controlled. This activity is part of a four-lesson unit. Participants will also receive a packet of fact sheets about invasive species that provides information and activities about the importance of being aware of pests. All lessons are aligned to Common Core State Content standards and Next Generation Science Standards.</p>		

WHAT'S HAPPENING ON THE FARM	Tammy Maxey	<i>McCreary</i>
<p>Come see and experience what is happening on the farm. Using an image of the farm as a starting point, participants will delve into the environmental and scientific issues taking place behind the scenes. Topics covered include best management practices, water quality, animal care and soil. Elementary teachers as well as volunteers will gain new tools to teach children about how farmers care for the environment. Participants will take part in selected activities from the unit that will reinforce the core science content pertaining to plant and animal life.</p>		

WORKSHOP SESSION 2 **3:30PM - 4:45PM**

INCREASING FOOD PRODUCTION WITH PRECISION AGRICULTURE	Molly Brandt, Jennifer Melander, Cory Forbes, Joe Luck	<i>Jones</i>
<p>How many people will inhabit the world in 2050? About 9.2 billion - up from the 7 billion here today! And to make sure that everyone has enough to eat, global food production will need to increase. So how will this be done? Precision agriculture is the answer! In this hands-on session, learn how precision agriculture uses geographic information systems (GIS) to help farmers and manufacturers make smart, efficient, and responsible decisions about how and when they plant, grow, irrigate, harvest, and transport crops. Plus, learn how to become involved in the future with this growing technology career field!</p>		

"UNBRIDLED POSSIBILITIES" LINKING ACTIVITIES AND BOOKS TO AGRICULTURE	Mary Zumwalt	<i>Combs Chandler</i>
<p>Agriculture offers "Unbridled Possibilities" for activities, projects and books. Come see some of these kid tested, hands on ideas that have been used in the classroom setting and how they're used to reinforce learning about agriculture. Many can be adapted to other age groups. You're sure to take home lots of "unbridled possibilities".</p>		

AG SCIENCE LETS YOU 'EAT, DRINK AND BE MERRY'. FIND OUT SOME OF THE HOWS AND WHYS!	Craig Wilson, Baron Bartels	<i>Segell</i>
<p>Hands-on, minds-on activities that will put the 'merry' back into learning Science for students. Simple experiments that you can easily replicate at low cost to teach concepts such as calorific value so students understand just what they are eating. Water is our most precious, threatened and underappreciated resource. Learn more about what we and plants drink. You will see how to access your local USDA/Agricultural Research Service (ARS) research lab and scientists as an educational resource and leave with a template for students to complete to see what they need to do to enjoy a career in Agricultural Science.</p>		

CRITICALLY THINKING ABOUT AGRICULTURE	Kristen Wescott	<i>Coe</i>
<p>Participants will explore the use of common core critical thinking strategies to teach Agricultural topics. Educators will explore templates created to teach students how to make comparisons, classify data, make generalizations (or abstract), analyze perspectives, construct support, do a system analysis, use inductive and deductive reasoning, and more. Samples of students work will be used to show how these templates can be used to create informational writing with stronger supportive details, and concluding statements.</p>		

WEDNESDAY

FROM APPLES TO APPLESAUCE, DIVING INTO ENERGY AND AGRICULTURE	Craig Rebich	<i>Exhibit Hall Classroom</i>
<p>We know that we would not survive without food, fiber and shelter provided by agriculture, but where would be we without energy? Intertwined in an inseparable relationship - energy and agriculture may have more in common than you first thought! Help learners make important energy and agriculture connections as you experience an activity-packed, hands-on learning experience that will highlight the role of energy in food and fiber production. You'll leave with access to standards-aligned lesson plans and effective concept reinforcement activities. Want to a preview? Check out Power Up at MyAmericanFarm.org/games/power_up.</p>		
FROM FARM TO MARKET: A FULLY STEM-INTEGRATED AUGMENTED REALITY GAME	Farah L. Vallera	<i>Taylor</i>
<p>This session discusses bridging the gap between formal and informal education using game-based learning and augmented reality in an integrated STEM activity. Groups of 4 collaborate with iPads as agricultural-scientist, biotechnologist, engineer, and mathematician to solve agricultural challenges on a working farm. By scanning quick response (QR) codes around the farm, students prepare for a virtual farmers market. The narrative-based game will demand that students utilize their STEM knowledge from the lead-in agricultural literacy curriculum unit. This experience increases students' knowledge and alters their attitudes and beliefs about environmental conscientiousness and global sustainability. Demonstration, how to, and outcomes are discussed.</p>		
FROM SOIL TO FOOD	Carole Lee	<i>McCreary</i>
<p>The growth of food depends on the nutrients in soil. Participants will test the presence of N, P, K in soil, and also the presence of protein, carbohydrate (sugar and starch), fat in various types of food. The objectives of the activities are to let students become aware the role N,P,K played in the growing of plants. Research data (pre-test and post-test) are collected from pre-service elementary teachers on their knowledge about agriculture and their understanding of nutrients in food.</p>		
RUN TO THESE RESOURCES - BOOKS AND WEBSITES THAT WIN BY A MILE	Pam Hosimer	<i>Willis</i>
<p>Were potatoes the first vegetable grown in space? Which crop incorporates "ice sanding" in its Integrated Pest Management program? Where can you find an "Energy 101" virtual field trip? Wish you had an "Ag Teaching Kit" with engaging lessons, recipes and posters to spice up your bean curriculum? Join us for the answers as we gallop through amazing agriculture books and online resources to inspire you and add fun for your students. We will cover a wide range of topics that will help you create lessons and support activities to use agriculture as a teaching tool. Detailed resource list provided.</p>		
SADDLE UP AND AGSPLORE THE WILD WEST: DEVELOPING THE CENTER FOR AGRISCIENCE EDUCATION	Michelle Schilling, Jennifer Gray	<i>Beckham</i>
<p>How does an elementary school develop a ten thousand square foot garden in the Wild West? How do you rope in community support? How will teachers have the courage to saddle up and join the agricultural literacy revolution? Round up your partners, saddle up with your agriscience literacy dreams, take a ride out west, kick off your boots and stay a while.</p>		

STEM CAREERS IN SUSTAINABLE ENERGY	Stephanie Etcheverria	<i>French</i>
<p>Workshop participants will engage in hands-on activities from a new unit from the California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom. This five-lesson unit unites STEM disciplines and agriculture literacy while meeting Common Core State Content Standards and the Next Generation Science Standards. Students will learn about innovative agriculture professions that use STEM skills to create sustainable energy while promoting the development of STEM abilities and critical thinking skills. Lessons use careers in sustainable energy that focus on wind and solar energy, biomass, biogas, biofuel, and geothermal power as a basis for inquiry-based activities.</p>		
STRATEGIES FOR GREAT TEACHING	Will Fett	<i>Stopher</i>
<p>What if we could maximize, amplify, even super-size the moments of learning that occur when we teach? These exciting, easy-to-implement strategies that help students draw personal meaning from agriculture curriculums will be the focus of this session. Tips for engaging learners will connect with their learning styles through cooperative learning, direct instruction, inquiry, reflective writing and experimentation. Learning is closely correlated to engagement and emotion. These emotional learning moments will help increase learning and retention. Plus, they are fun for teacher and student alike!</p>		
EXHIBITS AND SILENT AUCTION OPEN	4:45 PM - 6:30 PM	<i>Exhibit Hall</i>
RECEPTION IN EXHIBIT HALL	5:30 PM - 6:30 PM	<i>Exhibit Hall</i>
WELCOME TO KENTUCKY DINNER, HONORING THE 2015 AG ADVOCATE. GUEST SPEAKER: PEGGY THOMAS "FOUNDING FARMERS - CONNECTING HISTORY AND AGRICULTURE" LIVE AUCTION	6:30 PM - 9:30 PM	<i>Grand Ballroom A</i>

Peggy Thomas

FOUNDING FARMERS... CONNECTING HISTORY WITH AGRICULTURE



Peggy Thomas has been researching and writing award-winning children's nonfiction for more than 20 years. With a background in anthropology, her titles span a wide range of topics from science and history. Her most recent book, "Thomas Jefferson Grows a Nation" (Fall 2015), continues the story of early American agriculture that "Farmer George Plants a Nation" started. Co-author of "Anatomy of Nonfiction", the only writing guide that dissects the art, craft and business of telling true stories to children. Thomas celebrates all things nonfiction and is a frequent speaker at schools, libraries, and conferences. Her research has taken her deep into dusty archives, down the Peruvian Amazon, and most recently to Thailand to study elephants -- whatever it takes to connect young readers to the world around them. To learn more check out: www.peggythomaswrites.com



USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture recognizes and commends state **Agriculture in the Classroom staff and volunteers** for delivering excellent academic programs that increase agricultural literacy in America's youth.

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THURSDAY



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THURSDAY, JUNE 18, 2015

BREAKFAST HONORING AFBF WHITE REINHART WINNERS AND CHS WINNERS	7:30 AM - 9:00 AM	<i>Grand Ballroom A</i>
REGISTRATION OPEN	7:30 AM - 9:00 PM	<i>Registration Booth</i>
EXHIBITS AND SILENT AUCTION OPEN	9:00 AM - 7:00 PM	<i>Exhibit Hall</i>
WORKSHOP SESSION 3		9:15AM - 10:30AM
ALTERNATE CONTAINER GARDENING IN URBAN SCHOOLS	Sherri Harkins	<i>Jones</i>
<p>Share use of alternate container gardening in urban areas. Raised beds, gutters, laundry baskets, pallets, straw bales, milk crates, and shoe bags are used to garden in areas where there is poor soil quality and limited space. We raise lettuce in the gutter garden, plant potatoes in laundry baskets, use pallets and milk crates as our herb gardens, and grow a vast array of crops in the raised beds. This innovative method has enabled our school to reach every student and provides a way to integrate state standards in science, math and language arts with agriculture.</p>		
BLACK BLIZZARD	Cheryl Bombenger	<i>Combs Chandler</i>
<p>Use this high interest topic, the Dirty Thirties, to teach about this momentous period of time to young students. Participants will learn about books, songs, and methods to integrate into other areas of education, including Social Studies and character building. Emotional content increases and improves learning. This topic on the Black Blizzard ignites student learning in all areas.</p>		
FACTORING IN YOUR ROOTS	Donna Musick	<i>McCreary</i>
<p>How deep are your roots in mathematics? Shed some light and get your hands dirty in the area of factorization and multiplication while learning about plants. Incorporate literacy and math to help sprout the minds of those young learners.</p>		
HORSES, HISTORY & HOOFBEATS	Mary Beth Bennett, Georgette Plaughter	<i>Segell</i>
<p>Horses have been making strides throughout history. Explore the origins of breeds around the world. Learn how horses have been used and have had a "hand" in making history. Use basic math techniques to discover how a horse "races" it's way into history from start to finish and how to measure horse height and stride length. Learn how humans make horses work for them in Careers with Equines. Horses have been galloping their way through our hearts for centuries and will continue to do so as long as our world relies on "horsepower."</p>		
INTEGRATING NUTRITION LESSONS WITH AGRICULTURE	Monica Pastor	<i>French</i>
<p>Lessons will be demonstrated that show how to integrate nutrition information with agriculture concepts. Participants will learn about the partnership with the SNAP-Ed Program (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) in Cooperative Extension. Workshops have been conducted to train the SNAP-Ed nutrition educators. These workshops demonstrate how easy it is to adapt the nutrition lessons to include agriculture concepts. The teachers they train utilize the lessons to enhance the subject matter they teach. Teachers are able to see the connection between nutrition, their subject and the incorporation of agriculture concepts to meet Academic Standards.</p>		

THURSDAY

LIVES AND LANDSCAPES - AG LITERATURE CIRCLES	Brad Banning	<i>Taylor</i>
<p>Explore how agriculture impacts the lives of characters in young adult novels through student-centered, reader-response focused literature circles. This engaging reading technique allows readers to make choices about how they investigate novels and the agricultural context surrounding them.</p>		
PLANNING AND PLANTING WITH PLANT PARTS IN YOUR SCHOOL GARDEN	Tanna Nicely, Wendy Howard	<i>Beckham</i>
<p>School gardens and gardening labs are excellent hands-on learning activities for elementary students. This workshop will provide teachers with the opportunity to complete labs that they can then take back to their classroom. Content will cover basic garden care, planning, planting, and functions of plant parts as well as nutritional value of those parts. Participants will identify plant parts by a taste test and will come away with a cool gardening tool for help in growing their own garden.</p>		
SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST STATE	Lisa Gaskalla, Becky Sponholtz	<i>Coe</i>
<p>Compete to determine if the main commodities grown in the state you represent meet the nutritional needs of the average student. One state from each of the four regions of the U.S. will be selected, and participants will be placed on one of four teams. Team members will be given facts about the top crops grown in their state, and the average daily nutritional contribution of those commodities. The team that comes closest to providing a balanced diet to the average student wins. Attendees receive a copy of "Gardening for Nutrition", Florida's second in a series of school garden curriculum.</p>		
THE GUMBO POT	Jo Ann Hebert	<i>Willis</i>
<p>The Gumbo Pot- students bring in a recipe and we discuss what is the gumbo's origin. Students pick a particular ingredient that is grown in our state and conduct research on that commodity. They conclude with a poster of pictures and information on the particular ingredient. Letter writing, math, and technology is included in the entire project. As hands on, the students crushed their own sassafras leaves for file and wheat for flour.</p>		
THE PUZZLE OF PERCEPTIONS AND THE POWER OF PERSUASION	Rod Wenzel, Betty Wolanyk	<i>Exhibit Hall Classroom</i>
<p>Presenting highlights of a new middle-school lesson developed by Project Food, Land & People (FLP), this workshop will provide educators an innovative approach to teaching students about the necessity of being analytical rather than trusting first impressions. Attendees will learn about impression formation, compare branding as used in agriculture and advertising, analyze ways that advertising influences perceptions and choices, discuss marketing trends among food producers, and investigate the ploys of advocates and advertisers to change what we choose to eat or not eat. Using a small group exercise, the most popular techniques of advertising and persuasion will be examined.</p>		
THE THREE SISTERS	Lynn Black, Tammy Maxey	<i>Stopher</i>
<p>Join the staff from Virginia AITC for a fun and hands-on elementary session with cross-curricular lessons on the Three Sisters. Participants will learn about the importance of the Three Sisters to Native Americans as well as their modern-day relevancy. Additionally, participants will take part in lessons and make-and-takes that use the Three Sisters to teach science, social studies and mathematics.</p>		

WORKSHOP SESSION 4 **10:45AM - 12:00PM**

'GET REAL' WITH A NON-FICTION AG LIT DAY BOOK	Becky Sponholtz, Lisa Gaskalla	<i>Combs Chandler</i>
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To appeal to kindergarten through 5th grade teachers looking for ways to teach reading in content areas, Florida Agriculture in the Classroom and the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services are launching a new series of non-fiction Agriculture Literacy Day books. The first book in the series will highlight Florida's livestock and poultry industry, and will educate students about the size and scope of each of the animal industries in the state. Attend this workshop and receive a copy of Drive Through Florida: Livestock and Poultry, Florida's 2015 Agriculture Literacy Day book.

BEEF UP YOUR CLASSROOM	Tiffany Selchow	<i>Taylor</i>
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Discover ways to "Beef Up Your Classroom" with resources from your State Beef Councils. Plan to walk away with an engaging lesson plan, ready for you to use, along with a wealth of resources and information provided by the Beef Checkoff.

COMPLIMENT AND CONNECT	Suzi Myers, Debbie Ruff	<i>Beckham</i>
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Come see how AITC compliments and connects to Common Core and Next Generation Science Standards. Our focus will be on the NGSS Performance Expectations for Earth's Systems for grades K-Middle School. We will emphasize the Disciplinary Core Ideas for natural resources by sharing books, hands on activities and ways to capture your students in the learning process. You will be an active participant in the session and leave with resources to help you correlate AITC activities with the new national standards.

BUSHELS OR BUST – TEACHING ECONOMICS THROUGH GAME-BASED LESSONS	Jennifer Elwell	<i>Coe</i>
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Educators will learn a fun and innovative method for teaching students the concepts of economics. Developed as an interactive activity for agriculture education days, Bushels or Bust allows students to take a crop from seed to harvest by making decisions and taking on risk provided by nature and fluctuating market prices. The ultimate goal of the activity was to allow students to understand that farmers have little control over the fate of their crops, but it also provides a wonderful framework to teach how certain events affect supply and demand, prices received, and the impact of using capital for resources. The speaker will show how the game can be modified for different age groups, K-12. Following the session, participants will receive one game with instructions.

DIVE ON IN: AMERICA'S FOOD WASTE	Lauren Arbogast	<i>Segell</i>
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Dumpster diving may not be a competitive sport, but it can demonstrate the broken food system in the United States. Using clips from the movie "Dive," as well as starting facts about food waste, this presentation will dive into how agriculture literacy can and should tie in to all parts of the food system, from on farm production to pre and post consumer waste. 1 in 6 people in the U.S. struggle with hunger, and yet the U.S. food waste facts are startling. Let's start a conversation about strengthening the food system, from the farm to (everyone's) fork.

GROWING STEAM IN THE GARDEN	Darleen Horton	<i>French</i>
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Growing STEAM in the Garden is a real life show and tell connecting agriculture across the curriculum for all grades. How to teach the concepts of science, technology, engineering and math, along with the arts is demonstrated throughout the presentation. Gardening is a learning tool that provides multisensory learning experiences and which gives children a strong foundation in basic STEM concepts. Educators can utilize gardens to expand on previous knowledge and to reinforce what is being taught in the classroom. This presentation is designed to show teachers ways to make garden learning intentional and successful.

THURSDAY

HARVESTING BOOKS OF AGRICULTURE	Kevin Daugherty	<i>McCreary</i>
Come and harvest a great book, or two or a dozen! Using Augmented Reality we'll explore books related to agriculture at all levels. Come and find new favorite!		
IMPLEMENTATION OF K-5 AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH EXPERIENCES BY AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN COLLABORATION WITH A TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM	Joe Evans, Dana McCauley, Kevin Evans, Brittany German	<i>Exhibit Hall Classroom</i>
The purpose of this workshop is to share the: Collaboration between a collegiate teacher education program and an elementary school utilizing teleconferencing equipment. Cooperative creation of agricultural research projects for elementary students; grades K-5. Utilization of Pasco SPARK by the elementary students to collect and store research data. Besides hearing the process by which the collaborative partnership was created and maintained and seeing slides of elementary students engaging in the research activities, participants will be able to test and evaluate the SPARKlabs. Information will be shared with the participants on how to develop the SPARKlabs.		
PLANTING THE SEED	Jennifer Bates	<i>Stopher</i>
Knowledge about agriculture is extremely inadequate among Americans. Many students believe that cotton grows on sheep and chocolate milk derives from a brown cow. These false beliefs are damaging to the agriculture industry. The goal of this workshop is to showcase ways to plant the seed with agriculture literacy activities. The agricultural literacy activities will be connected to a piece of literature and enrich common core requirements. Reading agriculturally rich stories create magic and a sense of wonder for students. The outcome will be an integration of agriculture and literacy, bringing learning to life!		
TASTY AG CONNECTIONS TO WRITING	Virginia Deitz, Jill Vigesaa	<i>Willis</i>
Come on a picnic with us and experience using our menu to make tasty connections to the writing process. Analogies are a powerful brain strategy for teaching complex concepts that are compared to dissimilar ones that the student already knows. The brain is a "maker of meaning" and is constantly searching for connections and patterns between the new and the known. Students already know the sensation of a juicy hamburger, sweet refreshing watermelon, and the crunchy delight of an Oreo cookie. We'll use agriculture analogies that make a tasty treat for brain power that leads to fun writing strategies.		
THE BIG 8: FOOD ALLERGIES AND AG	Sherry Collins	<i>Jones</i>
This session will provide an introduction to food allergies, with an emphasis on the 8 most common allergens - milk, egg, peanuts, tree nuts, fish, shellfish, wheat, and soy. As food allergies become a more common issue in schools and universities, it is essential that educators in all areas understand the basics about food allergies, including prevalence, identifying a reaction, and food allergy management.		
LUNCHEON HONORING NATIONAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING ABOUT AGRICULTURE	12:15 PM - 2:00 PM	<i>Combs Chandler</i>

WORKSHOP SESSION 5 **2:15PM - 3:30PM**

CULTIVATING CREATIVITY: INTEGRATING SCIENCE AND ART	Lynn Wallin	<i>Combs Chandler</i>
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Science and the arts share the goal of understanding the world around us. Integrating science and art provides opportunities for students to construct meaning and demonstrate understanding. Having students create artistic representations of science concepts is a meaningful way to engage all learning types while making learning personal. In this session, participants will explore art activities that will promote deeper understandings in the core science areas of soil science, life cycles, seeds, and pollination.

CULTIVATING SEEDS OF KNOWLEDGE	Andrea Seagraves	<i>Coe</i>
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A how to for those passionate about sowing seeds of knowledge through agriculture with the 2013 National "Excellence in Teaching About Agriculture" program, "Farm Fridays." "Farm Fridays" immerse students in experiences related to an agricultural topic linked to each letter of the alphabet. Lessons include reading non fiction and fiction books, writing, graphing, science, art, and cooking. "Farm Fridays" discuss a kaleidoscope of topics, including the science of how something is produced to economics of buying local products to health benefits of consuming a product. The program teaches children and parents how vital agriculture is to feeding, clothing, and housing the world.

FEEDING 9 BILLION	Chris Fleming	<i>Beckham</i>
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The task of feeding a growing population, using today's techniques and with today's limited resources will require nothing less than a miracle. We must increase production on decreasing available land, using tomorrow's techniques... and time is of the essence. Classrooms are full of students looking for a challenge and we have the biggest one of our time. We can scare them into inaction, or inspire them into finding solutions to world hunger. Since the time of Thomas Malthus's "An Essay on the Principle of Population" agriculturist have been providing daily provisions through application of science and economics. Bon appetit!

FOOD FOR THOUGHT - EXPLORING GEOGRAPHY AND AGRICULTURE	Sue Knott	<i>Segell</i>
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Explore the connections between Geography and Agriculture! Participants will complete K-12 standards-based activities included in the newly revised 4th edition of the Food For Thought Curriculum, a partnership of the Minnesota Alliance for Geographic Education and the Minnesota Agriculture in the Classroom Program. Educators will brainstorm opportunities for using agriculture as a vehicle for contextualizing learning in social studies. The collaborative process to develop this educational resource will be discussed and plans will be outlined for an additional resource focused on Advanced Placement Human Geography. FREE resources, maps, and lessons will be shared with all attendees.

FROM TABLE TO SPACE	Leslie Meredith, Michael Goodman	<i>French</i>
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With dwindling arable land on earth, is space an option for producing food for our growing population? Discuss earth's crust, mantle, core as we dissect an apple and look at the amount of land available for producing food. Watch a clip of how astronauts have to engineer their food to eat in space. We will design and build a paper rocket and launch it to simulate space exploration. Directions for the rocket and building the pvc rocket launcher will be included.

THURSDAY

HOW WATER IS USED TO RAISE AND GROW YOUR FOOD AND FIBER	Nancy Carlson	<i>Jones</i>
<p>Join Nancy in demonstrations and activities using the non-fiction book; "Water: Sources, Uses and Conservation." She will use this book to help teachers show students the importance of water in their everyday lives. This session will demonstrate the amount of water on, in and above the Earth. She will show states of water, the hydrologic or water cycle, and watersheds. She will provide information on how the agriculture industry uses water to raise and grow the student's food and fiber. The information will help students with the important job of deciding about water use in the future.</p>		
INCREASING STUDENT ENGAGEMENT USING MULTI-MEDIA: ONLINE MODULES, INTERACTIVE GAMING, YOUTUBE, & MORE	Kerry Richards , Kelly Over Lowery	<i>Stopher</i>
<p>Keeping students interested in pest management/pesticide safety or other difficult topics can be challenging. When it comes to pesticide safety, the Pesticide Education Program utilizes multi-media to teach content and engage learners! The tools we will demonstrate can be used no matter what the subject matter is you are teaching. Videos take your students "to the field" while remaining in the classroom. Interactive gaming enables content review motivated by putting students competitiveness and gaming skills in action. If you have struggled to keep students engaged when teaching somewhat difficult or unfamiliar topics, come converse with us on interactive multi-media approaches.</p>		
MEAT MAGIC = PRIME LESSONS	Laurie Rice, Karissa Dishon, Jon Gandy	<i>Taylor</i>
<p>Ready to take your classroom PRIME time? Come experience this new approach to science and math incorporating beef quality appraising. While teachings all about "Prime, Choice, and Select", this hands-on program gets earners engaged and discovering. Participants of the class will receive example materials in order to replicate the program in their own classrooms, as well as a demonstration lesson. Data from multiple classrooms currently using the materials will be presented along with potential variations to reach diverse audiences. While you may not end up on TV, this class will help take your lesson plans to a "prime grade".</p>		
SCIENCE, AGRI, AND A REALLY GOOD BOOK 2	Sarah Glenn, Lisa Ann Taylor	<i>Willis</i>
<p>We will show teachers how to look at their current curriculum through an "agricultural" lens using age-appropriate literature. The presentation will also demonstrate how to incorporate agricultural products into Science projects and experiments and how to develop Writing lessons based on these experiments. We will show teachers how to use agriculture as a theme and work their core curriculum around it in a project-based approach.</p>		
UNDER YOUR FEET: EXPLORING SOIL SCIENCE	Melissa Buehler, Joan Kyle	<i>McCreary</i>
<p>Get fully equipped for your soil science unit! In this workshop, attendees will try out several hands-on soil activities, plus come away with an armload of free lessons, posters and more from the Nutrients for Life Foundation. Soil and crop nutrients help feed the world, and you can help plant the seeds of success with these inquiry-based lessons on the properties of soil and how soil affects plant growth.</p>		
USING AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS IN THE CLASSROOM	David Knopf	<i>Exhibit Hall Classroom</i>
<p>Crop and livestock production statistics are published regularly by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. This session will explain the kind of available statistics, how to find the data and discuss available lesson plans. Application of the data will allow students to understand agriculture in their local area and the farmers that raise crops and livestock.</p>		

WORKSHOP SESSION 6

3:45PM - 5:00PM

BIOFUELS AS RENEWABLE ENERGY

Alan Withers, Sue Knott

Segell

Minnesota AITC recently (2014) partnered with the Minnesota Biofuels Association to develop a new biofuels-based renewable energy DVD titled Biofuels as Renewable Energy: Exploring the Present and Future. The MN Biofuels Association funded the project and provided technical review. Minnesota AITC produced the DVD and developed a companion Teacher Resources component. The goal was to demonstrate the research and discover challenge to finding new sources of biofuel beyond corn, to provide student-friendly stories on ethanol and biodiesel processing, and to demonstrate to students and teachers the STEM, career exploration and science applications inherent in the renewable energy industry.

BUILDING AGRICULTURAL RESPONSIBILITY IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD

Dana McCauley,
Brittany German,
Sarah Deacon

Combs Chandler

Building Agricultural Responsibility in Our Neighborhood (BARN) is a school wide program focusing on agriculture and sustainability practices. By integrating agriculture into content area lessons students in kindergarten through fifth grade are engaging in meaningful learning experiences. Their learning is demonstrated through their research projects that require authentic application of skills. These projects evolve from an interest or a need to solve real world problems. This session gives an overview of the school wide project, highlights the research projects implemented at each grade level, gives teaching resources, and shares lessons learned from the implementation of the program.

CORN, SOYBEANS, AND SCIENCE

Cindy Hall

Coe

Corn and soybeans are the most common crops grown in the United States, so why not use them to teach science in your classroom? We will explore these two staple crops, the science and technology used in today's agriculture industry and the real-world STEM examples it provides. You will leave with engaging activities to complement your existing science curriculum. Your students may overlook these monocots and dicots in the countryside, but they won't in your science classroom!

DESIGN A FARM: A CROSS CURRICULAR APPROACH TO AG EDUCATION

Suzanne Holcomb

Willis

In the time constricted classroom, integrating multiple curricular areas into one lesson plan is a time saver. Design A Farm is a project that works for both formal and informal educators alike! Students are responsible for researching a commodity from around the nation and designing a farm to fit the needs of that commodity. Through research, students create a blueprint of what items a farm would need to include, they must design a poster of a leading state in that commodity, and bring in examples of items related to the commodity that culminates in a presentation to the class.

DOWN AND DIRTY GARDEN ACTIVITIES IN 5 TO 15 MINUTES

Darleen Horton

French

Session includes a variety of activities for the garden that connect across the curriculum. Standards, connections, pre and post assessments included. Each activity can be completed in 5 to 15 minutes in the garden.

THURSDAY

INSPIRE, INNOVATE, AND IGNITE; AN AG SCIENCE NIGHT OF COLLABORATION	Michele Reedy	<i>Stopher</i>
<p>Collaboration with community leaders and local businesses are an effective tool for schools to produce an environment with deeper learning and understanding. If student's parents are also added to the mix it promotes engagement and accountability. This presentation will focus on a new event that NCFB AITC is utilizing to promote hands-on Ag Science in elementary schools with the collaboration of Farm Bureau volunteer leaders, pre-service teachers, in-service teachers, and community leaders. When these groups of people come together in the same place at the same time an incredible memory is made in the eyes of the learner.</p>		
LOCAL HEROES - YOUR HARDWORKING POLLINATORS	Susan Schultz, Debbie Ruff	<i>Exhibit Hall Classroom</i>
<p>Assist your community by educating them on the benefits of pollinators and pollination. The news has had many articles on the loss of pollinators and its impact on the food we eat. Ideas for habitat development and pollinator activity stations for students will be presented. This session will help in outreach to understand the diversity present in pollinators. Participants will gain an awareness of the dependence of plants upon pollination. Access to an educators guide with activities, literature connections, and additional resources will be provided as well as hands on activities.</p>		
SERVING HISTORY WITH AGRICULTURE - IT'S IN THE BAG!	Louise Stearns	<i>Taylor</i>
<p>The history of the United States has been carved around agriculture. Agriculture was there when Squanto helped the pilgrims. When cotton was king and cattle were treasures, agriculture was there. Join us as we explore literature, social studies, and engaging activities for use in your classroom to help you bag up some American history with agriculture.</p>		
SO I WANT A SCHOOL GARDEN... NOW WHAT??	Missy Locke	<i>Beckham</i>
<p>Once you decide to start a school garden, what do you do next? This session will provide you a list of funding resources, things to consider when starting a school garden, who to contact for help and how to implement the garden in day-to-day classroom lessons.</p>		
USING NONFICTION MATERIALS TO TEACH ABOUT PROTEIN SOURCES	Nancy Carlson	<i>Jones</i>
<p>Teaching students to choose healthy foods to fill the protein slot on the My Plate, USDA poster. The presentation will include meat and nonmeat sources for protein. The materials will include nonfiction books, commodity materials that are available to teachers, and classroom activities.</p>		
WHAT'S APPENING?	Shawn Dzielawa, Angela McCullough	<i>McCreary</i>
<p>Need ideas for 21st Century technology in the classroom? Search no further, this is the workshop for you. Presenters will offer a variety of apps and technology to participants. Presented apps and technology tested in elementary classrooms provide an innovative avenue to bring agriculture to students while meeting the needs of the common core. Applications and technology can be used across the curriculum and for different age elementary students, kindergarten through fifth grade. Participants will walk away with exciting ideas for immediate use.</p>		
RECEPTION IN EXHIBIT HALL SILENT AUCTION CLOSES	5:00 PM - 7:00 PM	<i>Exhibit Hall</i>

FRIDAY



BELLE OF LOUISVILLE by louisvillepics.com





FRIDAY, JUNE 19, 2015

EXHIBIT BREAKDOWN	7:00 AM - 11:30 AM	<i>Exhibit Hall Classroom</i>
CLOSING BREAKFAST: GOODBYE LOUISVILLE, HELLO ARIZONA!	7:30 AM - 9:30 AM	<i>Grand Ballroom A</i>

MINI WORKSHOPS 8:45AM - 10:45AM

FARMING AROUND THE WORLD: IT'S WHAT'S FOR LUNCH	Kimberly Baker	<i>McCreary</i>
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This lesson demonstrates the importance of agriculture in students daily lives. It was designed through a joint effort with our Fred. Co. Fair and Frederick Co. Public Schools. The lesson was designed as part of the curriculum that goes with our county fair. It shows the students where their food is grown, what it needs to survive, and how the food makes it to their lunch boxes daily. Students are tapping into the state commodities, economics, geography, nutrition, and science. Students are then asked to play a game by gathering ingredients to complete a recipe from around the world.

GROUNDWATER SAFETY ACTIVITY-IT'S EDUCATIONAL, REPLICABLE, AND EASY!	Kelly Over Lowery	<i>Taylor</i>
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Water, water everywhere, but how do we ensure a safe supply? Pesticide Education has partnered with the Penn State Master Watershed Steward Program to create an activity to teach all ages about groundwater and how to prevent groundwater contamination. Our easy-to-replicate interactive game can be used as an interactive display or bulletin board. We will share our creation of the educational resource and corresponding questions for the game. We will teach you our basic activity idea and concept which will allow you to adapt for your learner audiences!

IT'S ALL IN THE BAG	Debra Deskin	<i>Combs Chandler</i>
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It's All in the Bag presentation will present interactive and creative ways to capture a student's attention. Elementary educators will discover creative ways to use baggies when teaching Ag in the Classroom lessons. These lessons will incorporate math, science, nutrition, and writing standards that all teachers can use. Various activities will be demonstrated in a "Make & Take" type workshop.

MUSIC= MAGICAL INGREDIENT FOR AG EDUCATION	Kj Reimensnyder-Wagner, Lisa Wiggins	<i>Jones</i>
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STOP, this is for everyone! The session addresses the power of composing songs/ singing for Ag education. We will share experiences of how we made teaching photosynthesis, economics, incubating chicken eggs, life cycle of plants, pollination, germination, and honey bees engaging and oh so much fun! We have found singing and writing songs a powerful learning tool that stimulates cognitive development and excitement in our learners. Noted AITC musician Kj Reimensnyder-Wagner and Louisiana's Ag teacher of the Year, Lisa Wiggins share songs and techniques that make music and Ag education the perfect pair.

OUT OF THIS WORLD ADAPTATIONS & FUTURISTIC GMOS	Leslie Meredith, Michael Goodman	<i>Stopher</i>
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Organisms must adapt in order to survive. We will examine student created imaginary animal creatures with specific adaptations. Then we will discuss if GMOs are a sustainable solution to our dwindling land and water resources. We will design a GMO that will help provide food for our growing population.

FRIDAY

P IS FOR PUMPKIN PIE	Karen King	Coe
<p>A hands-on presentation where participants will learn a variety of stories, finger plays, poems, and art activities. I will show different art projects using many mediums for all motor skills and abilities of young children. The presentation will conclude with the making and tasting of pumpkin pie topped with whipped cream. During the making of the pie, relationship of the farm, farmer, and foods will be highlighted to show the value to the children's lives.</p>		
PASSPORT TO THE FARM CAMP	Diane Merrion	Segell
<p>Passport to the Farm Summer camp was created for urban youth, in partnership with a local city high school. Bringing together teachers, high school students, FFA members, community volunteers and parents the camp provides 50 children the opportunity to learn about agriculture. This workshop will outline learning stations for children ages 7-11. Perfect for classroom or summer camp settings. Come explore books, activities, passport templates, stickers, snack ideas and supplies, including parent letters and program evaluations. Connect Ag careers, animal science, nutrition and more for students and volunteers! Join us as we bring Ag camp to the classroom in your community!</p>		
PLANT CELL IN A PIZZA BOX	Carole Willis	Beckham
<p>Teachers can see how quickly they can use a small pizza box as a graphic organizer for students to compare and contrast plant cells with animal cells. This can then go home as a study guide. Parts will be provided for quick construction.</p>		
SCIENTIFIC FLOWER PENS	Craig Rebich	French
<p>Get your hands on make-and-take activities your learners will love to use! In this activity, you'll practice making a silk flower pen using industry-standard floral tape. Weaving in a leaf that contains the scientific parts of a flower will provide a platform for discussions about the science and biology of agriculture production, as well as careers in agriculture. Next, you'll get a chance to put your skills to the test by making a live-flower corsage. You'll leave with a materials list and suggested suppliers to replicate this activity with minimal cost and time invested!</p>		
THANK A FARMER EVERY DAY!	Darlene Petranick	Willis
<p>Join me as we participate in learning activities designed to integrate Science, Language Arts, and Agriculture. These activities utilize Science and Language Arts to teach the importance of Agriculture in our daily lives. You will leave with lesson plans, make and takes, and smiles on your faces as we plant the seeds of Science and Language Arts using Agriculture as our delivery tool. "My grandfather used to say that once in your life you need a doctor, a lawyer, a policeman and a preacher but every day, three times a day, you need a farmer." Brenda Schoepp</p>		

TRAVELING WORKSHOPS		11:00 AM DEPARTURE
HISTORIC KENTUCKY	Lunch at the Old Talbott Tavern My Old Kentucky Home Maker's Mark Distillery	Offsite
HEART OF KENTUCKY	Lunch at Claudia Sanders Dinner House Woodford Reserve Distillery Keeneland	Offsite
FAMOUS KENTUCKY	Lunch at The Kentucky Derby Museum Churchill Downs Evan Williams Distillery Louisville Stoneware	Offsite
ROLLING ON THE RIVER	Lunch at Gagel's Farm Farnsley-Moremen House Louisville Slugger Museum and Factory	Offsite
HORSE COUNTRY	Spindletop Hall Kentucky Horse Park Winstar Farm	Offsite
DOWN UNDER AND OVER THE RIVER	Lunch at Joe Huber's Family Farm/Restaurant Koetter Woodworking Louisville Mega Cavern	Offsite



LOUISVILLE by Louisville Convention Center & Visitors Bureau



EVERY GENERATION NEEDS ITS LEADERS.

As a farmer-owned cooperative, we help lead the agricultural industry by promoting the most innovative, responsible farming practices available today. And we want to make sure that the next generation of leaders is well trained for tomorrow. That's why we proudly support youth leadership programs like FFA. It's also why we've invested in scholarships and countless land-grant university initiatives across the country. At CHS, we know every generation needs its leaders. And every potential leader needs a little help becoming one.

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AWARDS



CHEROKEE PARK by Louisvillepics





AG ADVOCATE AWARD

Juanita J. Reed-Boniface

Minnesota

Juanita, along with her husband Dick Boniface, officially joined the ranks of MAITC volunteers in 1995 when they attended a "Getting Comfortable in the Classroom" training workshop hosted by MAITC. They were soon among the corps of volunteers who made classroom visits in the Minneapolis/St. Paul metropolitan area. By background and training, Juanita grew up on a ranch in the Sandhills of Nebraska, and a farm in Northeast Nebraska, graduated from the University of Nebraska and relocated to Minnesota in 1963 to begin a 30 year career as a 4-H educator with the Minnesota Extension Service.. Since 2002, Juanita and Dick have expanded their Agriculture in the Classroom teaching to many other venues: Minnesota Farm Bureau, Minnesota and American CattleWomen, Minnesota State Fair, University of Minnesota 4-H, Minnesota and National Agri-Women, and Project Food, Land and People. She is also an active promoter of the Minnesota Historical Society's Oliver Kelley Historic Farm Interpretive Site, the very site where The National Grange was initiated! Juanita is a student-mentor-teacher and is a tireless advocate and cheerleader for agricultural literacy. Known as a 'master teacher', Juanita takes pride in serving as a mentor to many educators who are seeking to strengthen agricultural literacy in both formal and informal settings. Finally, through thick and thin, Juanita has been a premiere advocate for MAITC and its unique public/private partnership based at the Minnesota Department of Agriculture.



"I've advocated for agriculture and learning all my life."



USDA-NIFA NATIONAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING ABOUT AGRICULTURE SPONSORED BY FARM CREDIT



Christine Danger

Florida

Christine Danger emphasizes to her students at Turner Bartels K-8 School in Tampa, Florida that scientists and engineers are the real superheroes who can save the world from disease, energy shortages, ecological catastrophes, famine and more. Her students in kindergarten through fifth grade apply agricultural STEM concepts in their classrooms by building terrariums, greenhouses, irrigation systems and vertical growing systems.



K Preston

Virginia

K Preston is kindergarten teacher at Belview Elementary School in Montgomery County, Virginia. She strives to instill in her students a love of and respect for agriculture and the environment through inquiry and hands on activities. K's goal is for her students to understand that all things come from somewhere and that they have a connection to all things. Whether weeding the garden or participating in a sensory activity, students in her class have opportunities to make the connections with the world of agriculture.



Leslie Preston Meredith

Kentucky

Leslie Meredith is a 7th grade teacher at West Hardin Middle School in Cecilia, Kentucky. She helps students develop problem-solving skills that show how scientific, political, cultural, and economic barriers must be overcome to improve humanity. This year she held several AG-STRAVAGANZA DAYS which allowed 2nd graders to reap the benefits of a partnership with older students when her 7th graders taught agriculture and environmental topics to them. Leslie also facilitated school-wide cross curriculum activities to celebrate Farm to School month.



Darlene Petranick

North Carolina

Darlene Petranick of Mecklenburg County is a K-5 Science Laboratory Teacher and Science Facilitator at Lebanon Road Elementary in Charlotte, North Carolina. She led the charge to create a school garden consisting of 18 raised beds that are used by grades K-5. Petranick also established an Agriculture Science Night partnering with North Carolina Farm Bureau and numerous other university and agricultural partners. She serves as the educational liaison for Mecklenburg County Farm Bureau and a Curriculum Specialist for North Carolina Farm Bureau's AITC program. These positions allow her to deliver professional development to teachers across the state regarding ways to integrate Agriculture into the state standards and curriculum.



Rachel Parker Morris

Tennessee

Rachel Parker Morris is a kindergarten teacher from Savannah, Tennessee. She works to incorporate agriculture into the common core curriculum using the alphabet, community volunteers, books, field trips and other educational experiences. Agriculture affects our lives on a daily basis from the food we eat, the products we buy, and the clothes we wear. It is her goal to teach the students and parents the important role agriculture has to their daily lives.



Théo Anderson

Utah

Théo Anderson teaches fifth grade at Providence Elementary in Providence, Utah. She has inspired students to "experience" their education. Some of these experiences include gardening, composting, and raising chickens in the school's outdoor classroom. Her students also run a school-wide recycling program, farm mealworms to feed the chickens, and raise trout to release into a local pond. Théo inspires students to be investigators and critical thinkers, thereby creating life-long learners eager to face new challenges with a deeper understanding of the importance of learning about the world around them.

WHITE-REINHARDT AWARDS
SPONSORED BY AMERICAN FARM BUREAU



Sarahbeth Belvado
Jack Barnes Elementary
Mesa, Arizona



Kathy McLean
Trimble Elementary
Newbern, Tennessee



Stacy DeVea
University of Arizona
Yavapai County
Cooperative Extension
Prescott, Arizona



Donald Meyer
Sauk County School District
Loganville, Wisconsin



Kevin Duplissie
Child Study Center
University of Maine
Orono, Maine



Becky Panzer
School for Agricultural and
Environmental Studies
Fox Lake, Wisconsin



Robin Halicki
Mary Lou Cowlshaw
Elementary School
Naperville, Illinois



Dianna Rose
Palm Lakes Elementary
Hialeah, Florida



Dawna Major
Cache County School District
Avon, Utah



Andrea Seagraves
Stratford Academy
Musella, Georgia

CHS TEACHER SCHOLARSHIPS



CHS Foundation

ALABAMA

Kristen Tate Colley
Lynne Fanning Elementary

ARIZONA

Luci Eblin
Liberty

ARKANSAS

Sarah Glenn
Huntsville Intermediate

ARKANSAS

Lisa Taylor
Willis D. Shaw Elementary

CALIFORNIA

Martha Deichler
Borrego Springs Unified School District

CALIFORNIA

Suzanne D. Squires
Los Olivos Elementary School

FLORIDA

Casey Stokes
Martin L. King Middle School

GEORGIA

Mandy Moon
Hull-Sanford Elementary School

GEORGIA

Karen Hatch
Northside Elementary School

GEORGIA

Lauren Goble
Wells Elementary

GEORGIA

Ashley Rivers
Etowah High School

ILLINOIS

Valerie Murbarger
Albion Grade School

ILLINOIS

Carole Scannell
Saint Germaine

ILLINOIS

Mary Zumwalt
Altamont Luthern School

INDIANA

Jacelyn Sauerheber
North Harrison Middle School

IOWA

Krystal Miller
Taft Elementary

IOWA

Jennifer Boswell
Taft Elementary

KANSAS

Sara Schabel
Bluestem Elementary

KANSAS

Kim Curran
R.V. Haderlein Elementary

KANSAS

Dianna Deniston
Victor Omelas Elementary

KENTUCKY

Janie Igleheart
Calhoun Elementary School

KENTUCKY

Betty Darlene Horton

LOUISIANA

Jo Ann Hebert
Valverda Elementary

LOUISIANA

Lisa Wiggins
NSU Elementary Lab School

LOUISIANA

Catherine Olinde
Valverda Elementary

MAINE

Carole Lee
University of Maine at Farmington

AWARDS

MARYLAND

Kimberly Baker

Centerville Elementary

MICHIGAN

Michele Butler

Paw Paw Early Elementary

MINNESOTA

Mark Wackerfuss

Crosswinds Arts and Science School

MINNESOTA

Lori A. Hodge

Riverside Elementary

NEBRASKA

Jennifer Zysset

Windy Hills

NEBRASKA

Spencer Zysset

St. Cecilia

NEW MEXICO

Melissa Gustin-Roberts

Logan Municipal School

NEW YORK

Lisa Byers

Arcade Elementary, Pioneer Central

NORTH CAROLINA

Erica Summerlin

Lebanon Road Elementary

NORTH CAROLINA

Frances Baker

Bailey Elementary

NORTH CAROLINA

Angela Nichols

Buckland Elementary

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Douglas Germann

Big Walnut Intermediate

OKLAHOMA

Lisa Storm

Kingfisher Heritage Elementary

PENNSYLVANIA

Denise Chybrzynski

S. Butler Intermediate Elementary School

PENNSYLVANIA

Shawn Dzielawa

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PENNSYLVANIA

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PENNSYLVANIA

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Manheim Township High School

SOUTH CAROLINA

Jessica Elliott

Jefferson Elementary

TENNESSEE

Beverly Hall

Jere Whitson Elementary

TENNESSEE

Tanna Nicely

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TENNESSEE

Missy Locke

Richland Elementary School

TEXAS

Darla Graham Morrow

Greenwood Elementary

VIRGINIA

Donna Musick

Damascus Middle

WISCONSIN

Sheri Hicken

School for Agricultural & Environmental Studies (SAGES)

WISCONSIN

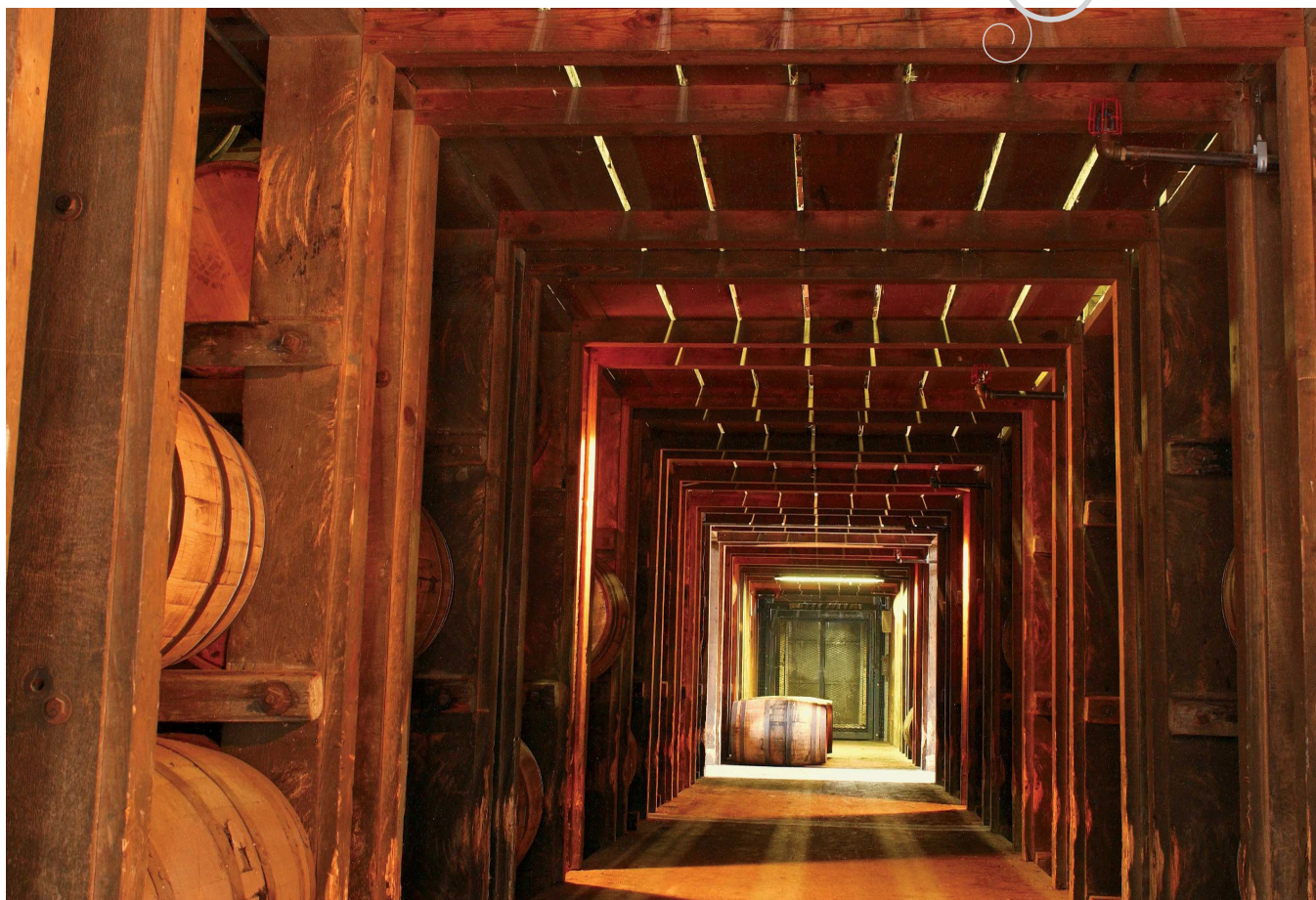
Tracey Tumaniec

Manz Elementary School

STATE TEACHERS OF THE YEAR

Alabama	Kristen Tate Colley	Lynn Fanning Elementary	3rd
Arkansas	Julie Hathcote	Chenal Elementary	K-5
California	Sue Squires	Los Olivos Elementary	Jr. High Science
Florida	Michele Hanson	Wilkinson Jr High	7/8 agri-science
Florida	Thomas Lynch	Montford Middle	6 personal, career and school development skills
Florida	Elissa Berman	Palm Beach Gardens High	9-12 culinary arts
Georgia	Carmen Power	Free Home Elementary	4/5 science
Illinois	Mary Zumwalt	Altamont Lutheran Interparish School	4th
Kansas	Dianna Deniston	Victor Ornelas Elementary	K-4 Math
Kentucky	Darleen Horton	Cane Run Environmental Magnet	Environmental Science
Louisiana	Judy Morgan	Charles M. Burke Elementary	4th
Maine	Kevin Duplissie	University of Maine Child Study Center	Pre-K & College Students
Massachusetts	Jean Bruffee	Hawlemont Regional School	Title 1 and Coordinator of HAY Program (Hawlemont, Agriculture and You)
Michigan	Michele Butler	Paw Paw Early Elementary	2nd grade
Michigan	Joseph Ankley	North Huron School	6/12 Agri-science
Minnesota	Lori Hodge	Riverside Elementary	2nd
Mississippi	Tiffany Lyles	Pleasant Hill Elementary	2nd
Nebraska	Karen Ashby	Chandler View Elementary	3rd
Nebraska	Jennifer Zysset	Windy Hills Elementary	2nd
New Mexico	Melissa Gustin Roberts	Logan Elementary	3rd
New York	Lisa Byers	Arcade Elementary	K
North Carolina	Erica Brown Edwards	Kenansville Elementary	2nd
Oklahoma	Connie Whitmore	Coyle Elementary	Pre-K
Tennessee	Rachel Morris	Northside Elementary	K
Texas	Darla Graham Morrow	Greenwood Elementary	2nd
Utah	Theo Anderson	Providence Elementary	5th
Virginia	K Preston	Belview Elementary	K
Wisconsin	Tracey Tumaniec	Manz Elementary	5th

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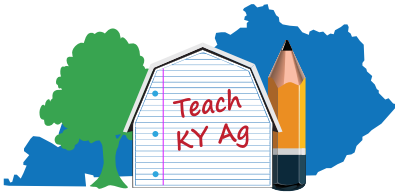
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NAITC 2016 CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS



JUNE 21-24, 2016

**WIGWAM RESORT
PHOENIX, ARIZONA**

The 2016 National Agriculture in the Classroom Planning Committee is soliciting presenters for Workshop and Mini-Workshop Sessions. Participants will receive a \$75 discount on the conference registration fee, but will be responsible for the remaining registration, travel, and lodging.** All presenters must be registered participants in the conference. Feel free to submit a proposal in either presentation area.

Workshop Sessions:

Workshops will be held on Thursday, June 23, 2016 and Friday, June 24, 2016. Each Session will be one hour in length, with rooms set up mixed classroom and theater seating. The planning committee will be looking for proposals with rigor and quality that fit today's agriculture and education standards. Workshop sessions should address specific Agricultural Literacy Objectives.

Mini-Workshop Sessions:

Mini-workshop sessions will be held Wednesday, June 22, 2016. Mini-workshops will be presented 3 times for 20 minutes each. These presentations should be lively and engaging, and showcase a specific facet of creatively featuring agriculture.

Proposal Submission Deadline:

October 1, 2015 5:00 pm PST.

All applicants that apply by the October 1, 2015 deadline will be notified of a decision on your proposed sessions by November 13, 2015.

Final Notification to Applicants: November 13, 2015.

For proposal submission requirements and instructions, visit: naitconference.usu.edu

** One \$75 discount per accepted session, up to the maximum of the conference registration fee. The \$75 discount on conference registration is not redeemable for cash. The discount can only be used for conference registration, traveling workshops or pre/post workshop. The discount is non-transferable except to your co-presenter, if applicable. Every presenter must register for the conference. There are no exceptions.

SCHEDULE AT-A-GLANCE

TUESDAY, JUNE 16		
8:00 AM – 5:00 PM	NAITCO Organizational Meeting (Includes Breakfast, Lunch and an Evening Social Event for NAITCO State Contacts)	<i>Combs Chandler</i>
9:00 AM – 4:00 PM	Pre Conference Tour	<i>Offsite</i>
12:00 PM – 6:00 PM	Exhibit Hall Set Up	<i>Exhibit Hall</i>
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM	NAITCO Evening Event	<i>Evan Williams</i>
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17		
6:30 AM – 10:00 AM	Exhibit Hall Set Up	<i>Exhibit Hall</i>
6:30 AM – 9:00 PM	Registration Open	<i>Registration Booth</i>
8:30 AM – 9:30 AM	Exhibit Hall Continental Breakfast for Exhibitors and NAITCO State Contacts	<i>Exhibit Hall</i>
10:00 AM – 6:30 PM	Exhibits open	<i>Exhibit Hall</i>
12:00 PM – 2:00 PM	Opening Luncheon	<i>Grand Ballroom A</i>
2:00 PM – 3:15 PM	Workshop #1	<i>See Agenda</i>
3:15 PM – 3:30 PM	Coffee Break	<i>Exhibit Hall</i>
3:30 PM – 4:45 PM	Workshop #2	<i>See Agenda</i>
4:45 PM – 6:30 PM	Exhibits and Silent Auction Open	<i>Exhibit Hall</i>
5:30 PM – 6:30 PM	Reception in Exhibit Hall	<i>Exhibit Hall</i>
6:30 PM – 9:30 PM	Welcome to Kentucky Dinner, Honoring the 2015 Ag Advocate GUEST SPEAKER: Author Peggy Thomas Live Auction	<i>Grand Ballroom A</i>
THURSDAY, JUNE 18		
7:30 AM – 9:00 PM	Registration Open	<i>Registration Booth</i>
7:30 AM – 9:00 AM	Breakfast Honoring AFBF White Reinhart Winners and CHS Winners	<i>Grand Ballroom A</i>
9:00 AM – 7:00 PM	Exhibits and Silent Auction Open	<i>Exhibit Hall</i>
9:15 AM – 10:30 AM	Workshop #3	<i>See Agenda</i>
10:45 AM – 12:00 PM	Workshop #4	<i>See Agenda</i>
12:15 PM – 2:00 PM	Luncheon - Honoring USDA NAITCO Teachers of Excellence	<i>Grand Ballroom A</i>
2:15 PM – 3:30 PM	Workshop #5	<i>See Agenda</i>
3:30 PM – 3:45 PM	Coffee Break	<i>Exhibit Hall</i>
3:45 PM – 5:00 PM	Workshop #6	<i>See Agenda</i>
5:00 PM – 7:00 PM	Reception in Exhibit Hall	<i>Exhibit Hall</i>
7:00 PM – 11:30 PM	Exhibit Breakdown	<i>Exhibit Hall</i>
7:00 PM	Silent Auction Closes Dinner on your own in Downtown Louisville!	<i>Offsite</i>
FRIDAY, JUNE 19		
7:00 AM – 11:00 PM	Exhibit Breakdown	<i>Exhibit Hall</i>
7:30 AM – 9:30 AM	Closing Breakfast: Goodbye Louisville, Hello Arizona!	<i>Grand Ballroom A</i>
7:30 AM – 12:00 PM	Registration Open	<i>Registration Booth</i>
8:45 AM – 10:45 AM	Mini Workshop (Four 25-minute rotations)	<i>See Agenda</i>
11:00 AM	Traveling Workshops	<i>Offsite</i>
5:00 PM	Dinner on your own	<i>Offsite</i>