



# National Agriculture in the Classroom Conference



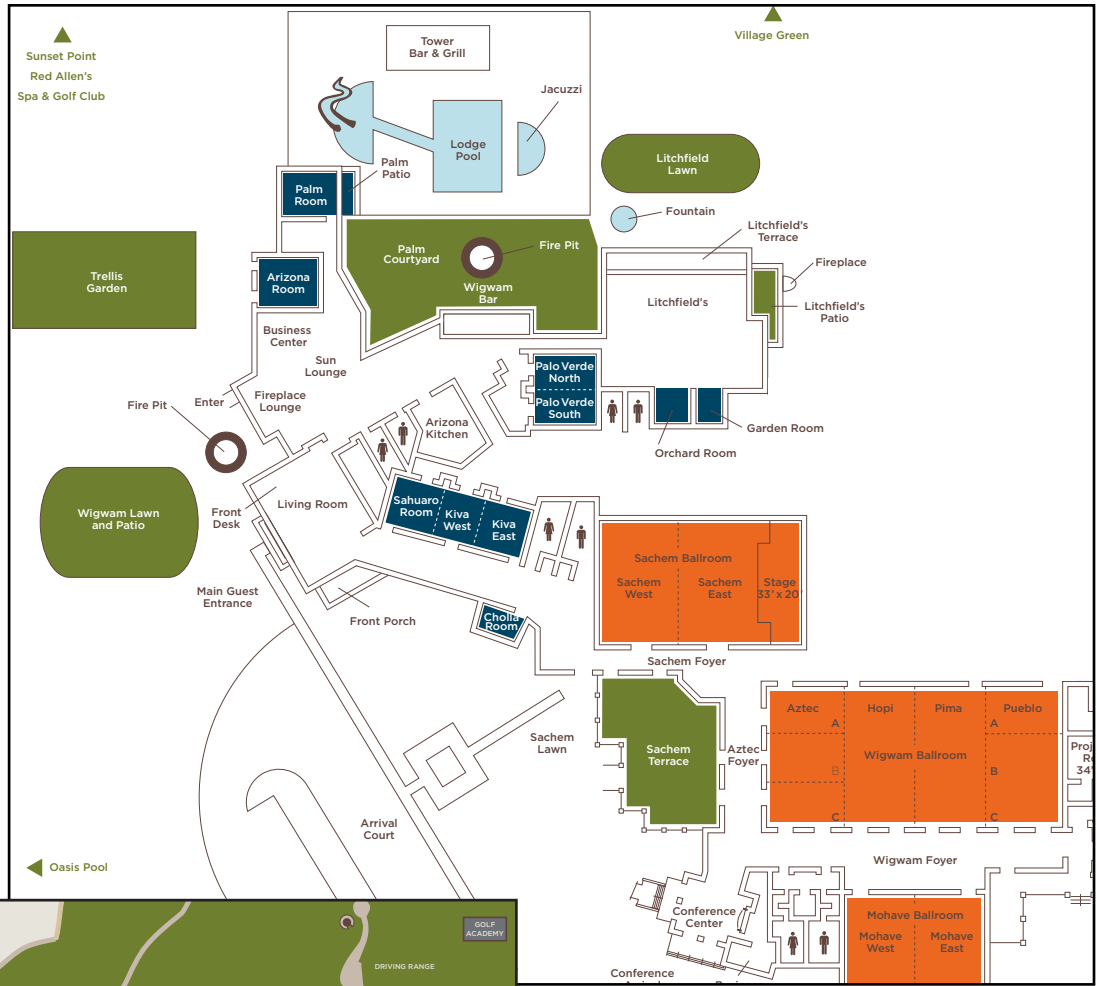
**BLOOMING IN THE DESERT**

**June 21-24, 2016**

Wigwam Resort

**Litchfield Park, Arizona**

# MEETING SPACE



WIGWAM  
RESORT



WELCOME

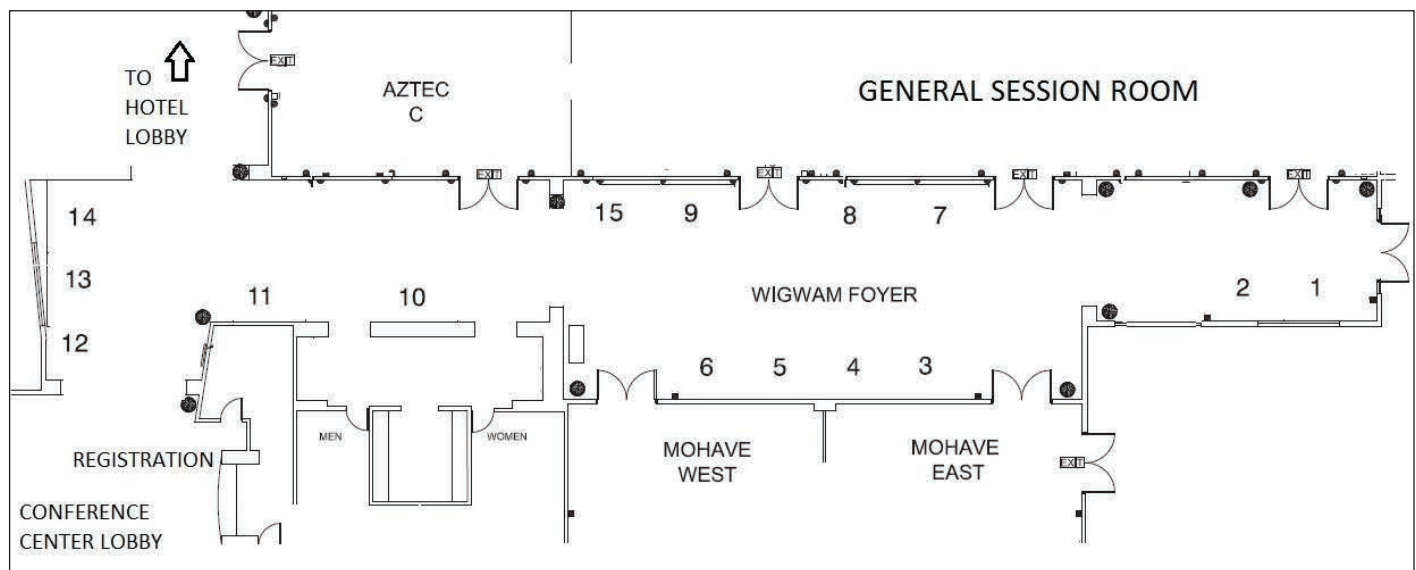
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TO THE 2016  
**NATIONAL AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM  
 CONFERENCE**

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LITCHFIELD PARK, ARIZONA

EXHIBIT MAP



**EXHIBITOR LISTING**

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| 1. Little Green Thumbs                               | 6. National Grange                       | 11. American Agri-Women                                |
| 2. Nelson Academy of<br>Agricultural Sciences Online | 7. Evergreen Creations                   | 12. Agrium   |
| 3. Protect the Harvest                               | 8. U.S. Farmers and Ranchers<br>Alliance | 13. Nutrients for Life                                 |
| 4. Cotton's Journey                                  | 9. USDA – NASS                           | 14. American Farm Bureau<br>Foundation for Agriculture |
| 5. CropLife America                                  | 10. American Egg Board                   | 15. National Peanut Board                              |



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

Welcome .....	5-6
About Agriculture in the Classroom.....	7
Message From the USDA-NIFA Director.....	8
Message From the NAITCO President.....	9
State Contacts By Region.....	11-14
Traveling Workshops .....	15-16

## **AGENDA**

Schedule At-A-Glance.....	19-25
Presenter Listing.....	26-41
Wednesday.....	45-49
Thursday.....	53-60
Friday.....	63-64

## **AWARDS**

Ag Advocate.....	67
Excellence in Teaching About Agriculture .....	68
White-Reinhardt.....	69
CHS Teacher Scholarships.....	70-71
State Teachers of the Year .....	72

## **SPONSORS AND EXHIBITORS**

Exhibit Map.....	3
Sponsors.....	75-79
Exhibitors.....	80
Participant Listing.....	81-83
Schedule-At-A-Glance .....	84

# WELCOME TO ARIZONA

My committee and I would like to welcome you to Arizona, the 48th state to join the union! As an Arizona native I am so excited to share this great state with you. Many of you arrived early or plan to stay later just so you can explore Arizona including the Grand Canyon, one of the seven wonders of the world. Arizona is known historically for its five C's – Cotton, Cattle, Citrus, Climate and Copper. The economy has since expanded into aerospace and defense, technology, renewable energy, bioscience and optics.

Arizona agriculture is very diverse. Statistics from the USDA 2012 Census of Agriculture show we have 20,005 farms on 26,249,195 acres. Sixty percent of Arizona's agriculture operations are 9 acres or less. According to a University of Arizona College of Agriculture and Life Sciences 2014 publication Arizona ranks second in the country (only to California) in the production of lettuce (head, leaf, and romaine), cauliflower, broccoli, spinach, cantaloupes, honeydews, and lemons (USDA, NASS, 2011). It also ranks in the top ten in the production of pima cotton, upland cotton, cottonseed, durum wheat, barley, tangerines, pecans, cabbage, chile peppers, watermelons, and principal vegetables (USDA, NASS, 2011).

Turning to livestock production, Arizona ranks 10th in the nation in the number of cattle on feed (USDA, NASS, 2011). The total economic contribution of Arizona's agribusiness system, including the indirect effects from non-agribusiness suppliers and the induced effects from household spending of proprietors and workers in the agribusiness sectors is \$17.1 billion.

Arizona agriculture is "Blooming in the Desert" and I hope your participation in the conference as well as your exploration of the industry if you went on one of the Traveling Workshops helps to open your eyes to agriculture. I hope your mind will be overloaded with possibilities of using agriculture as contextual learning in the subject(s) you teach.

We hope you enjoy your time in the Grand Canyon State, Arizona.

- Monica Kilcullen Pastor, M.Ed.

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Farms*

Louise Bunker - *Cocopah Middle School, Scottsdale*

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Sharman Hickman - *Hickmans Family Farms*

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Cheryl Goar - *AZ Nursery Association*

Terri Verason - *Dairy Council of AZ*

Dave Dewalt - *USDA National Ag Statistics  
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# WELCOME TO NATIONAL AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM CONFERENCE



On behalf of the National Agriculture in the Classroom Conference Planning Committee, I would like to welcome you to the 2016 National AITC Conference!

Every US Farmer feeds 168 people. I only wish your committee were as efficient as those farmers! There are so many people that assist making this a quality educational opportunity for you to enjoy. The pride showcased by the Arizona AITC Program and State Contact Monica Pastor will shine throughout this conference as they have gone out of their way to make certain we see the importance of agriculture to the Grand Canyon State! The volunteers from Arizona, coupled with the representatives from the National AITC Organization want to help you enjoy the conference to the fullest extent! Please take the time to carefully evaluate the conference, we can only improve the quality of the material with your input. Although we have been preparing for 'Blooming in the Dessert' we are busy planning for 2017 and 2018!

Welcome to Litchfield Park and the Greater Phoenix area. We hope you all enjoy the unique view of agriculture you'll find here!

- 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 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.

NAITCO is a professional networking organization for 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 U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), it is my great pleasure to welcome you to the 2016 Agriculture in the Classroom (AITC) National Conference.

NIFA is pleased to support the conference's many exciting educational opportunities, including workshops, the many outstanding speakers, and professional networking.

AITC educators have, for more than three decades, brought the science of food and agriculture into classrooms across the country and around the world via web-based programs. The importance of presenting this information to our children cannot be overstated; if we are to feed the projected 2050 world population of well over 9 billion, now is the time to grow the next generation of agricultural scientists and producers. Purdue University illustrated this need in a 2015 report that predicted there will be nearly 58,000 annual job openings in food, agriculture, renewable resources, and the environment for graduates with bachelor's or higher degrees

As if feeding the increasing population wasn't tough enough, we have to do it in the face of climate change, diminishing land and water resources, changing incomes, increasing obesity rates, and the need for better nutrition and health outcomes. The challenge is greater than ever for AITC to present, and stimulate interest in, curricula rich in topics relevant to food and agriculture, along with science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

AITC has risen to that challenge since 1977, starting with Jean Ibendhal, a woman farmer and teacher in Tamaroa, Illinois. In 1981, then-Secretary of Agriculture John Block created a task force that ultimately created the nationwide AITC program. Today's AITC staff and volunteers have tools that Ms. Ibendhal and Secretary Block probably could not have envisioned, including the National Agricultural Literacy Curriculum Matrix, an online, searchable, and standards-based curriculum map for K-12 teachers. We at NIFA are pleased to continue support of this long, creative legacy and program stewardship.

Our nation is truly fortunate to have the state AITC contacts, staff, and volunteers who dedicate their careers and time to advancing agricultural literacy. Have a terrific conference and a better 2016.

Thank you!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sonny Ramaswamy". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

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



**Sonny Ramaswamy**



# MESSAGE FROM THE NAITCO PRESIDENT



## **Dear 2016 National Agriculture in the Classroom National Conference Participants:**

On behalf of the National Agriculture in the Classroom Organization (NAITCO) and its state representatives, welcome to Arizona! Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedules to join us at the 'Agriculture, Blooming in the Desert' conference. At this educational event you will learn about agricultural concepts for teaching kindergarten through 12th grade students. All of the agricultural materials, events, and workshops will showcase integrated agriculture education for reading, writing, math, nutrition, STEM, social studies and more!

We have come a long way since Agriculture in the Classroom began in 1981. NAITCO, which hosts this event each year, now represents 48 states and six territories and reaches more than 5.3 million students and 171,000 educators 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!

We constantly look for ways to meet your classroom's agricultural literacy integration needs. This year we worked on several new programs to meet this need including: A school garden program with Tractor Supply Co.; an agricultural career preparedness unit called 'Harvesting: Crops and Careers' with U.S. Custom Harvesters and New Holland; an interactive educational platform called 'Journey 2050' to educate high school students about sustainability as it relates to agriculture with Agrium; and a 'Meet the Authors' program to educate children's book authors about agriculture with American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture. In addition, NAITCO's National Agricultural Literacy Curriculum Matrix is now available with its more than 200 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.

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 you new ideas and teaching strategies to energize your classroom instruction and make learning fun for you and your students. Hosting the national conference is a lot of work so a special 'thank you' to Arizona's Agricultural Literacy Program and the Western Region Agriculture in the Classroom states for graciously hosting what promises to be a great national conference.

Finally, we encourage you 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 our team and the teachers attending the conference for working hard throughout the school year to bring agriculture to life in classrooms across the country.

- Lorri Brenneman

*NAITCO President and Montana State Contact*



# 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.

Visit [chsinc.com/stewardship](http://chsinc.com/stewardship) to learn more about our ongoing commitment to leadership.



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Colorado  
Hawaii  
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Montana  
Nevada  
New Mexico  
Oregon  
Utah  
Washington  
Wyoming

### Southern Region

Alabama  
Arkansas  
Florida  
Georgia  
Kentucky  
Louisiana  
Mississippi  
North Carolina  
Oklahoma  
South Carolina  
Tennessee  
Texas  
Virginia

### Central Region

Illinois  
Indiana  
Iowa  
Kansas  
Michigan  
Minnesota  
Missouri  
Nebraska  
North Dakota  
Ohio  
South Dakota  
Wisconsin

### Eastern Region

Connecticut  
Delaware  
Maine  
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# NAITCO 2016 TRAVELING WORKSHOPS

Lesson plans correlated to the *Traveling Workshops* are available on:  
<http://agclassroom.org/conference2016>

**1. Farm to School:** Agriculture is very much present in Arizona. Maricopa County is among Arizona's top producing counties despite its 4.2 million urban residents. Tour participants will follow the supply chain from two west valley farms to one west valley school to learn just how Arizona Grown products get from the farm to a student's tray. Rousseau Farming Company® has been in production since 1878 and is among our top producers celebrated in Arizona's Centennial in 2012. The fourth generation farm has grown a variety of fruits and vegetables on over 10,000 acres all over the metro Phoenix area with its deepest roots at home base in Tolleson, Arizona. Among student's top picks for fresh vegetables remains the "baby" carrot, which is processed locally and shipped to schools all over Arizona through the National School Lunch Program. Today we will look at summer's sweet watermelon, another fresh favorite for students dining in our warmer months. Our second farm, Duncan Family Farms LLC, carries the legacy of showing their unchanging support for agriculture education and community development in Arizona. The Duncan family, a fourth generation cotton farm, began growing leaf lettuces in 1985 on a few hundred acres of land. Today the farm has expanded production to 8,000 acres in Arizona and California which includes organic root vegetables in addition to their lettuce line. Our third site, Litchfield Elementary District has supported local area growers for several years. The K-8 District has about 11,000 students and covers a 66 square mile area and has 15 schools in four different cities. As close neighbors, each play an important role in feeding our students fresh and healthy food every day.

**2. Arizona Grown:** Arizona has been described as a nutrition state. Our agriculture industry provides all the foods necessary to provide a well-balanced diet that meets USDA MyPlate dietary guidelines. Participants will visit three farms including a dairy, a feedlot and a produce farm, covering 4 of the MyPlate food groups. Your tour will start at Kerr Dairy, a family owned and operated dairy farm where the 3rd and 4th generation dairymen, Bill and his son, Wes, milk over 1000 cows. The Kerr's also farm over 600 acres of alfalfa, sorghum and oats as feed for the dairy cows. The next stop is Heiden Land and Cattle, an operation that finishes cattle for beef production, run by Les and Paul Heiden, 3rd and 4th generation cattlemen. The Heiden family also raise all the feed needed for their cattle and have done so since 1975. On the way back to the beautiful Wigwam Resort, you'll stop at Blue Sky Organic Farms, a family farm that was started by David Vose, a chef, who decided to grow what he wanted to cook. Some of the fruits and vegetables grown by Blue Sky end up in the cafeteria of Litchfield Elementary School District through the Farm to School program.

**3. Specialty Crops:** Participants will be amazed at the vast amount of agriculture located in the west valley of Maricopa County, Arizona, even though it is the 4th most populated county in the US with 4.2 million people. Your first stop will be Mountain States Wholesale Nursery which offers over 450 taxa of desert-adapted trees, shrubs, ornamental grasses, accents, flowering perennials, groundcovers and vines. They specialize in providing landscape plants that combine beauty and water economy. Their goal is to provide quality plant material to allow the fulfillment of design concepts that reflect the spirit and the beauty of the desert. With over 44 patents and trademarks, Mountain States is a leading innovator in plants for the desert southwest. The second stop is Francis Roses which is one of the largest producers of bare-root roses in the world. They grow thousands of varieties each year and deliver a quality product to a wide range of customers. The west valley is one of the best rose growing regions in the country. Francis Roses is passionate about roses and they look forward to hosting you! The final stop will be at the home of the Arizona Cardinals to see the famous roll-in/roll-out field at their stadium. This field utilizes state of the art irrigation with a mechanism to make this a venue that can host NFL football games on the turf, as well as trade shows and other events on the concrete floor. This stop will show you the best in turf management in the desert by Evergreen Turf.

**4. Blooming Ag Ed:** Participants will learn about the exciting activities in Arizona centered on agriculture education. They will tour Tolmachoff Farm which is a unique fourth generation family farm that grows a large variety of produce for distribution straight from the farm field to the consumer. The farm is open for field trips from October through March. The next stop is Liberty Elementary School. Participants will learn about its school-wide Agriscience Program. The final stop will be one of five AZ Agribusiness and Equine Center High Schools. These schools are situated on community college campuses and give the students an opportunity to earn college credit while attending a college prep charter high school.

**5. Research:** Participants will tour the University of Arizona Maricopa Ag Center (MAC) which is a 2100-acre research farm with a focus on cotton, small grains, alfalfa, and new specialty crops that could be used to provide fibers, oils and pharmaceuticals. Immediately adjacent to MAC is the USDA Arid Land Research Center (ALARC). ALARC research topics include crop management, integrated pest management, irrigation technology, remote sensing, water reuse, crop breeding and physiology, and global climate change.

**6. East Valley Reservation Farms:** The Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation is one of the smaller reservations in the state. Only four miles wide and 12 miles long, it is home to about 600 of the 950 tribal members and has 2,000 acres of land in production, including 1,000 acres of pecans, 300 acres of citrus – lemons, navel oranges, tangerines and tangelos – and the remainder in alfalfa and barley. The tribe receives its water supply in a monthly allocation from the Verde River, which runs through the reservation. While alfalfa and barley fields are flood irrigated, the pecan and citrus trees are irrigated through a multi-million-dollar drip irrigation system. The Yavapai people were historically nomadic hunter-gatherers in central Arizona and were moved from reservation to reservation in the 1800s. Fort McDowell, originally a U.S. Army post, was given to the Yavapai people in 1903. The Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community (SRPMIC) is slightly larger, at 52,600 acres, of which 19,000 acres have been set aside as a natural reserve. Home to members of the Pima and Maricopa tribes, there are about 9,000 tribal members enrolled. The tribe leases about 12,000 acres to area farmers on 10-year leases. Irrigation water comes from the Salt River through a canal system. These farms grow large quantities of alfalfa, corn for silage, cotton and vegetables from celery and leeks to sweet corn and cilantro. Rousseau Farming Company has leased about 3,000 acres on the SRPMIC since 1991. The family has farmed in the Phoenix area since 1878 and current owner and CEO Will Rousseau, is the fourth generation farming both on the reservation east of Scottsdale and in the west valley. The family operation grows carrots, broccoli, cabbage, sweet corn, watermelon and many more vegetables in both conventional and organic production. Associated Farms is another family operation that produces alfalfa, cotton and forage crops on about 3,000 acres on the SRPMIC. They came from Texas in the 1970s to manage the reservation farm for long-time Arizona farmer Gilbert "Shag" Rogers, became partners in 1976 and took over ownership when Rogers retired. Adam Hatley currently heads the operation since his father, Aubrey (Sonny) has semi-retired.

**7. Southeast Valley:** This tour will include operations on the eastern side of the Phoenix metro area. The tour of Queen Creek Olive Mill is referred to as "olive oil 101." Participants will learn the history of the company, about quality and standards of olive oil, health benefits, and use ideas. The 100-acre farm was developed in 1997 by the Perry Rhea family. He is the son of first generation Italian immigrants so he knew early on in his life about the significance of extra virgin olive oil. You will enjoy the "fruits" of their labor. At Hayden Flour Mills we will observe the farming and processing of "ancient grains," the term applied to grains grown long ago in this area. This is a family business that is re-creating Charles Hayden's 1873 vision of milling flours from some of the world's oldest varieties of wheat.

**8. Arizona Water–Yesterday and Today:** Tour participants will follow the development of water storage and delivery systems that allow Maricopa County to be a premier agricultural county in the U.S. even though it has the fourth largest population in the country. Participants will learn the history of the Salt River Project (SRP) which is the oldest multipurpose federal reclamation project in the United States. It was established in 1903 by ranchers and farmers who pledged their own land as collateral to repay federal loans to build Roosevelt Dam. Participants will also tour Central AZ Project (CAP) which delivers Colorado River water into central and Southern Arizona. The CAP is the largest and most expensive aqueduct system ever constructed in the United States. The last stop on the tour will include a trip to Lake Pleasant. There, participants will see where the drawdown cycle begins with water being released from the lake through the CAP canal for irrigation of the west valley irrigation areas during the summer.



# AGENDA



# SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

<b>MONDAY, JUNE 20, 2016</b>		
7:00 AM - 7:00 PM	<b>Pre-Conference Tours</b> 'Grand Canyon Tour'	
<b>TUESDAY, JUNE 21, 2016</b>		
12:00 PM - 6:00 PM	<b>Registration Open</b>	
8:00 AM - 3:00 PM	<b>Pre-Conference Tours</b> 'Theodore Roosevelt Dam'	
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	<b>NAITCO Meeting</b>	Aztec B/C
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM	<b>NAITCO Dinner</b>	White Tank Mountain Regional Park Nature Center
<b>WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22, 2016</b>		
6:30 AM - 5:00 PM	<b>Registration Open</b>	
7:00 AM - 12:00 PM	<b>Traveling Workshops</b>	
7:00 AM - 12:00 PM	<b>Exhibit and Silent Auction Set-up</b>	Wigwam Foyer
<b>12:00 PM - 2:15 PM</b>	<b>OPENING LUNCHEON</b>  <b>Welcome from Mark Killian</b> Director, AZ Department of Agriculture  <b>Harvesting: Crops and Careers - Mark Anderson, USCHI</b>  <b>KEYNOTE ADDRESS:</b> <b>'Focus on Impact...The Lessons that Matter'</b> <b>David Mouser, Superintendent Tri-Valley Schools, Downs, IL</b>	Wigwam Ballroom
12:00 PM - 9:00 PM	<b>Exhibits and Silent Auction Open</b>	Wigwam Foyer
<b>WORKSHOP SESSION 1</b>		
2:15 PM - 3:30 PM	<b>'Finding Your Oasis: The Wellspring of Ag in the Classroom Resources'</b> Traci Curry, Cheryl Butterfield <i>Grade Levels: All levels</i>	Aztec A
	<b>'STEMming Up Gardening for Grades'</b> Becky Sponholtz, Lisa Gaskalla <i>Grade Levels: 7-9</i>	Aztec B
	<b>'Farming and Reading Throughout The Year'</b> Dewandee Neyman <i>Grade Levels: Pre K-2</i>	Aztec C
	<b>'Agriculture websites that will help your students bloom'</b> Pam Hosimer <i>Grade Levels: All levels</i>	Sahuaro
	<b>'Translating Applied STEM Research into Secondary Science (TASRs)'</b> Cory Forbes, Jennifer Keshwani, Molly Brandt, Tyler Wolken <i>Grade Levels: 10-12</i>	Sachem East
	<b>'Feeding the World: Connecting Your Students to International Agriculture'</b> Will Fett <i>Grade Levels: All levels</i>	Sachem West

## SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

2:15 PM - 3:30 PM	<b>'Turn Ag Stories To Ag Movies'</b> Cheryl Bombenger <i>Grade Levels: All levels</i>	Mohave East
	<b>'The Geography of Agriculture'</b> Denise Stewardson <i>Grade Levels: 10-12</i>	Mohave West
	<b>'Bringing Biotechnology to Life'</b> Angela Mayfield <i>Grade Levels: 7-9</i>	Kiva Room
	<b>'Mooring and Chewing Around Wisconsin'</b> Ashley Prue <i>Grade Levels: 3-6</i>	Arizona Room
3:30 PM - 3:45 PM	<b>Coffee Break</b>	
<b>WORKSHOP SESSION 2</b>		
3:45 PM - 5:00 PM	<b>'The QUEST for the Whole Enchilada'</b> Melinda Jackson, Traci Curry <i>Grade Levels: 7-9</i>	Aztec A
	<b>'Growing a Classroom Through the Study of Seeds'</b> Tanna Nicely, Chris Fleming, Courtney Bennett <i>Grade Levels: 3-6</i>	Aztec B
	<b>'Growing Literacy with Agriculture Book Bundles'</b> Sue Knott <i>Grade Levels: Pre K-2</i>	Aztec C
	<b>'Math and Agriculture: A perfect fit'</b> Christopher Szkutak <i>Grade Levels: 10-12</i>	Sahuaro
	<b>'Journey of a Gene - Bringing Biotechnology to the Classroom'</b> Stacie Turnbull <i>Grade Levels: 10-12</i>	Sachem East
	<b>'Feeding the World: Connecting Your Students to International Agriculture'</b> Will Fett <i>Grade Levels: All levels</i>	Sachem West
	<b>'Scientists' Theater in Full Bloom'</b> Jill Vigesaa, Virginia Deitz <i>Grade Levels: All levels</i>	Mohave East
	<b>'Journey 2050'</b> Lindsey Verhaeghe <i>Grade Levels: 7-9</i>	Mohave West
	<b>'Bringing Biotechnology to Life'</b> Angela Mayfield <i>Grade Levels: 7-9</i>	Kiva Room
	<b>'Write your way to the farm'</b> Katie Aikins, Sarahbeth Belvado <i>Grade Levels: All levels</i>	Arizona Room
5:30 PM - 6:30 PM	<b>Reception</b>	Wigwam Foyer
6:30 PM - 9:00 PM	<b>Opening Dinner - Ag Advocate Award, Live Auction</b>	Wigwam Ballroom

**THURSDAY, JUNE 23, 2016**

7:30 AM - 7:30 PM	<b>Registration Open</b>	
7:30 AM - 9:00 AM	<b>Breakfast - White Reinhardt and CHS Awards</b>	Wigwam Ballroom
<b>WORKSHOP SESSION 3</b>		
9:15 AM - 10:30 AM	<b>'Engaging all Students: Adding Agriculture into the K-5 Classroom'</b> Lisa Ann Taylor, Sarah Glenn <i>Grade Levels: 3-6</i>	Aztec A
	<b>'The A-MAZE-ING Mississippi River'</b> Margaret Budde, Tanna Nicely <i>Grade Levels: 3-6</i>	Aztec B
	<b>'Language Arts &amp; Agriculture '</b> Cindy Hall <i>Grade Levels: 3-6</i>	Aztec C
	<b>'Got Gas?'</b> Betty Wolanyk <i>Grade Levels: 7-9</i>	Sahuaro
	<b>'CyberSheep: Teach Genetics with a Sheep Breeding Simulation'</b> Diana Webber <i>Grade Levels: 10-12</i>	Sachem East
	<b>'Engaging Girls in STEM Education'</b> Natosha Newton <i>Grade Levels: 3-6</i>	Sachem West
	<b>'Sharing a Watershed!'</b> Pamela Justice <i>Grade Levels: 7-9</i>	Mohave East
	<b>'NPK! Fun with Fertilizer Facts!'</b> DeAnn Tenhunfeld <i>Grade Levels: 7-9</i>	Mohave West
	<b>'First Peas to the Table'</b> Angela Mayfield <i>Grade Levels: 3-6</i>	Kiva Room
<b>'Eggs in the Classroom: Lesson Plans for All Ages'</b> Jacinta LeDonne <i>Grade Levels: All levels</i>	Arizona Room	
10:30 AM - 10:45 AM	<b>Coffee Break</b>	
<b>WORKSHOP SESSION 4</b>		
10:45 AM - 12:00 PM	<b>'Come 'eat, drink and be merry' while doing Ag-Science activities'</b> Craig Wilson <i>Grade Levels: All levels</i>	Aztec A
	<b>'AgLIT (Agricultural Literacy through Innovative Technology): A Fully STEM-Integrated, Project-Based, Upper-Elementary Curriculum Module'</b> Farah L. Vallera <i>Grade Levels: 3-6</i>	Aztec B
	<b>'Tech and Ag'</b> Angela McCullough, Shawn Dzielawa <i>Grade Levels: Pre K-2</i>	Aztec C



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10:45 AM - 12:00 PM	<b>'Growing with Grains'</b> Becky Ridgeway, Terry Serio <i>Grade Levels: 3-6</i>	Sahuaro
	<b>'Pollinators in the High School Biology Classroom'</b> Erin Ingram, Mary Morrow, Cory Forbes, Molly Brandt <i>Grade Levels: 10-12</i>	Sachem East
	<b>'Engaging Girls in STEM Education'</b> Natosha Newton <i>Grade Levels: 3-6</i>	Sachem West
	<b>'The 4Rs of Nutrient Stewardship'</b> Tiffany Ballow, Rick Phillips <i>Grade Levels: All levels</i>	Mohave East
	<b>'Classroom to the Cafeteria: Using an Untapped Farm to School Resource'</b> Misty Friedman, Rich Friedman <i>Grade Levels: All levels</i>	Mohave West
	<b>'Planting the Seeds of Agriculture'</b> Karrie Perrin <i>Grade Levels: 3-6</i>	Kiva Room
	<b>'"Ag" cited About Pumpkins'</b> Lynne Gibson, Stephanie Young <i>Grade Levels: Pre K-2</i>	Arizona Room
12:15 PM - 2:00 PM	<b>LUNCHEON</b> <b>Excellence in Teaching about Agriculture Awards</b>	Wigwam Ballroom

WORKSHOP SESSION 5		
2:15 PM - 3:30 PM	<p><b>'SOIL activities to get your hands soiled but not dirty. Dirt is soil that is 'out of place.'</b></p> <p>Craig Wilson <i>Grade Levels: All levels</i></p>	Aztec A
	<p><b>'Drive Through Florida: 'Vegetables'</b></p> <p>Arlette Roberge <i>Grade Levels: 3-6</i></p>	Aztec B
	<p><b>'Engaging with Multi-media Ag Texts'</b></p> <p>Brad Banning <i>Grade Levels: All levels</i></p>	Aztec C
	<p><b>'Pizza Comes From Farms?'</b></p> <p>Stacy DeVeau <i>Grade Levels: 3-6</i></p>	Sahuaro
	<p><b>'Strategies for 3-D Learning with Agriculture'</b></p> <p>Debra Spielmaker <i>Grade Levels: All levels</i></p>	Sachem East
	<p><b>'Growing STEMS'</b></p> <p>Jennifer Bates, Dr. Rachael Flynn-Hopper <i>Grade Levels: All levels</i></p>	Sachem West
	<p><b>'We All Need Trees'</b></p> <p>Suzi Myers, Debbie Ruff <i>Grade Levels: All levels</i></p>	Mohave East
	<p><b>'Aquaponics in the Classroom'</b></p> <p>Randy Mann <i>Grade Levels: All levels</i></p>	Mohave West
	<p><b>'It's Elementary - Learning the Basics of the Periodic Table'</b></p> <p>Debra Wagner <i>Grade Levels: 3-6</i></p>	Kiva Room
	<p><b>'Harvesting Crops and Careers &amp; Consider the "Pulseabilities"'</b></p> <p>Lorri Brenneman <i>Grade Levels: All levels</i></p>	Arizona Room
3:30 PM - 3:45 PM	<b>Coffee Break</b>	
3:45 PM	<b>Silent Auction Closes</b>	
WORKSHOP SESSION 6		
3:45 PM - 5:00 PM	<p><b>'The Mall of the Future vs. The Ag Mall'</b></p> <p>Beth Switzer <i>Grade Levels: 3-6</i></p>	Aztec A
	<p><b>'Making Connections to Everyday Learning'</b></p> <p>Elizabeth Russell, Jennifer Gray <i>Grade Levels: All levels</i></p>	Aztec B
	<p><b>'What's Your Beef?'</b></p> <p>Tiffany Selchow <i>Grade Levels: 10-12</i></p>	Aztec C
	<p><b>'Cultivating Agriculture through the Arts'</b></p> <p>Erica Summerlin, Darlene Petranick <i>Grade Levels: Pre K-2</i></p>	Sahuaro

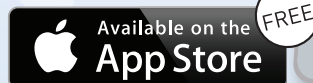
## SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

3:45 PM - 5:00 PM	<b>'The Quad Squad: Drones in Agriculture'</b> Denise Stewardson <i>Grade Levels: 10-12</i>	Sachem East
	<b>'Standards-based education: S.T.E.A.M. lessons for grades 3-6'</b> Browning Neddeau <i>Grade Levels: 3-6</i>	Sachem West
	<b>'BUGDORK! Using insects to engage students and inspire learning'</b> Kristie Reddick, Jessica Honaker <i>Grade Levels: All levels</i>	Mohave East
	<b>'The Blooming Mystery'</b> Mary Beth Bennett <i>Grade Levels: 7-9</i>	Mohave West
	<b>'Desert Greenhouses'</b> Jennifer Esposito <i>Grade Levels: All levels</i>	Kiva Room
	<b>'Building from the Bag'</b> Dr. Eugenia Badger <i>Grade Levels: All levels</i>	Arizona Room
5:30 - 7:00 PM	<b>Silent Auction Pick Up</b>	
6:15 PM - 8:30 PM	<b>Fiesta on the Lawn - Buffet and Networking</b>	

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<b>FRIDAY, JUNE 24, 2016</b>		
7:00 AM - 12:00 PM	<b>Registration Open</b>	
7:00 AM - 8:45 AM	<b>CLOSING BREAKFAST – Thank you Arizona, Hello Kansas City!</b> <b>Keynote Address:</b> <b>'Fluent in 'Bug': The magical language that inspires learning'</b> <b>The Bug Chicks: Kristie Reddick, Jessica Honaker</b>	Wigwam Ballroom
7:30 AM - 9:00 AM	<b>Silent Auction Pick Up</b>	
8:00 AM - 2:00 PM	<b>UPS Pop Up Store</b>	Registration Area
<b>MINI WORKSHOPS (four 25-minute rotations)</b>		
	9:00 AM - 9:25 AM Mini Workshop 1 9:30 AM - 9:55 AM Mini Workshop 2	10:00 AM - 10:25 AM Mini Workshop 3 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM Mini Workshop 4
9:00 AM - 11:00 AM	<b>'Gardens in and out of your school'</b> Kevin Duplissie <i>Grade Levels: Pre K-2</i>	Aztec A
	<b>'Pizz-A-Thon: Engaging Activities to Teach Ag Literacy'</b> Liz Sample <i>Grade Levels: 3-6</i>	Aztec B
	<b>'Beautiful Bees'</b> Luci Eblin <i>Grade Levels: Pre K-2</i>	Aztec C
	<b>'Poultry in the Classroom'</b> Todd Willis <i>Grade Levels: 3-6</i>	Sahuaro
	<b>'Tasty Tips for Taste Tests!'</b> DeAnn Tenhunfeld, Judy Culbertson <i>Grade Levels: 3-6</i>	Sachem East
	<b>'AgExplorations'</b> Kristie Popa <i>Grade Levels: 10-12</i>	Sachem West
	<b>'Awesome Openings and Outstanding Endings'</b> Sue Knott <i>Grade Levels: All levels</i>	Mohave East
	<b>'Agriculture Education Joins the 21st Century - Online Agriculture Classes'</b> Kassi Simpson, Leroy Nelson <i>Grade Levels: 10-12</i>	Mohave West
	<b>'Fruits, Nuts, and Veggies, Oh My!'</b> Audrey Harmon, Cheri Long <i>Grade Levels: All levels</i>	Kiva Room
	<b>'Newspaper Ag Bags'</b> Virginia Deitz, Jill Vigesaa <i>Grade Levels: All levels</i>	Arizona Room
11:00 AM - 2:00 PM	<b>Exhibit Break-down</b>	
12:00 PM - 10:00 PM	<b>Post-Conference Tours</b> 'Grand Canyon Tour'	



# PRESENTER LISTING

## **AIKINS, Katie**

*Arizona Farm Bureau*

[katieaikins@azfb.org](mailto: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.

## **BADGER, Eugenia**

*Clark County Farm Bureau Board Member/ farm owner/operator and teacher*

[eebadger131@hotmail.com](mailto:eebadger131@hotmail.com)

I live on a farm in Southern Indiana. It is my family farm. I have lived here my whole life. We raise cattle and horses. I have a few chickens for fresh eggs. I have a BA in English, a MS in education with a concentration in English, and a Ph.D. in communication and culture with a specialty in speech. I am licensed in agriculture, language arts, and Spanish. I teach at a community college and I have taught high school. I have substituted in every grade. I received a grant for the activity that I would like to share with Ag in the Classroom from IUPUI.

## **BALLOW, Tiffany**

*USDA/ARS & Texas A&M University*

[tballow@nutrientsforlife.org](mailto:tballow@nutrientsforlife.org)

Tiffany Ballow is the Nutrients for Life Foundation's Louisiana Regional Representative. Based outside of New Orleans, she provides educational, grassroots, and public awareness in the state about soil science and the importance of crop nutrients.

## **BANNING, Brad**

*Illinois Ag in the Classroom*

[bbanning@ilfb.org](mailto:bbanning@ilfb.org)

Brad Banning has been an Education Specialist at Illinois Ag in The Classroom since 2015. Originally from the Chicagoland area, 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. Brad utilizes new technologies, and learning strategies to help Illinois Ag in the Classroom design curriculum that is relevant, innovative, challenging and engaging.

## **BATES, Jennifer**

*UT Extension*

[jenniferbates1@bellsouth.net](mailto: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 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.

## **BELVADO, Sarahbeth**

*Teacher at Gateway Polytechnic Academy*

[sbelvado@qcusd.org](mailto:sbelvado@qcusd.org)

Sarahbeth Belvado is a classroom teacher in the Queen Creek Unified School District where she serves students as a Resource and self-contained classroom teacher. At her new school, Gateway Polytechnic Academy, Belvado serves as the lead contact for the partnership the school has formed with the Arizona Farm Bureau Ag in the Classroom Program.

## **BENNETT, Courtney**

*First Academy of Leesburg*

[nicelycourtney@gmail.com](mailto:nicelycourtney@gmail.com)

Courtney Nicely Bennett teaches art at First Academy in Leesburg, Florida. She was raised on a beef cattle farm in Blaine, TN and has been her mother Tanna's assistant at many, many NAITC Conferences over the years. Courtney is a graduate of East TN State University. She brings experience from living on a farm and applying her background in the art classes she teaches. She lives with her husband Luke and enjoys all sorts of outdoor adventures in the great state of Florida!

**BENNETT, Mary Beth**

*Berkeley County Extension Office*

**MBBennett@mail.wvu.edu**

Mary Beth Bennett currently works as 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 22 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.

**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, 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. Her students also enjoy presenting at educational conferences on STEAM.



**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 with the National Center for Agricultural Literacy where she is interested in the agricultural knowledge of upper elementary students. 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.

**BRENNEMAN, Lorri**

*Montana Department of Agriculture*

**lbrenneman@mt.gov**

Lorri Brenneman works as the Agriculture Literacy Specialist for the Montana Department of Agriculture. She earned a Bachelor's degree in fine arts with a plant sciences minor from MSU Bozeman, an associate of science degree at Flathead Valley Community College, and a Master's degree from MSU Bozeman in Education in Curriculum Instruction and Development. Lorri has been involved in agriculture education in Montana for 12 years, and focuses her work on accurate agriculture education through hands on methods. Lorri received the Governor's "Educator of the Year" award in the spring of 2014. Prior to her current position Lorri taught school near Bozeman, Montana.

**BUDDE, Margaret**

*St. Martin's Episcopal School, Louisiana Farm Bureau*

**margaret.perret@stmsaints.com**

As an elementary teacher, Margaret Perret Budde has incorporated agricultural concepts into every area of the curriculum, creating exciting adventures in learning for her students. She has participated in the Agriculture in the Classroom program at the local, state and national levels for over twelve years. Margaret is a past recipient of the White-Reinhardt Education Scholarship and two White-Reinhardt Mini-Grants. She has presented workshops through the Louisiana AITC program and at several National Ag in the Classroom Conferences. Margaret has lived most of her adult life near New Orleans on the Great River Road that follows the Mississippi River, spending enjoyable time watching the river traffic of commodity-loaded barges and cargo vessels from atop its levees.

## PRESENTER LISTING

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### **BUTTERFIELD, Cheryl**

*NM Ag in the Classroom*

[agclass1@nmflb.org](mailto:agclass1@nmflb.org)

Cheryl Butterfield joined New Mexico Ag In The Classroom in 2014, but that was not the beginning of her involvement in agriculture education. She coordinated agriculture education tours for the general public and school groups at the New Mexico State Fair and Eastern New Mexico State Fair for a combined nineteen years. Cheryl grew up in northeastern New Mexico in a farming and ranching family. She graduated from New Mexico State University with a B.S. in Agriculture Economics and a M.S. in Home Economics. Cheryl spent 20 years with the New Mexico Cooperative Extension Service working in 4-H, agriculture and nutrition. She also taught middle school at Ft. Sumner Municipal schools.

### **CULBERTSON, Judy**

*CFAITC*

[Judy@LearnAboutAg.org](mailto:Judy@LearnAboutAg.org)

Judy Culbertson grew up on a fifth generation pear orchard in Courtland, a small town outside of Sacramento, California. She received her B.S. in Agricultural Business Management. In 1981, Judy joined the California Farm Bureau Federation assisting with the development of its agricultural education projects. Five years later, California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom was formed and Judy continued her work for agricultural education through the Foundation. Judy is currently serving as the Foundation's Executive Director and her vision for the Foundation is to see every student have an appreciation and curiosity to learn about where his or her food and fiber come from.

### **CURRY, Traci**

*NMAITC*

[agclass@nmflb.org](mailto:agclass@nmflb.org)

Traci Curry is the state contact for NM Ag in the Classroom. She knew since the first grade that she wanted to be an educator. She had the pleasure of teaching first, second, and third graders for eleven years before coming to NM AG in the Classroom. She continues to work on inspiring students and teachers to rediscover their love of learning through agriculture.

### **DEITZ, Virginia**

*North Dakota Ag in the Classroom*

[deitzv@gmail.com](mailto: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 communities on her many topics of agriculture, and its importance in our lives.

### **DEVEAU, Stacy**

*The University of Arizona - Yavapai County Cooperative Extension*

[sdeveau@email.arizona.edu](mailto:sdeveau@email.arizona.edu)

Stacy is a former classroom teacher and has been providing hands-on and engaging lessons in STEM for 18 years.

### **DUPLISSIE, Kevin**

*Child Study Center at the University of Maine*

[kevin.duplissie@maine.edu](mailto:kevin.duplissie@maine.edu)

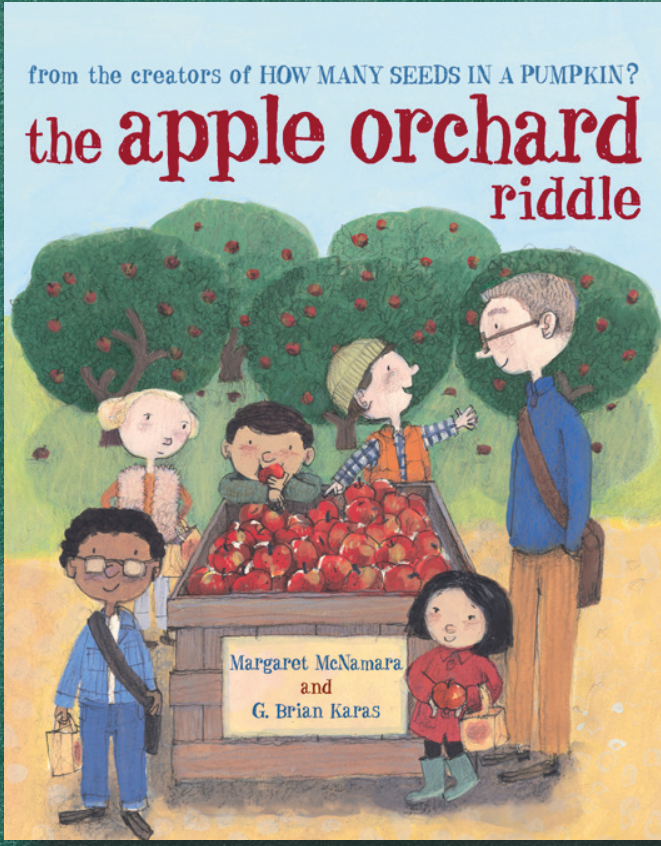
Kevin Duplissie, Director/Head Teacher of the Child Study Center at the University of Maine, was named the 2015 Maine Agriculture in the Classroom (MAITC) Teacher of the Year. Duplissie has been working with preschool children for over 30 years. The center provides preschool education and offers a curriculum focused on agriculture, art, language and self-help skills, and is a lab school with over 100 UMaine students participating last year. Duplissie, who has been using MAITC curriculum since 2008, integrates agriculture into every subject and conducts several ag related activities each week.

### **DZIELAWA, Shawn**

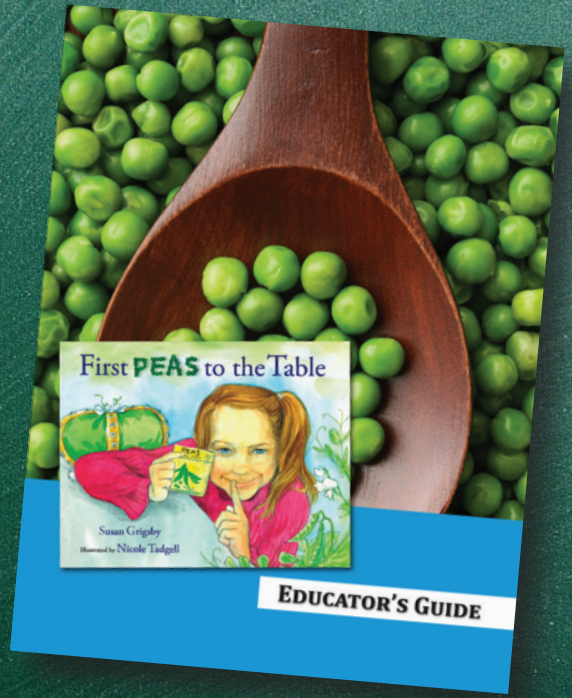
*West Chester Area School District*

[Sdzielawa@wcasd.net](mailto:Sdzielawa@wcasd.net)

I am a second grade teacher with twenty-five 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. In 2014 and 2015, I also presented at the National Ag in the Classroom Convention.



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The American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture has standards based educational resources for PreK-12. Find out more at [agfoundation.org](http://agfoundation.org).

## PRESENTER LISTING

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### **EBLIN, Luci**

*Liberty Elementary school*

[LEblin@liberty.k12.az.us](mailto:LEblin@liberty.k12.az.us)

Luci Eblin was born in New York and went to college at St. Norbert on Green Bay, Wisconsin, where she received her Elementary Ed Degree. She earned a Master's degree from National Louis University in Evanston, Indiana. Luci worked in the suburbs of Chicago, Lake Zurich, Illinois, for ten years before moving to Arizona and taking time off for 7 years to have her two children. She went back to teaching in 2007. Luci moved to work at Liberty Agriscience school two years ago and has been learning about how important it is that our children know where our food comes from and how farmers are heroes. It was then that she caught onto learning about our wonderful bees. Without them, the farmers and our food supply would be in a lot of trouble. Luci felt that she needed children to know that bees were really wonderful creatures and without them, our fruit and vegetables would pretty much cease to exist.

### **ESPOSITO, Jennifer**

*Liberty Elementary School*

[jesposito@liberty.k12.az.us](mailto:jesposito@liberty.k12.az.us)

Jennifer Esposito has been teaching at Liberty Elementary for 12 years as a seventh and eighth grade reading, writing, and social studies teacher.

### **FETT, Will**

*Iowa Agriculture Literacy Foundation*

[wfett@iowaagliteracy.org](mailto: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, Indiana, 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.

### **FLEMING, Chris**

*Tennessee Foundation for AITC*

[cfleming@tfbf.com](mailto: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.

### **FLYNN-HOPPER, Rachael**

*Belmont University*

[rachael.flynn@belmont.edu](mailto:rachael.flynn@belmont.edu)

Dr. Flynn-Hopper is the Director of the Master of Arts in Teaching Program and an Associate Professor of Education at Belmont University. She has a doctorate in Curriculum and Instruction of Reading. Her research interests are in inquiry based teaching and in successfully linking all content areas through literacy.

### **FORBES, Cory**

*University of Nebraska-Lincoln*

[cforbes3@unl.edu](mailto:cforbes3@unl.edu)

Cory Forbes is an Associate Professor of Science Education in the School of Natural Resources and serves as IANR Science Literacy Coordinator and Director of the National Center for Agricultural Literacy. Forbes holds a B.S. in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology and M.S. in Science Education from the University of Kansas and M.S. in Natural Resources and Ph.D. in Science Education from the University of Michigan. He directs multiple externally-funded projects that involve regional, national, and international partnerships with education researchers, STEM faculty, teachers, and other stakeholders. Through these projects, Forbes pursues an active educational research program and is involved in science curriculum development, teacher professional development, and assessment design. Forbes was awarded the 2014 Early Career Research Award by the National Association for Research in Science Teaching.

**FRIEDMAN, Misty**

*Georgia Department of Agriculture*

Misty.Friedman@agr.georgia.gov

I am the Farm to School Coordinator/School Nutrition Coordinator for the Georgia Department of Agriculture. I have worked in varied aspects of school nutrition for eight years. I am a classically trained chef and have been in professional food service for over 25 years. As the farm to school coordinator I work with school systems across the state to highlight agriculture education opportunities. I also facilitate two programs with 34 systems (k-12) to bring more Georgia agriculture products into the school cafeterias.

**FRIEDMAN, Rich**

*Jackson County School*

rfriedman@jackson.k12.ga.us

I have worked in school nutrition for 10 years. I am a classically trained chef with 25 years in food service. While working with school nutrition, I have worked with many teachers to develop lessons that will carry from the classroom into the cafeteria. I have helped teachers work with the students on writing, nutrition, math and career opportunities. I work with the Georgia Department of Agriculture to develop and test the Georgia Grown Test Kitchen recipes. These recipes are used in school nutrition programs across the state.

**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 twelve years. Before that, she worked as executive director of Polk County Farm Bureau and the 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.

**GIBSON, Lynne**

*Liberty Elementary School*

lgibson@liberty.k12.az.us

I am a second grade teacher at Liberty Elementary School. I have been teaching for 13 years.

**GLENN, Sarah**

*Huntsville Intermediate School*

s Glenn@1hsd.org

Sarah Glenn is a fourth grade teacher at Huntsville Intermediate school and has a bachelor's degree in psychology from Arkansas Tech University. She received the Arkansas Outstanding Teacher of the Year Award in 2010, the National Excellence in Teaching about Agriculture Award in 2011 and a White – Reinhardt Scholarship in 2013.

**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. There she has helped build strong programs and resources focusing on language arts and STEM. Cindy grew up on a family farm in SE Iowa. She attended Iowa State University and the University of Delaware and has worked in agriculture literacy for more than 10 years.

**HARMON, Audrey**

*Oklahoma Ag in the Classroom*

Audrey.harmon@ag.ok.gov

Audrey Harmon is an Ag in the Classroom (AITC) state coordinator with 13 years teaching experience. In 2009, she was the Oklahoma AITC TOY and in 2010 she won the National Excellence in Teaching About Agriculture award.

## PRESENTER LISTING

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### **HOSIMER, Pam**

*University of Maryland Extension Master Gardener*

[phosimer@verizon.net](mailto:phosimer@verizon.net)

Pam Hosimer is an Agricultural Educator and Resource Librarian. 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 Maryland since its inception in 2009. Pam's engaging programs have taken her around the country to lead workshops at 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 2015 American Horticultural Society's National Children & Youth Garden Symposium in Austin, TX. She merges traditional curriculum topics with state of the art online resources and innovative technology, giving teachers a toolbox of resources to teach agriculture effortlessly within their curriculum. Pam has a Master of Library and Information Science degree from University of Maryland College Park.

### **INGRAM, Erin**

*University of Nebraska-Lincoln*

[erin.michelle.ingram@gmail.com](mailto:erin.michelle.ingram@gmail.com)

Erin Ingram is a PhD student in the Department of Entomology at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. In 2013, she earned her Master's in Entomology in the area of honey bee toxicology. She holds a Bachelor's of Science in elementary education. She is currently researching how and why high school life science teachers incorporate insects in the classroom.

### **JACKSON, Melinda**

*New Mexico Farm Bureau, New Mexico AITC*

[jacksonmfarm@yahoo.com](mailto:jacksonmfarm@yahoo.com)

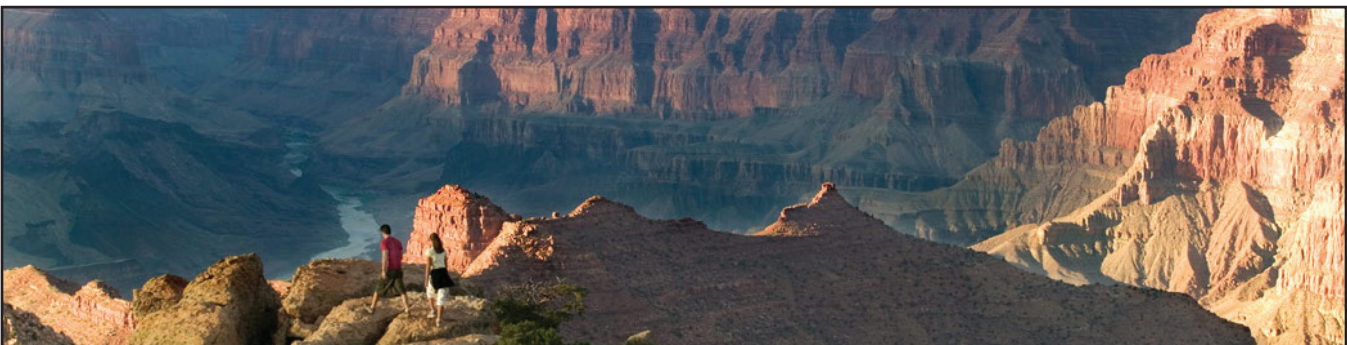
As a fifth generation NM rancher, I have had the advantage of teaching seventh-ninth graders from the perspective of an agriculturalist. Whether I am talking about water resources, John Chisum or what happened at the ranch yesterday, students hear real experiences and touch tangible items that were used on estancias of yesterday and the ranch today. I grew up on a sheep/cattle operation north of Roswell in alien territory, was an exchange student to Santa Cruz, Bolivia in high school, and graduated with a Business degree from UTEP, and received teacher certifications in Business, Language Arts, TESOL, Social Studies, Family and Consumer Science and Health from ENMU. Married to John Jackson for 37 years, we ranch at Lake Arthur and have 3 grown children. In 2011, I received the NMAITC Teacher of the Year and 2012 National award. I serve on the NM Women's Leadership Committee and NMFLB Foundation Board.

### **JUSTICE, Pamela**

*University of Arizona Cooperative Extension, Arizona Project WET*

[pjustice@email.arizona.edu](mailto:pjustice@email.arizona.edu)

Pam is employed by the University of Arizona in the Maricopa County Cooperative Extension office with Arizona Project WET where she coordinates educational and outreach programs that improve the understanding of both youth and adults regarding water issues. She is a fourth generation Arizona native whose family farms west of metropolitan Phoenix. She is a past-president of Maricopa County Farm Bureau. Before her employment with UofA, she also served as a member of the Dysart Unified School District Governing Board and is a Past-President of the Arizona School Boards Association.



Grand Canyon by Visit Arizona Site

**KESHWANI, Jennifer**

*University of Nebraska-Lincoln*

[jmelander7@unl.edu](mailto:jmelander7@unl.edu)

Jenny Keshwani 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. Keshwani 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.

**KNOTT, Sue**

*Minnesota Agriculture in the Classroom*

[sue.knott@state.mn.us](mailto: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 four years and has enjoyed opportunities to provide professional development that builds educators' comfort and confidence in utilizing agricultural content to enhance their curricula.

**LEDONNE, Jacinta**

*American Egg Board*

[jledonne@aeb.org](mailto: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.

**LONG, Cheri**

*Oklahoma Ag in the Classroom*

[Cheri.long@ag.ok.gov](mailto:Cheri.long@ag.ok.gov)

Cheri Long is an Ag in the Classroom (AITC) state coordinator. Previously, Cheri taught T1 and Library Media and was named Oklahoma AITC Teacher of the Year. Cheri has also completed the Oklahoma Ag Leadership Program.

**MANN, Randy**

*Mesa Public Schools*

[rtmann@mpsaz.org](mailto:rtmann@mpsaz.org)

I have been a public school teacher for the past 21 years with the Mesa Public Schools system in Mesa, Arizona. I currently teach sixth grade at Johnson Elementary. I have been one of the garden club sponsors at our school for the past six years. Our garden club currently has over 40 members and meets once a week after school.

**MAYFIELD, Angela**

*American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture*

[educationdirector@fb.org](mailto:educationdirector@fb.org)

Angela Mayfield is passionate about learning, serving, and representing the agriculture industry. Angela graduated from California State University Chico with a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture Science and a minor in Spanish. She began her teaching career as an agriculture science and biology teacher in Santa Rosa, California. She then moved to a seven-person agriculture department in the top producing agriculture county in the nation, Tulare County. Along with her colleagues, Angela managed a 100-acre school farm, including a working dairy, cotton, alfalfa, greenhouse production, hog farrowing facilities, and sheep production facility. Today Angela works for Vivayic, Inc as an instructional designer and manages the role of Education Director for the American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture. She currently lives in Plymouth, California, with her husband Josiah, daughter Reagan and son Elijah.



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## **MCCULLOUGH, Angela**

*West Chester Area School District*

[Amccullough@wcasd.net](mailto:Amccullough@wcasd.net)

I am a second 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 of the Pennsylvania Ag in the Classroom and attendee of two National Ag Conventions in 2013 and 2014, and a presenter in 2015. My teaching career has spanned 30 years and many elementary ages. I have also written lessons for the Pennsylvania Preferred and Pennsylvania Apple Marketing Board.

## **MORROW, Mary**

*Lincoln East High School, Lincoln, Nebraska*

[mmorrow@lps.org](mailto:mmorrow@lps.org)

Mary Burke Morrow is a geoscience and biology teacher at Lincoln East High School in Lincoln, Nebraska. She received a BA in Biology from Sweet Briar College and an MA in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. She has 27 years of teaching experience and is board-certified by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS).

## **MYERS, Suzi**

*Kane County Farm Bureau*

[aitc@kanecfb.com](mailto: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 Education Association of Illinois).

**NEDDEAU, Browning**

*California State University, Monterey Bay*

**bneddeau@csumb.edu**

Dr. Browning Neddeau, M.A., Ed.D. is an Assistant Professor of Education in the Liberal Studies Department at California State University, Monterey Bay. Browning's areas of expertise include: standards-based education, arts education, teacher education, elementary education, and program evaluation. In addition to his work at the university, Browning leads professional development, conducts program evaluations, and builds partnerships in arts, agriculture, and education. He has been engaged with work in curricular alignment and presentations with the California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom since 2011. Prior to being a full-time university faculty member, Browning was a full-time elementary school classroom teacher where he spent the majority of his time as a fourth grade teacher.

**NELSON, Leroy**

*Nelson Academy of Agriculture Sciences Online*

**leroy.nelson@k12.nd.us**

Mr. Nelson grew up on a diversified farm and ranch in northeastern Montana, near the Canadian border. He attended school and graduated from the Peerless School in Peerless, Montana. Mr. Nelson attended UND Williston and began an associates degree in farm and ranch management. Mr. Nelson then decided to pursue a degree in Agriculture Education. He graduated with a bachelor of science degree in Agriculture Education in 1984. He spent the next 15 years teaching agriculture and advising FFA chapters in Scobey, Culbertson, Peerless and Opheim Montana. In 2004, Mr. Nelson began his administrative career as Superintendent of the Opheim School District. He obtained a masters degree from Montana State University in Educational Leadership. Mr. Nelson also obtained his superintendent endorsement from the University of Montana.

**NEWTON, Natosha**

*NC FB Ag in the Classroom*

**newtonnatosha@gmail.com**

I am a sixth year teacher of sixth grade Language & Literature. I am also an Ag in the Classroom Specialist of the state of North Carolina. I, with a team, travel the state presenting workshops on ag-based curriculum incorporated into Common Core. My experience in Agriculture Education started one year ago when I was selected by my county Farm Bureau as a Kenan Fellow. I am an Agriculture Advocate and Educator in my own school building and this year will be teaching an all girls STEM education course in sixth grade. My degree is in Elementary Education with a licensure in 6-9 Middle School Language Arts. I am married and our first son was born on 12/4/15-Carter Daniel Newton.

**NEYMAN, Dewandee**

*Alabama AITC*

**dneyma@tds.net**

I am a retired school teacher, having taught second grade for 31 years. I also served on our local school board. My husband Danny and I farm. We have poultry houses and a beef cattle farm. We have two sons who are Principals at our local schools. We also have four future farmer grandsons!

**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. A graduate of the University of Tennessee and Johnson University, Tanna is currently working on her doctorate in leadership from East Tennessee State University and teaches science methods at South College. She has been in education for over 22 years and now serves as an elementary principal in the Knoxville area. She also works as an educational consultant for the Tennessee Foundation for Ag in the Classroom. Tanna has served on the Tennessee Science Teachers Association board and has presented at a variety of workshops including the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, National Staff Development Conference, and the National AITC Conference. Her passions for farming and agriculture garnered her a White/Reinhardt scholarship and a Presidential Award in Science. Tanna lives on Sycamore Farms with her husband, Brad, and two wonderful kids, Courtney and Drew.

## PRESENTER LISTING

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### **PERRIN, Karrie**

*Stephens County Farm Bureau/ Stephens County 5th Grade Academy*

[karrie.perrin@stephenscountyschools.org](mailto:karrie.perrin@stephenscountyschools.org)

Karrie Perrin is a fifth grade teacher from Toccoa, Georgia. She has been teaching for 18 years and actively involved in promoting AG in the Classroom since 2010. She's been married for 15 years and is the proud mother of two boys, Jared, 14, and Aiden, 6. Karrie was the recipient of Georgia's Excellence in Teaching Agriculture and a 2014 White-Reinhardt Scholarship recipient. She has presented four times at the National AG in the Classroom Conference (Colorado, Minnesota, Pennsylvania, and Kentucky). 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@ncaginthe classroom.com](mailto:darlene.petranick@ncaginthe classroom.com)

I was born and raised on a farm in the mountains of North Carolina 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 21 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 Excellence in Teacher About Agriculture award winner and an Arts and Science Cato Excellence in Teaching winner.

### **PHILLIPS, Rick**

*Nutrients for Life*

[rphillips@nutrientsforlife.org](mailto:rphillips@nutrientsforlife.org)

Rick Phillips works for Nutrients for Life Foundation serving as boots-on-the-ground in Idaho, Washington, and California. He also works for Simplot Company part time.

### **POPA, Kristie**

*UF/IFAS DeSoto County 4-H*

[kpopa@ufl.edu](mailto:kpopa@ufl.edu)

Kristie Popa works as the 4-H Agent in DeSoto County for the University of Florida. Kristie received her Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from Florida Gulf Coast University and her Master's Degree in Agricultural Education and Communication from the University of Florida. As the 4-H Agent in DeSoto County, Kristie has worked to educate youth about agriculture, health and nutrition and STEM through many different avenues.

### **PRUE, Ashley**

*Brown County Dairy Promotions/ 3rd Grade Teacher St. John Bosco Elementary School*

[apdairyeducator@gmail.com](mailto:apdairyeducator@gmail.com)

I am from the inner city of Green Bay and I never lived on a farm. I am a third grade teacher who promotes agriculture in the classroom. My younger sister, Ann Marie and my mother, Tina Prue got me involved in agriculture with our local FFA Alumni. From there I was introduced to Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom where I attended conferences and other trainings. I shared agricultural resources with other educators. Then I started working for the Brown County Dairy Promotions where I learned about dairy farms and other agricultural businesses in Wisconsin. As a dairy ambassador I love sharing the farmers' story. As an FFA Alumni member I attended FFA conferences and one National FFA Alumni Development Conference. 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 and 2016 Conference.

### **RIDGEWAY, Becky**

*University of Maryland Extension*

[bridgewa@umd.edu](mailto:bridgewa@umd.edu)

Becky Ridgeway is a graduate of West Virginia University earning her master's degree in Agricultural and Extension Education. She spent a year as a graduate teaching assistant teaching a global foods and agriculture course at WVU. She currently works for University of Maryland Extension in Carroll County, Maryland where she works closely within animal and agricultural sciences. She has been a 4-H Educator since 2012 where she has established in-school and field trip programs for elementary schools. Becky grew up raising Charolais cattle and currently owns a small flock of Tunis sheep that she shows nationally.

**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.

**RUFF, Debbie**

*NRCS-CD Pontiac, IL*

**debra.ruff@il.nacdn.net**

Debbie Ruff has served as the Education Coordinator for Livingston County's Farm Bureau and Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) for 20+ years. She serves on the Illinois mAGic (Multidisciplinary Agricultural Integrated Curriculum) Kit team as a writer. Debbie also conducts volunteer walk and talks and Project Learning Tree (PLT) educator events at local nature centers. She is a member of the Environmental Education Association of Illinois (EEAI) and is a certified Illinois Master Naturalist.

**RUSSELL, Elizabeth**

*Liberty Elementary School*

**erussell@liberty.k12.az.us**

I have been an elementary school teacher for 15 years. I have taught grades third through sixth and currently teach fifth grade. I have thoroughly enjoyed adding agriscience to our standards and helping students make connections and add depth to their learning.

**SAMPLE, Liz**

*Iowa State University*

**easample@iastate.edu**

Reader, lover of horses, and agriculturist, Liz Sample is working towards a Master's degree in agricultural education. Her inspiration for teaching agriculture started during her involvement in 4-H and FFA as a youth and continued while enrolled at Iowa State University. While at ISU, Liz received her Bachelor's degree in animal science, competed at multiple collegiate horse judging contests, and served as a teaching assistant for several equine courses. These activities helped shape her into the horse judge and teacher she aspires to be.

**SELCHOW, Tiffany**

*Arizona Beef Council*

**tnselchow@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, serves on the College of Agriculture and Life Science Alumni Board. 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.

**SERIO, Terry**

*University of Maryland Extension*

**tserio@umd.edu**

Terry Serio has a Master's Degree in Education. She has worked for University of Maryland Extension for 15 years. She has a split position in Family and Consumer Sciences and Food Supplement Nutrition Education. She teaches Early Childhood Education, Nutrition Education, Food Safety and Safe Food Preservation as well as Resource Management in Carroll County. She has been part of the Ag Venture program in the county since its inception and has taught adult, youth and combination family classes as well as special needs audiences.

**SIMPSON, Kassi**

*Nelson Academy of Agriculture Sciences Online*

**kassandra.simpson@k12.nd.us**

Kassi Simpson is an educator through the Nelson Academy of Agriculture Sciences Online. In addition, she works for New Mexico State University at the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Outreach Center as a Program and Fieldtrip Coordinator. Kassi has prior experience as a high school agriculture teacher, and a sixth grade science teacher.

## PRESENTER LISTING

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### **SPIELMAKER, Debra**

*National Agriculture in the Classroom; Utah State University*

[debra.spielmaker@usu.edu](mailto:debra.spielmaker@usu.edu)

Debra Spielmaker is a Professor at Utah State University in the School of Applied Sciences, Education, and Technology. In addition to her faculty role at Utah State University, Debra serves as the Project Director for the USDA-National Agriculture in the Classroom program. Debra taught agricultural science for seven years in Utah and Montana, and directed the Utah Agriculture in the Classroom program for 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](mailto: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 3 years. Before that, she was a middle and high school agri-science instructor and FFA advisor for nine years. She has a bachelor's degree in Animal Science and her Master of Agriculture from Auburn University.

### **STEWARDSON, Denise**

*Utah Agriculture in the Classroom, Director*

[denise.stewardson@usu.edu](mailto: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. As a faculty member in the School of Applied Sciences, Technology & Education, she also teaches a social science-based agricultural literacy course on global food production for students of all majors. 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.

### **SUMMERLIN, Erica**

*Lebanon Road Elementary*

[turkeybird1976@hotmail.com](mailto:turkeybird1976@hotmail.com)

Erica Summerlin is a National Board Certified teacher with a Masters Degree in Curriculum and Instruction Integrated Teaching through the Arts. She has spent her career teaching kindergarten in an urban school district. Erica uses the different art modalities to keep her children excited about learning. Working with her county Farm Bureau, Erica has implemented a grade level wide gardening program. She looks forward to expanding her program with the addition of a green house.

### **SWITZER, Beth**

*Purdue Extension - Hendricks County*

[bswitzer@purdue.edu](mailto:bswitzer@purdue.edu)

Beth Switzer, MS, RD, CD, is an Extension Educator with Purdue Extension in Hendricks County, Indiana. Beth earned her BS degree in Education from Purdue University and her MS degree in Nutrition/Dietetics from Ball State University. She has been in Extension for more than 15 years. As a registered dietitian, she taught 200 and 300 level nutrition classes for Indiana University and Purdue University in Indianapolis for 10 years. Prior to that, she was a public school classroom teacher for middle and high school students in Indianapolis. Beth is known for writing unique curriculum including the very popular RT2: Read, Taste, & Touch which is a book club for preschool age youth and their parents/guardians which focuses on literacy, agriculture and nutrition. She has been married for 26 years. She and her husband have a 23 year old daughter who will graduate with a PharmD from Purdue University in 2017.

### **SZKUTAK, Christopher**

*Massachusetts Agriculture in the Classroom*

[crszku10@gmail.com](mailto:crszku10@gmail.com)

Christopher Szkutak is an award winning program developer and certified educator who specializes in developing standards based educational programs for students and adults. He has worked with a variety of different organizations from local historical societies to state and national organizations. Currently, Christopher is a high school math teacher at Whitman-Hanson Regional High School, where he developed a class that incorporates hands on activities and agriculture to help students make mathematical decisions. He also serves as a member of the Board of Directors and Technical Consultant for Massachusetts Agriculture in the Classroom. He has a BA in Political Science and Math from the College of the Holy Cross and an MSC in U.S. History from the University of London.

**TAYLOR, Lisa Ann**

*Huntsville School District & Springdale School District*

[ltaylor5@sdale.org](mailto:ltaylor5@sdale.org)

Lisa Ann Taylor attended Arkansas Tech University, Russellville, Arkansas from 1994-1997, graduating with a B.S. in Early Education. Endorsements include K-8 Social Studies, Harding University, Searcy, Arkansas; From 2009 to present she has been working on her Master's in EDL. Lisa worked at Huntsville Intermediate Schools, Arkansas from 1998-2001. She was a 3rd Grade Teacher at Springdale School District, Springdale, AR. From 2001 - present, she worked as a 3rd Grade teacher/ 4th Grade teacher. Lisa is a member of 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. Lisa worked with a team of literacy specialist and grade level teachers to design a strategy guide for classroom teachers in her district from Summer 2009 to Spring 2010. She served on the Northwest Arkansas Economics Advisory Board from 2009- Present.

**TENHUNFELD, DeAnn**

*California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom*

[deann@learnaboutag.org](mailto:deann@learnaboutag.org)

DeAnn Tenhunfeld serves as Curriculum Coordinator for California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom. DeAnn earned her BS degree in Agricultural Science and Management and her teaching credential from UC Davis. With a love of agriculture and a background as an elementary school science teacher, she joined Ag in the Classroom this year.

**TURNBULL, Stacie**

*University of Nebraska-Lincoln*

[stacie.turnbull@gmail.com](mailto:stacie.turnbull@gmail.com)

Stacie Turnbull is a high school agriculture science teacher. Turnbull is a part of a team from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL), along with other Midwest Land-Grant Universities, working to increase biotechnology education among high school teachers and students. As a part of a USDA grant, the UNL Department of Agronomy and Horticulture designed The Journey of a Gene, an online resource for genetic engineering education. Mrs. Grace Troup, Ms. Leah Sandall and Dr. Don Lee were key in the development of this resource. In addition, the Translating Applied STEM Research into Secondary Science (TASRS) team, which included UNL faculty and high school teachers in the areas of Science and Agriculture, developed a library of lesson plans for biotechnology education. To increase motivation for biotechnology education, UNL has also developed the first Biotechnology Career Development Event (CDE), currently held in Nebraska and Iowa.

**VALLERA, Farah L.**

*Lehigh University*

[fav203@lehigh.edu](mailto:fav203@lehigh.edu)

Farah L. Vallera recently received her Ph.D. from Lehigh University in the Teaching, Learning, and Technology program, where she focused on curricular and instructional design. Her dissertation study tested the effectiveness of a fully STEM-integrated, project-based agricultural literacy curriculum module administered to upper-elementary students. The intention was to find support for the development of more fully STEM-integrated, project-based agricultural curricula nationwide. Ms. Vallera is the instructional designer for the Lehigh Valley Association of Independent Colleges, an adjunct sociology professor, and has been teaching agricultural education to various grade levels, homeschool groups, Boy and Girl Scout troops, and other organizations at an agricultural education center for the past six 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.

## PRESENTER LISTING

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Watson Lake by Joanna Proffitt - *Visit Arizona Site*

### **VERHAEGHE, Lindsey**

*Agrium Inc.*

[Lindsey.Verhaeghe@agrium.com](mailto:Lindsey.Verhaeghe@agrium.com)

Lindsey Verhaeghe has been developing and implementing agriculture education programs for over a decade. Growing up on a Canadian cattle ranch near the Montana border instilled a passion for agriculture in Lindsey. After graduating with a degree in Communications, Lindsey realized there is a disconnect between urban and rural which resulted in her dedicating her career towards agriculture education. In 2009, she joined Agrium Inc. to lead their Corporate Social Responsibility efforts related to youth education and sustainable agriculture. She manages flagship programs such as Seed Survivor (travelling exhibits teach elementary students about agriculture, directly reached 100,000 students last year), Caring for our Watersheds (international environmental stewardship contest for students, 2015 award recipient from North American Association for Environmental Education) and Journey 2050 (teaches students about world food sustainability through interactive game-play, launched in 2014).

### **VIGESAA, Jill**

*North Dakota Farm Bureau*

[jill.vigesaa@gmail.com](mailto:jill.vigesaa@gmail.com)

Jill Vigesaa has worked with North Dakota Soil Conservation Districts as an Education Coordinator for many years. She became involved with Project Food, Land & People, serving on the National Board and facilitating AITC workshops with Ginger Deitz in North Dakota. Ginger and Jill currently facilitate top rated FLP Workshops across the state. Jill was the first recipient of the National Ag Advocate Award.

### **WAGNER, Debra**

*St. Paul Lutheran School*

[M40christianson@gmail.com](mailto:M40christianson@gmail.com)

Deb Wagner is a teacher from St. Paul Lutheran School in Lakeland, Florida who has been teaching for over 30 years. Her passion lies in hands-on agriculture lessons incorporated throughout the curriculum in multiple subjects. The campus has a variety of gardens including a monarch habitat, vegetable garden, fruit trees, berry bushes, and hydroponics. In 2007, Deb won an Excellence In Teaching About Agriculture award through Florida Agriculture in the Classroom. In 2010, she was the winner of the National Project Learning Tree Outstanding Educator of the year and also worked to certify St. Paul Lutheran as a PLT Green School. In 2011, she was awarded the Florida Green School Award for her class project of habitat restoration and led the school in becoming a National Green Ribbon School. In 2014, Deb was a White Reinhardt recipient and has since implemented school programs to increase knowledge of Florida commodities.

### **WEBBER, Diana**

*Albemarle High School*

[dwebber@k12albemarle.org](mailto:dwebber@k12albemarle.org)

Diana Webber is a science teacher at Albemarle High School in Charlottesville, Virginia. She focuses on using agricultural concepts to teach courses in Biology, Anatomy and Physiology, and AP Environmental Science. Ms. Webber completed her B.S. in Animal and Poultry Sciences in 2008 and M.Ed. in Science Education in 2010 from Virginia Tech. While at Virginia Tech, she was inducted into Alpha Zeta, an honorary professional agricultural society, where she developed her love of agricultural education. She began teaching at Northumberland High School in 2008 and moved to Albemarle High School in 2012. Outside of school Ms. Webber enjoys riding her two horses, Daisy and Wally, and working on her two-acre farmette.

**WILLIS, Todd**

*Pleasant Hill Elementary*

[todd.willis@dcsms.org](mailto:todd.willis@dcsms.org)

I am a math, science and social studies teacher in Mississippi's largest school district. I was the 2014 Mississippi Ag in the Classroom Teacher of the Year and 2016 Desoto County Teacher of the Year. My students run a farmers' market selling grab and go breakfast items. They manage laying hens and sell their eggs, grow broilers, and other classroom animals. They raise pigs to organically eradicate nutgrass and bermuda grass from a future classroom garden spot. They grow strawberries, onions, potatoes, cabbage, broccoli, brussel sprouts, corn, purple hull peas, green beans and sunflowers in their container gardens. Students use their garden projects for our "Real World" math, science and literacy studies. This year my students have opened a goat dairy at our school. Students milk, process the milk and feed it to our bottle goat and pig babies. Then we also use it to cook in our math kitchen.

**WILSON, Craig**

*USDA/ARS & Texas A&M University*

[cwilson@science.tamu.edu](mailto:cwilson@science.tamu.edu)

Dr. Wilson conducts educational outreach for the USDA/ Agricultural Research Service and the College of Science, Texas A&M University. He successfully links K-12 science teachers with research scientists. He directs the USDA Future Scientists Program that has expanded nationwide. The program has been adopted by schools in 30 other states and by two schools in England, bringing Life and Agricultural Science into classrooms grades K-12 from Puerto Rico to Alaska. Outside his office at the USDA/ARS in College Station, Wilson 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 35 years on three continents in situations ranging from the Kalahari Desert (Botswana, Africa) to experimenting with weightlessness on NASA's KC-135.

**WOLANYK, Betty**

*Project Food, Land & People*

[bettywolanyk@gmail.com](mailto:bettywolanyk@gmail.com)

Betty Wolanyk 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 director of Ag In the Classroom and director of education and research for the American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture. 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.

**WOLKEN, Tyler**

*University of Nebraska-Lincoln*

[wolken34@yahoo.com](mailto:wolken34@yahoo.com)

Tyler Wolken is a first year graduate student at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. In December of 2014, Tyler received his Bachelors of Animal Science degree at the University of Nebraska. He wants to become an Extension Educator and specialize in 4-H and youth development as well as livestock production systems management. Tyler hopes to inspire youth toward becoming more knowledgeable leaders that will become advocates for agriculture.

**YOUNG, Stephanie**

*Liberty Elementary School*

[styoung@liberty.k12.az.us](mailto:styoung@liberty.k12.az.us)

Stephanie Young is a second grade teacher at Liberty Elementary. She has taught for 10 years.





WEDNESDAY



WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22, 2016

6:30 AM - 5:00 PM	<b>Registration Open</b>	
12:00 PM - 9:00 PM	<b>Exhibits and Silent Auction Open</b>	Wigwam Foyer
12:00 PM - 2:15 PM	<b>OPENING LUNCHEON</b> <b>Welcome from Mark Killian</b> , Director, Arizona Department of Agriculture <b>Harvesting: Crops and Careers - Mark Anderson</b> , USCHI <b>Keynote Address:</b> <b>'Focus on Impact...The Lessons that Matter'</b> <b>David Mouser</b> , Superintendent Tri-Valley Schools, Downs, IL	Wigwam Ballroom



### David Mouser

Dr. David Mouser is an educational leader with a relentless interest in issues of improving opportunities for every student to excel. He has been the recipient of numerous state and national educational awards. As superintendent of Tri-Valley High School in Downs (IL), Dr. Mouser models innovative leadership with a laser-sharp focus on improving teaching and learning - for every student. He has success providing perspective on the lasting IMPACT that we all can make on students and each other. His message incorporates personal experience, good and bad, to encourage us to become better educators. Attendees will walk away with a more positive outlook on their importance in the classroom.

Dr. David Mouser grew up on a grain farm in Normal, Illinois. He graduated from Normal Community High School. David is a graduate of the University of Illinois with bachelors and masters degrees in education. He also holds an advanced certification in Educational Administration from Illinois State and a doctorate in Educational Leadership from Western Illinois University. He is married to Amie. They have two children, Morgan and Brady.

<b>WORKSHOP SESSION 1</b>		<b>2:15 – 3:15PM</b>
<b>Finding Your Oasis: The Wellspring of Ag in the Classroom Resources</b>	Traci Curry, Cheryl Butterfield	Aztec A
While you are "Blooming in the Desert", quench your thirst for 'AG'mazing resources. In this session, educators new to Ag in the Classroom will find inspiration, motivation, and integration without perspiration! Let us welcome you to the Ag in the Classroom family, show you around a nation of resources, and help you see the ways you can inspire your students to grow curiosity and value learning using agriculture. You might leave the session feeling like you just drank from a fire hose but you will be ready to set the stage for a great new school year.		
<i>Grade Levels: All levels</i>		
<b>STEMming Up Gardening for Grades</b>	Becky Sponholtz, Lisa Gaskalla	Aztec B
Want to become a garden engineer? How about a fruit and vegetable technician? Then sign up for our 'STEMming Up Gardening for Grades' workshop where the lessons that were part of the first edition of Florida Agriculture in the Classroom's school garden curriculum series are made more rigorous to incorporate STEM areas of instruction. Workshop goers will learn how to design an alternative growing system, create an irrigation watering system and take a photosynthesis lesson further using science, technology, engineering and math. Workshop goers will also receive a copy of the 'STEMming Up' curriculum after it is printed.		
<i>Grade Levels: 7-9</i>		

## WEDNESDAY

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<b>Farming and Reading Throughout The Year</b>	Dewandee Neyman	Aztec C
<p>Reading and Farming throughout the year! This power point will highlight a commodity and children's author each month. Activities and books will tie the two together. Lots of books and ideas for the classroom. An activity will be done to showcase the many ways to incorporate farming with school standards.</p>		
<p><i>Grade Levels: Pre K-2</i></p>		
<b>Agriculture websites that will help your students bloom</b>	Pam Hosimer	Sahuaro
<p>Is there a difference between food loss and food waste? This member of the grass family, known as Zea mays everta, is what popular snack? How is a Fibonacci Sequence related to a sunflower? Electrical storms on Earth form lightening strikes and produce what vital nutrient for life? Join us for the answers as we investigate amazing online agriculture resources to inspire you to create an atmosphere in which your students will bloom. We will cover a wide range of topics that will help you create lessons and support activities using agriculture as a teaching tool. Detailed resource list provided.</p>		
<p><i>Grade Levels: All levels</i></p>		
<b>Translating Applied STEM Research into Secondary Science (TASRs)</b>	Cory Forbes, Jennifer Keshwani, Molly Brandt, Tyler Wolken	Sachem East
<p>The TASRs program provides an opportunity for high school science teachers to collaborate with faculty and graduate students engaged in applied STEM research around agriculture and natural resources. The program goals include developing innovative high school STEM instructional materials based upon contemporary applied science, enhancing teachers' disciplinary knowledge, and enhancing pedagogical knowledge of STEM faculty and graduate students. During the pilot year, teams developed a series of high-school level lesson plans focused on biotechnology, pollinators and invasive species. These lessons align with science standards (Nebraska and Next Generation Science Standards) and are suitable for use in secondary science classrooms.</p>		
<p><i>Grade Levels: 10-12</i></p>		
<b>Feeding the World: Connecting Your Students to International Agriculture</b>	Will Fett	Sachem West
<p>The world population is expected to reach 9 billion by the year 2050. Understanding how U.S. agriculture fits into the global economy can be a great way to inspire your students to take part in the international issue of sustainable food production. Compare agriculture in Latin America and Africa with what is done here at home. This is a great way of connecting social studies issues, geography, culture and more through discussions and research. Apply science and technology concepts as well. Challenge your students to think GLOBALLY with this fast paced and hands on workshop.</p>		
<p><i>Grade Levels: All levels</i></p>		
<b>Turn Ag Stories To Ag Movies</b>	Cheryl Bombenger	Mohave East
<p>With writing as a key means of communication in the 21st Century, learn how to teach your students to create Animoto video productions to share on the big screen for Literacy Night. Bring your computer and photos and go from teaching ag lessons, to writing an informed narrative, to creating a production with facts, photos, music, and more. This is a make and take: make a movie on your computer to take with you. Students from grade 3 on, as well as state coordinators and directors will enjoy the excitement while telling an ag story as a movie.</p>		
<p><i>Grade Levels: All levels</i></p>		

<b>The Geography of Agriculture</b>	Denise Stewardson	Mohave West
<p>Come explore the five new agriculture-related lessons created for the secondary AP Human Geography curriculum. Topics include: U.S. agricultural production regions, global trade and interdependence, global food security, GMOs and organic foods, and the role of women in global agriculture. Learn about the nationwide pilot of these lessons and the impact that National Agriculture in the Classroom is having on the study of geography.</p>		
<i>Grade Levels: 10-12</i>		
<b>Bringing Biotechnology to Life</b>	Angela Mayfield	Kiva Room
<p>"Bringing Biotechnology to Life" is a turn-key resource for educators and others interested in learning more about biotechnology and its role in food production. This unit of instruction addresses national learning standards for 7th – 10th grade, yet the interest level may be much broader. Seven sequential lessons guide the learner through the process of understanding DNA, selective breeding over time, biotechnology today, and GMOs. Join the discussion and exploration as we equip you with lesson plans and try engaging activities!</p>		
<i>Grade Levels: 7-9</i>		
<b>Mooin and Chewing Around Wisconsin</b>	Ashley Prue	Arizona Room
<p>Farmers don't just work in the spring and harvest crops in the fall. Farmers work ALL YEAR round. Come see how farmers keep Wisconsin moving forward. As we go from season to season, we will have fun activities and lessons for grades K-6, and all activities are adaptable. We will finish this adventure with some mootastic trivia from the cheese head lady. This will be a cheesy experience you will not want to miss.</p>		
<i>Grade Levels: 3-6</i>		
3:30 PM - 3:45 PM	<b>Coffee Break</b>	



Apache Junction by Andrei Stoica - Visit Arizona Site

<b>WORKSHOP SESSION 2</b>		<b>3:45 – 5:00PM</b>
<b>The QUEST for the Whole Enchilada</b>	Melinda Jackson, Traci Curry	Aztec A
<p>The NM state question “Red or Green?” is the perfect example of how New Mexicans have survived together, maintained our heritages, and thrived to create a unique multi-cultural legacy. Our cuisine is a literal expression of the blending of ag products from all parts of the world. The enchilada is a result of those who were here, and those who came after. This project explores products, farming areas, and nutrition of several key NM commodities; and how those products combine to make an easy traditional dish. Students categorize, research, graph and present. The project culminates with a food lab.</p>		
<i>Grade Levels: 7-9</i>		
<b>Growing A Classroom Through the Study of Seeds</b>	Tanna Nicely, Chris Fleming, Courtney Bennett	Aztec B
<p>This session will inspire participants as they learn about where our food comes through the study of seeds. We will share our favorite books on seeds, look at the anatomy of a seed, experiment with different kinds of plant growth, compare seeds in a 16 bean soup, and of course sample the delicious seeds! Come away with a packet of resources as well as a bag of free stuff and a chance to win some fabulous door prizes!</p>		
<i>Grade Levels: 3-6</i>		
<b>Growing Literacy with Agriculture Book Bundles</b>	Sue Knott	Aztec C
<p>Discover how agricultural animals, plants, and food can support academic standards in English Language Arts, Science, and Social Studies! Participants will review agricultural themed children’s books from Minnesota Agriculture in the Classroom’s two new book bundles – K-2nd grade focused bundle of 10 books and 3rd-5th grade focused bundle of 10 books. Attendees will also complete standards-based, hands-on activities connected to these books. The book bundles and their companion educator guides, as well as the activities, will provide the basis for brainstorming and discussion about utilizing these resources as an entry point for integrating agriculture in classrooms and curricula.</p>		
<i>Grade Levels: Pre K-2</i>		
<b>Math and Agriculture: A perfect fit</b>	Christopher Szkutak	Sahuaros
<p>Participants will be lead through a series of activities that directly connect agriculture with Common Core math standards, highlighting the ease of which these can be applied in their classroom.</p>		
<i>Grade Levels: 10-12</i>		
<b>Journey of a Gene - Bringing Biotechnology to the Classroom</b>	Stacie Turnbull	Sachem East
<p>Biotechnology takes center stage as teachers will be introduced to materials which will take the audience both into the field and into the laboratory, as they focus on the science behind the technology of genetic engineering. An online learning resource, The Journey of the Gene, along with a plethora of lesson plans, allow the teacher and student to increase their knowledge of the science, along with the social implications of biotechnology. Teachers will receive a flash drive with lessons, developed by practicing teachers and biotechnology industry expertise (through the TASRs/NCAL program).</p>		
<i>Grade Levels: 10-12</i>		

<b>Feeding the World: Connecting Your Students to International Agriculture</b>	Will Fett	Sachem West
<p>The world population is expected to reach 9 billion by the year 2045. Understanding how U.S. agriculture fits into the global economy can be a great way to inspire your students to take part in the international issue of sustainable food production. Compare agriculture in Latin America and Africa with what is done here at home. This is a great way of connecting social studies issues, geography, culture and more through discussions and research. Apply science and technology concepts as well. Challenge your students to think GLOBALLY with this fast paced and hands on workshop.</p>		
<p><i>Grade Levels: All levels</i></p>		
<b>Scientists' Theater in Full Bloom</b>	Jill Vigesaa, Virginia Deitz	Mohave East
<p>The stage is set! It's full "STEAM" ahead with simulation and role-playing contexts to demonstrate the biological process of capturing the sun's energy, its transformation, and interaction with other essential factors on earth. From microorganisms to majestic redwoods and whales, we will showcase how all living organisms depend on plants and photosynthesis. Research supports that brain-based learning strategies of role-play and simulation increase the transfer of knowledge and meaning, provide emotional connections to real life, and are highly motivating. The highly interactive Food, Land &amp; People Lesson "Gifts from the Sun" will be featured.</p>		
<p><i>Grade Levels: All levels</i></p>		
<b>Journey 2050</b>	Lindsey Verhaeghe	Mohave West
<p>How will we sustainably feed 9 billion people by the year 2050? Journey 2050 allows schools to experience agriculture like it's never been taught before. As Grade 7-12+ students explore sustainable agriculture they make inquiry-based decisions to see the ripple effect on social, economic and environmental factors locally and globally. Farm families guide students through interactive games such as a virtual farm simulation. Lesson plans are provided in this free, curriculum-based program. Attend this information session to play the games and hear how you can use it in your community. Food is life. Sustainable food is our future.</p>		
<p><i>Grade Levels: 7-9</i></p>		
<b>Bringing Biotechnology to Life</b>	Angela Mayfield	Kiva Room
<p>"Bringing Biotechnology to Life" is a turn-key resource for educators and others interested in learning more about biotechnology and its role in food production. This unit of instruction addresses national learning standards for 7th – 10th grade, yet the interest level may be much broader. Seven sequential lessons guide the learner through the process of understanding DNA, selective breeding over time, biotechnology today, and GMOs. Join the discussion and exploration as we equip you with lesson plans and try engaging activities!</p>		
<p><i>Grade Levels: 7-9</i></p>		
<b>Write your way to the farm</b>	Katie Aikins, Sarahbeth Belvado	Arizona Room
<p>Learn how one school teamed up with their State Ag in the Classroom Program to literally bring agriculture into the classroom. Participants will see how the program matched all grade levels with individual farmers and ranchers across the state for an interactive pen-pal program that included letters, classroom visits and Skype field trips. Participants will Skype with one of the producers that participated in the program and see video from the year-long project.</p>		
<p><i>Grade Levels: All levels</i></p>		
5:30 PM - 6:30 PM	<b>Reception</b>	Wigwam Foyer
6:30 PM - 9:00 PM	<b>Opening Dinner - Ag Advocate Award, Live Auction</b>	Wigwam Ballroom





THURSDAY



THURSDAY, JUNE 23, 2016

7:30 AM - 7:30 PM	<b>Registration Open</b>	
7:30 AM - 9:00 AM	<b>Breakfast - White Reinhardt and CHS Awards</b>	Wigwam Ballroom
<b>WORKSHOP SESSION 3</b>		<b>9:15 – 10:30AM</b>
<b>Engaging all Students: Adding Agriculture into the K-5 Classroom</b>	Lisa Ann Taylor, Sarah Glenn	Aztec A
<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. Teachers will learn how to incorporate STEM activities into agriculture themed lessons. These activities will help all students become engaged as they learn the importance of agriculture!</p>		
<i>Grade Levels: 3-6</i>		
<b>The A-MAZE-ING Mississippi River</b>	Margaret Budde, Tanna Nicely	Aztec B
<p>The Mississippi River flows in an amazing maze through America's farmland from the wheat farms in Minnesota along the upper Mississippi to the sugarcane farms of Louisiana in the river's delta. The river is the lifeblood of our country and is responsible for transporting the millions of tons of commodities produced in the states that border this waterway and its tributaries. Join your fellow conference companions in this session to explore how we ship our commodities to the WORLD on the Mighty Mississippi while learning many ideas for science, math and social studies lessons.</p>		
<i>Grade Levels: 3-6</i>		
<b>Language Arts &amp; Agriculture</b>	Cindy Hall	Aztec C
<p>Integrating agriculture into language arts instruction is great way to teach about agriculture! But there's more to it than including a good agriculture book in the lesson. In this fast-paced session we'll share strategies for how to specifically use the great agriculture books we love to build reading and comprehension skills. The session will also showcase language arts teaching strategies and examples of how teachers are using student publications like Iowa Ag Today and Ag Mags as a component of their regular language arts instruction.</p>		
<i>Grade Levels: 3-6</i>		
<b>Got Gas?</b>	Betty Wolanyk	Sahuaro
<p>Is animal agriculture one of the greatest contributors to the greenhouse gasses that cause global warming? This workshop will use three activities to answer that question. First, with a hands-on activity, students compare amount of gas production of single stomached digestion (humans, pigs, fish, poultry), ruminant digestion (cattle,sheep, goats), pseudo-ruminant digestion (horses, rabbits) if any. While that activity processes, students will learn about the greenhouse effect and what are the greenhouse gasses. Third, on-line comments will be evaluated by participants in a critical thinking activity examining science-based evidence against claims. Students will then discuss outcomes and issues.</p>		
<i>Grade Levels: 7-9</i>		
<b>CyberSheep: Teach Genetics with a Sheep Breeding Simulation</b>	Diana Webber	Sachem East
<p>CyberSheep is an interactive, internet-based game that offers students a real-world application of genetics. In this game, student teams own virtual flocks of sheep, and teams compete to make the most genetic gain in the flock and/or earn the most money. Students must use their knowledge of genetics to eliminate the Spider Lamb Syndrome allele from the flock by purchasing virtual DNA tests and completing Punnett Squares. Students will love this interactive game and will master genetics with this real-world application.</p>		
<i>Grade Levels: 10-12</i>		

**THURSDAY**



Monument Valley - Visit Arizona Site

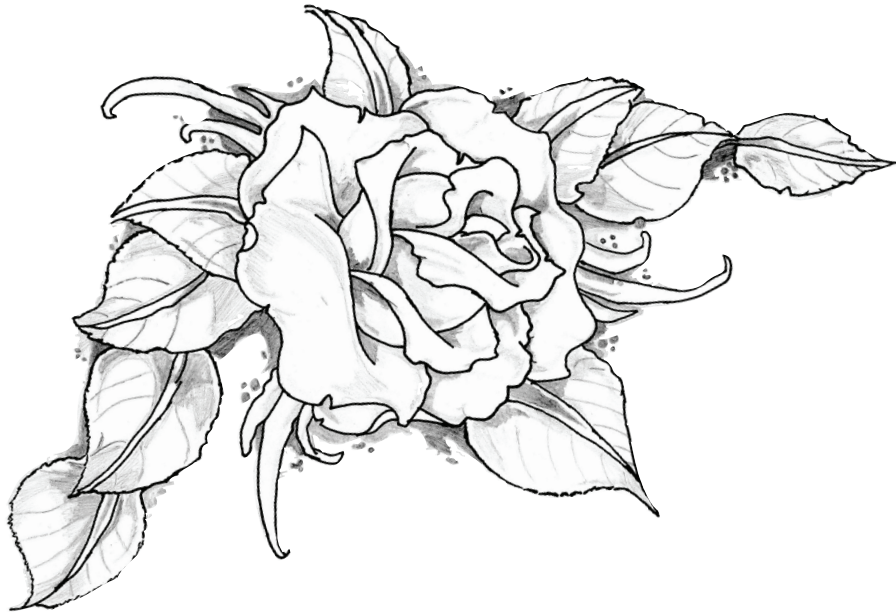
<b>Engaging Girls in STEM Education</b>	Natosha Newton	Sachem West
STEM Education is important for all but are our girls really getting all they need to be engineers, scientists, or mathematicians. In my presentation, "Engaging Girls in STEM Education" educators will be presented with teaching strategies based on research and practice that engage girls in Project Based Learning as well as Independent Inquiry. The three labs conducted tie into agriculture and learning more about the food we grow and the structures we build in order to grow field. Educators will leave with lesson plans, resources, and activities to use in their classrooms. Not limited to girls, materials are boy friendly.		
<i>Grade Levels: 3-6</i>		
<b>Sharing a Watershed!</b>	Pamela Justice	Mohave East
Balancing the needs of of all water users is difficult at best. And when you live in the arid southwest it becomes even harder to find a compromise. Let's examine the inputs and outputs of the Colorado River system as an example of a water source that has been over allocated over many years and the policies that place ag as the first user to lose their water allocation if our drought in the West continues.		
<i>Grade Levels: 7-9</i>		
<b>NPK! Fun with Fertilizer Facts!</b>	DeAnn Tenhunfeld	Mohave West
This workshop will focus on soil nutrients and what plants need. Featuring fertilizer fact sheets and lesson plans from CFAITC, students will be plant doctors, play NPK Jeopardy, and make a special tea bag! Participants will come away with free resources to use in their classrooms.		
<i>Grade Levels: 7-9</i>		
<b>First Peas to the Table</b>	Angela Mayfield	Kiva Room
Discover how to create an integrated growing experience in your classroom for all students! Dive in to the new educator resources supporting Susan Grigsby's popular "First Peas to the Table" children's book. Learn how to facilitate a First Peas competition in your class, while getting students hooked on science!		
<i>Grade Levels: 3-6</i>		
<b>Eggs in the Classroom: Lesson Plans for All Ages</b>	Jacinta LeDonne	Arizona Room
American Egg Board will highlight our latest lesson plans, newest virtual field trip, and eggsperiments that can be used across the board in classrooms. Teachers will learn fun, creative ways to include eggs in their curriculum. From Technology on the farm, to a reduction in environmental foot print, to eggs and nutrition, teachers will walk away with knowledge, lesson plans, resources relating to eggs and how eggs go from the hen to the home.		
<i>Grade Levels: All levels</i>		
10:30 AM – 10:45 AM	<b>Coffee Break</b>	

<b>WORKSHOP SESSION 4</b>		<b>10:45AM – 12:00PM</b>
<b>Come 'eat, drink and be merry' while doing Ag-Science activities</b>	Craig Wilson	Aztec A
<p>Observation is the basis of all of the Sciences. This session will help you to understand how we observe and help you to hone your own observation skills. It is also 'minds-on' as QUESTIONS are the lifeblood of Science... You will engage in hands-on activities that can be easily and cheaply replicated to explain Ag-Science concepts. Learn how to access the resources of your local USDA/Agricultural Research Service (ARS) laboratory that wants to help you through educational outreach. There are ninety such labs nationwide. Leave with a template to guide students into a career in the Agricultural Sciences.</p>		
<i>Grade Levels: All levels</i>		
<b>AgLIT (Agricultural Literacy through Innovative Technology): A Fully STEM-Integrated, Project-Based, Upper-Elementary Curriculum Module</b>	Farah L. Vallera	Aztec B
<p>AgLIT is a free 10-day fully STEM-integrated, upper-elementary agricultural literacy curriculum designed to increase students' agricultural and STEM knowledge, skills, and attitudes/beliefs using innovative technology and project-based tasks. AgLIT provides teachers with content knowledge, notes about misconceptions, and connections to STEM subjects. It includes an iBook, hands-on activities, formative and summative assessments, and was effectively tested in an urban district. For example, students analyzed soil samples like scientists, used Web GIS to study agricultural trends, engineered new egg cartons, and calculated ingredients for cheese-making. Workshop participants will review materials, participate in activities, and receive access to the module and assessments.</p>		
<i>Grade Levels: 3-6</i>		
<b>Tech and Ag</b>	Angela McCullough, Shawn Dzielawa	Aztec C
<p>Have you ever wanted to use technology to create interactive lessons or provide a digital learning journal for parents to see? Utilizing technology to enhance agricultural concepts while satisfying the common core standards enables teachers to make the agriculture come to life for their students. Nearpod and Seesaw Learning journal are two programs that will be explored during the workshop to see agricultural concepts and literacy come alive while allowing parents to see a glimpse inside your classroom sharing students' projects and activities. Seesaw empowers students to capture their learning with photos and videos to be shared with parents. Nearpod provides educators with the ability to create or select interactive lessons to be utilized in the classroom. Workshop attendees are encourage to bring their device with them to learn how to make Nearpod presentations and set up their Seesaw Learning Journal for the fall.</p>		
<i>Grade Levels: Pre K-2</i>		
<b>Growing with Grains</b>	Becky Ridgeway, Terry Serio	Sahuaro
<p>Explore the world of whole grains through Growing with Grains. Take a closer look at how you can use whole grain education in your classroom, while teaching students about the different uses grains play in their every day lives. While exploring this world of grains we will take a closer look at showing students how grains play an important role in their digestive system by building your own reusable digestive system.</p>		
<i>Grade Levels: 3-6</i>		
<b>Pollinators in the High School Biology Classroom</b>	Erin Ingram, Mary Morrow, Cory Forbes, Molly Brandt	Sachem East
<p>Every year in the U.S., insect pollinators provide an estimated \$29 billion dollars in agricultural value through increased crop quality and yield. Without bees and other pollinating insects to deliver this valuable ecosystem service, many highly nutritious and flavorful foods such as fruits, nuts, and vegetables would be missing from our diet. We will be presenting a pollinator-themed lesson developed for the high school biology classroom as part of the Translating Applied STEM Research into Secondary Science (TASRS) summer program through the National Center for Agricultural Literacy (NCAL).</p>		
<i>Grade Levels: 10-12</i>		

## THURSDAY

<b>Engaging Girls in STEM Education</b>	Natosha Newton	Sachem West
<p>STEM Education is important for all but are our girls really getting all they need to be engineers, scientists, or mathematicians. In my presentation, "Engaging Girls in STEM Education" educators will be presented with teaching strategies based on research and practice that engage girls in Project Based Learning as well as Independent Inquiry. The three labs conducted tie into agriculture and learning more about the food we grow and the structures we build in order to grow field. Educators will leave with lesson plans, resources, and activities to use in their classrooms. Not limited to girls, materials are boy friendly.</p>		
<p><i>Grade Levels: 3-6</i></p>		
<b>The 4Rs of Nutrient Stewardship</b>	Tiffany Ballow, Rick Phillips	Mohave East
<p>Scientists estimate the Earth will hold 9 billion people by 2050. How will we feed growing population sustainably? The answer is soil nutrients. This workshop includes the premiere of the 4R activity book for third and fourth grade, a new middle school lesson plan on the 4Rs, and the high school environmental science resource. The workshop includes hands-on activities about soil science that teachers can replicate in their classrooms, such as the nutrient word scramble. By the end of the workshop, educators will be equipped with materials, activities, and resources to take their soil science unit to the next level!</p>		
<p><i>Grade Levels: All levels</i></p>		
<b>Classroom to the Cafeteria: Using an Untapped Farm to School Resource</b>	Misty Friedman, Rich Friedman	Mohave West
<p>The school cafeteria, what an untapped education center! Through our presentation we will show how the school nutrition staff and the cafeteria can be used as a classroom tool! Learning fractions? Travel to the cafeteria to increase/decrease a recipe! Talking about ag careers? Meet a farmer that grew the food in the cafeteria! Working on childhood nutrition? Work with the kids on planning a healthy lunch menu or snack! We will demonstrate through hands on activities how a simple field trip to the cafeteria can open an endless amount of classroom activities!</p>		
<p><i>Grade Levels: All levels</i></p>		
<b>Planting the Seeds of Agriculture</b>	Karrie Perrin	Kiva Room
<p>Tired of the same old thing...come get rejuvenated and encouraged as you explore how one teacher plants the seeds of agriculture in the everyday lives of her students and colleagues. This is a workshop designed to give you a hands-on approach to building a toolbox of a variety of innovative "ag"tivities for cultivating a love of agriculture along with a list of children's literature and web resources. Let's get digging!</p>		
<p><i>Grade Levels: 3-6</i></p>		
<b>"Ag"tivated About Pumpkins</b>	Lynne Gibson, Stephanie Young	Arizona Room
<p>This lesson is about the Life Cycle of a Pumpkin. Students build vocabulary, learn how to document in a Science Journal, plant and care for pumpkin plants, learn about the stages of the life cycle, and harvest the fruit. Literacy emphasis will include vocabulary regarding life cycle, including the four scientific processes: germination, pollination, fertilization, and seed dispersal, parts of a mature pumpkin-inside and out, and adjectives that describe the pumpkin parts. Students will learn types of soil in which pumpkin plants grow, how to water, how to prevent damage from insects and other predators.</p>		
<p><i>Grade Levels: Pre K-2</i></p>		
12:15 PM – 2:00 PM	<b>LUNCHEON</b>  <b>Excellence in Teaching about Agriculture Awards</b>	Wigwam Ballroom

<b>WORKSHOP SESSION 5</b>		<b>2:15 – 3:30PM</b>
<b>SOIL activities to get your hands soiled but not dirty. Dirt is soil that is 'out of place'.</b>	Craig Wilson	Aztec A
<p>Soil is, metaphorically, the bedrock of agriculture and some soils, literally, derive from the bedrock. Engage in simple 'soils-on' activities that will educate you and, hopefully the students with whom you work, in the basics of Soil Science. All materials will be supplied and are easily and cheaply acquired. The activities are easily replicated. Experience different soil particle sizes and see how various scientific skills: observation, classification, sorting and experimenting can be developed using soils as the raw material. Agriculture starts with the soil...</p>		
<i>Grade Levels: All levels</i>		
<b>Drive Through Florida:Vegetables</b>	Arlette Roberge	Aztec B
<p>Florida Agriculture in the Classroom and the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services have jointly developed the second in a series of books entitled "Drive through Florida: Vegetables." This 2016 Florida Agriculture Literacy Day book will feature 11 top vegetable commodities in a non-fiction format. Students will learn about growing regions, availability, common uses and nutritional attributes of each commodity as volunteers read the book in classrooms throughout Florida. This presentation will provide books for attendees to use in their educational settings and resources which will allow them to compare Florida vegetable commodities to those in their own state.</p>		
<i>Grade Levels: 3-6</i>		
<b>Engaging with Multi-media Ag Texts</b>	Brad Banning	Aztec C
<p>Informational texts come in many different forms. This presentation examines how to find and engage with informational agriculture texts across different mediums. We'll explore how to make connections between texts, how to promote critical thinking about texts, and how to use agricultural themed texts to help reach different state language arts standards.</p>		
<i>Grade Levels: All levels</i>		
<b>Pizza Comes From Farms?</b>	Stacy DeVeau	Sahuaro
<p>Learn how to use pizza to make your students aware of the source of all of our food: AGRICULTURE! This simple demonstration lesson engages students in learning about how many farms are necessary to make this popular food!</p>		
<i>Grade Levels: 3-6</i>		
<b>Strategies for 3-D Learning with Agriculture</b>	Debra Spielmaker	Sachem East
<p>Explore teaching and learning strategies that will demonstrate how agricultural literacy concepts and activities can be integrated into the three dimensions of the Next Generation Science Standards—Disciplinary Core Ideas, Scientific and Engineering Practices, and Cross Cutting Concepts.</p>		
<i>Grade Levels: All levels</i>		
<b>Growing STEMS</b>	Jennifer Bates, Dr. Rachael Flynn-Hopper	Sachem West
<p>Research shows that agriculture literacy is inadequate among Americans. Many students believe that cotton grows on sheep and strawberry milk derives from a red cow. Belmont University, Portland High School, and Clyde Riggs Elementary collaborate to implement a STEM Day on the campus of Portland High School. It is a demonstration of the commitment of learners of all ages, who are sharing their knowledge and passion for connecting STEM across the curriculum. The goal of this workshop is to showcase partnerships among schools, universities, and the community. Presenters will discuss practical, hands-on activities that bring learning to life!</p>		
<i>Grade Levels: All levels</i>		



<b>We All Need Trees</b>	Suzi Myers, Debbie Ruff	Mohave East
<p>Everyday we use products that come from trees. Students are often asked, "Should we cut down trees?" The response is always, "NO, never cut down a tree!" Participants will understand the importance of trees, products from trees, careers, forestry management, and more. Hands-on activities and literature connections will be shared to assist participants in their outreach efforts.</p>		
<p><i>Grade Levels: All levels</i></p>		
<b>Aquaponics in the Classroom</b>	Randy Mann	Mohave West
<p>The presentation will cover the physical set up of a 40 gallon aquaponics system in the classroom. The presentation will explain the care and maintenance involved in running the aquaponic system in the classroom. It will also detail the types of plants and fish that I have had success in growing in the system. In addition, the presentation will show how water flows through the system and how nitrifying bacteria works in order to keep the system working properly.</p>		
<p><i>Grade Levels: All levels</i></p>		
<b>It's Elementary – Learning the Basics of the Periodic Table</b>	Debra Wagner	Kiva Room
<p>Make teaching the Periodic Table easy for students in 3rd through 6th grade by attending this session that ties elements in the Periodic Table to nutrients plants and humans need. Students will learn the symbol for each of the essential nutrients in the Periodic Table, place it next to the plant from which it originates and then link it to the human body part it benefits most. Workshop participants will receive a copy of Florida Agriculture in the Classroom's K-12 school garden curriculum Gardening for Nutrition which includes the lesson 'In Search of Essential Nutrients' which this activity is tied.</p>		
<p><i>Grade Levels: 3-6</i></p>		
<b>Harvesting Crops and Careers &amp; Consider the "Pulseabilities"</b>	Lorri Brenneman	Arizona Room
<p>Join us in learning about Harvesting: Crops and Careers, the educational project examining harvesting across America. Focus on in depth views of social issues, the business of harvesting our food, and related careers. Also, pulse crops are an ancient and diversified food that have been somewhat overlooked as our diets now focus on other grains. Participants will learn about the United Nations 2016 "International Year of the Pulses" and why pulse crops are good business, good for the environment, and good for us. Connections: FCS, ELA, STEM, and careers. Includes lesson plans and classroom readers.</p>		
<p><i>Grade Levels: All levels</i></p>		
3:30 PM – 3:45 PM	<b>Coffee Break</b>	

<b>WORKSHOP SESSION 6</b>		<b>3:45 – 5:00PM</b>
<b>The Mall of the Future vs. The Ag Mall</b>	Beth Switzer	Aztec A
<p>Mall of the Future vs. Ag Mall utilizes a Prezi presentation to take students virtually through the two different malls. Each student is given \$50 of imaginary money where they are required to purchase items from the 5 different stores as they “travel” through the malls. Although this sounds easy, they quickly learn that without agriculture, their food selection in the Mall of the Future consists of a bottle of water. The food that existed in the past is no longer available because farm land has been destroyed. Through this experience, they quickly realize how agriculture touches their everyday lives!</p>		
<i>Grade Levels: 3-6</i>		
<b>Making Connections to Everyday Learning</b>	Elizabeth Russell, Jennifer Gray	Aztec B
<p>This workshop would show teachers how to start with their agriscience standards and work backwards to make connections between those standards and the state standards by focusing on one subject at a time. Then expand from there to the vast array of resources available for them to use to keep students engaged with STEM activities that connect reading and writing.</p>		
<i>Grade Levels: All levels</i>		
<b>What's Your Beef?</b>	Tiffany Selchow	Aztec C
<p>Wait, Facebook tells you this type of beef is better! And then you hear something completely different from another person on Twitter. So, the question is what is your beef? And how do you know which one to choose? Grass fed, grain fed, natural, or organic? The Arizona Beef Council will cover those questions and more with some info and a whole lot of fun. Plus, a chance at prizes!</p>		
<i>Grade Levels: 10-12</i>		
<b>Cultivating Agriculture through the Arts</b>	Erica Summerlin, Darlene Petranick	Sahuaro
<p>Are you a K-2 teacher? Tired of going to workshops and not having sessions for your grade level? Looking for ways to make learning fun and more engaging? Well come to our session “Cultivating Agriculture through the Arts.” In this session you will be given an activity guide that uses a piece of literature that will introduce an agricultural concept. Activities in the guide will integrate agriculture into the arts and core subject areas. Go back to your school excited to use drama, music, art, and storytelling to teach the story of agriculture.</p>		
<i>Grade Levels: Pre K-2</i>		
<b>The Quad Squad: Drones in Agriculture</b>	Denise Stewardson	Sachem East
<p>One of the “hottest” topics in agricultural technology is the use of unmanned aerial vehicles. Come try your hand at flying a quadcopter—a type of drone—and explore the potential of using this technology in making agricultural production more efficient. Learn about secondary teacher workshops that incorporate practical, hands-on experience in designing, building, and operating quadcopters that simulate the real-world application of monitoring agricultural production. Curriculum resources in the areas of agricultural education, technology and engineering education, and science education are being developed that promote STEM and increase students' future engagement in agricultural STEM fields.</p>		
<i>Grade Levels: 10-12</i>		



## THURSDAY

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<b>Standards-based education: S.T.E.A.M. lessons for grades 3-6</b>	Browning Neddeau	Sachem West
<p>Participants will engage in standards-based science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics (S.T.E.A.M.) lessons that underscore the importance of tools in agriculture and how advances in tools can increase efficiency and reduce labor. Connections will be made to both the Next Generation Science Standards and the Common Core State Standards throughout the workshop. Participants will leave the workshop with lesson ideas that can be immediately implemented in meaningful ways across the curriculum, especially in third through sixth grades.</p>		
<i>Grade Levels: 3-6</i>		
<b>BUGDORK! Using insects to engage students and inspire learning</b>	Kristie Reddick, Jessica Honaker	Mohave East
<p>Learn myriad ways you can use arthropods in the classroom! Entomologist and educator Kristie Reddick of The Bug Chicks, will help you conquer your fears and gain knowledge about animals that inspire inquiry in your students. Includes: digital microscope training with Celestron handheld scopes, lessons to use immediately, integration of scientific concepts.</p>		
<i>Grade Levels: All levels</i>		
<b>The Blooming Mystery</b>	Mary Beth Bennett	Mohave West
<p>Come learn about the mystery behind the blooms and the reasons why our youth should be concerned about our pollinators. Learn about native pollinators and the plants that we should be planting to conserve them. This workshop will address related issues and answer the following questions. What foods do pollinators affect? Who are our native pollinators and where do they get their food after the crops have stopped blooming? What can we do to help pollinators? How do we engage youth in understanding the role of pollinators in our world? What careers are involved related to this topic?</p>		
<i>Grade Levels: 7-9</i>		
<b>Desert Greenhouses</b>	Jennifer Esposito	Kiva Room
<p>Liberty Elementary middle school teachers created a project based learning unit, which culminated in the creation of greenhouses in the desert. Middle school teachers were responsible for teaching modules: scale drawing and models, informational pamphlets, SketchUp drafting software, research, safety 101 - tools, putting the pieces together and problem solving. The final project was concluded by a school wide assembly presenting each greenhouse to K-8 classrooms and students. Upper grade levels were paired with younger grade levels to share and embrace this experience. Throughout the year, each grade level was responsible for planting and caring for their garden.</p>		
<i>Grade Levels: All levels</i>		
<b>Building from the Bag</b>	Dr. Eugenia Badger	Arizona Room
<p>Students will collect materials from books, catalogs, and magazines to explain a topic, such as their past, present, and future OR their favorite things to do, make, or eat. Once these items (usually three) are in the bag, students will gather materials from the internet, books, catalogs, or magazines to trace their original three items back to the land and agriculture. For example, horses are presently my favorite thing. I can link this to grass, grain, land, etc. The collections can change to storyboards for public speaking, writing, etc.</p>		
<i>Grade Levels: All levels</i>		
6:15 PM - 8:30 PM	<b>Fiesta on the Lawn - Buffet and Networking</b>	

**FRIDAY**



7:00 AM - 8:45 AM	<b>CLOSING BREAKFAST - Thank you Arizona, Hello Kansas City!</b> <b>KEYNOTE ADDRESS:</b> <b>'Fluent in 'Bug': The magical language that inspires learning'</b> The Bug Chicks: Kristie Reddick, Jessica Honaker	Wigwam Ballroom
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**The Bug Chicks:**

**Kristie Reddick, Jessica Honaker**

Kristie Reddick, M.S. and Jessica Honaker, M.S. are The Bug Chicks, entomologists who teach about the fascinating world of insects, spiders and their relatives. Through videos, digital media and in-person appearances they inspire people to open their minds and learn about these often-maligned animals. Their drive to create fun, accurate science media has led them to work with some amazing organizations: the U.S. Forest Service, Norman Borlaug Institute of International Agriculture, and National Ag Science Center, to name a few! Bug Chicks workshops have been praised for their focus on Women in Science, positive female role modeling and using arthropods to talk about social justice issues with teens.

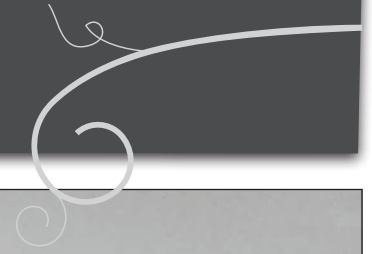
<b>MINI WORKSHOPS</b>		
9:00 AM - 9:25 AM Mini Workshop 1		10:00 AM - 10:25 AM Mini Workshop 3
9:30 AM - 9:55 AM Mini Workshop 2		10:30 AM - 11:00 AM Mini Workshop 4
<b>Gardens In And Out Of Your School</b>	Kevin Duplissie	Aztec A
Empowering parents/teachers that they have the necessary creativity and materials in their homes/schools (or purchase for very low cost) that can encourage agriculture learning at home/school. This workshop will demonstrate fun and easy agriculture activities that can be conducted as families or groups (schools), that encourage cooperation and participation of all family members or group members (schools), enhance the early learning of agriculture, link activities, cooking projects and books, and always encouraging fun. Handouts provided, participation in small groups encouraged, and 2x2 gardens demonstrated.		
<i>Grade Levels: Pre K-2</i>		
<b>Pizz-A-Thon: Engaging Activities to Teach Ag Literacy</b>	Liz Sample	Aztec B
Participants learn the source of their food, and understand the importance of soil conservation. After researching, they create what they think is the best pizza, trace its ingredients from slice to soil, become acquainted with the many career opportunities, develop a marketing plan, bake the pizza, and present a marketing report in front of a panel of judges. Through cooperative experiential learning, kids are engaged in exploring, discovering and creating, as they develop skills in leadership and discover their self-worth. They experiment and discover the value of conservation.		
<i>Grade Levels: 3-6</i>		
<b>Beautiful Bees</b>	Luci Eblin	Aztec C
Learn about the Bee Unit packet which includes a K-2 bee literature list. Meet the Apiarist from Sun Tan Honey Farm in Buckeye, AZ, who will come to local schools for free.		
<i>Grade Levels: Pre K-2</i>		
<b>Poultry in the Classroom</b>	Todd Willis	Sahuaro
I would like to demonstrate how my third graders grow laying hens from chicks to laying hens within the school year. We order day old chicks in August and raise them to laying by the first of March. Students care for hens and gather eggs daily. Students are engaged in washing, weighing and grading, marketing, and selling classroom eggs. Topics will also include how to set up individual cages workstation time of 15 minutes per day. Also, many examples of how students get the real world connection to Common Core math units through our Cooking with Math workstation.		
<i>Grade Levels: 3-6</i>		

**FRIDAY**

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<b>Tasty Tips for Taste Tests!</b>	DeAnn Tenhunfeld, Judy Culbertson	Sachem East
The Taste Test presentation will include information on how to administer taste tests, use of agricultural fruit and vegetable commodity fact sheets, and participation in a taste test. Participants will receive a set of CFAITC's Fact Sheets.		
<i>Grade Levels: 3-6</i>		
<b>AgExplorations</b>	Kristie Popa	Sachem West
The AgExplorations program is centered around a select group of teens interested in agriculture. Through this program, youth are engaged in a multi-day agricultural tour where they will ask and answer many important questions posed by industry professionals and their peers. After the tour, youth will attend a multi-day workshop where they will gain skills and knowledge related to agriculture through hands-on activities and lessons. Within cooperative groups, these students will adopt a local classroom where they will teach about agriculture through hands-on activities covering topics from Ag and Stem to Career Exploration and food and nutrition.		
<i>Grade Levels: 10-12</i>		
<b>Awesome Openings and Outstanding Endings</b>	Sue Knott	Mohave East
Have you ever had a fantastic agricultural activity planned but were unsure how to grab the audience's attention to get started? Or maybe the conclusion to your lesson didn't exactly allow you to leave on a "high note"? Attend this mini-session to learn some techniques to have an awesome opening that builds excitement from the very beginning of your interaction. Summarizing and wrap-up strategies will also be shared to ensure an outstanding ending. Be prepared to gain new tips and tricks, and also share your experiences and ideas during this interactive mini-session.		
<i>Grade Levels: All levels</i>		
<b>Agriculture Education Joins the 21st Century - Online Agriculture Classes</b>	Kassi Simpson, Leroy Nelson	Mohave West
There is no doubt, our world (and our students' world) is immersed in technology; so why should our educational programs be any different? The Nelson Academy of Agriculture Sciences Online offers over 20 different high quality online agriculture courses. Come see how you can strengthen your agriculture program by adding these classes to your course list.		
<i>Grade Levels: 10-12</i>		
<b>Fruits, Nuts, and Veggies, Oh My!</b>	Audrey Harmon, Cheri Long	Kiva Room
This workshop will focus on fruits, nuts and veggies such as asparagus, pears, and pecans. Learn how to integrate STEM into your classroom while conducting science experiments, linking resources to Aurasma and Kahoot, and using food to create and solve math equations. Hands-on, engaging, and exciting activities will have students wanting to learn more about agricultural careers.		
<i>Grade Levels: All levels</i>		
<b>Newspaper Ag Bags</b>	Virginia Deitz, Jill Vigesaa	Arizona Room
"It's in the Ag Bag!" Learn how to make a quick bag from a sheet of newspaper, with no other materials needed! You might want to decorate and put handles on it, but more importantly you will want to use it as an easy way to recycle newspapers into classroom agriculture literacy efforts. This interactive hands-on presentation will include ideas and projects that have been successfully implemented, with resources for students to "Fill their Ag Bags!"		
<i>Grade Levels: All levels</i>		
11:00 AM - 2:00 PM	<b>Exhibit Break-down</b>	
		Wigwam Foyer

# AWARDS



# AG ADVOCATE AWARD

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## **Denise Hymel** **Louisiana**

Denise "Denny" Hymel of Gramercy, Louisiana, was elected to the American Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Committee in 2012 and has served as the AFB Southern Region Representative for five years. She is also currently serving as an ex-officio member on the Louisiana Women's Leadership Committee where she served as Women's Leadership Chair for 12 years. Denny is currently the chair of St. James Parish Ag in the Classroom committee and a member of the State Ag in

the Classroom committee. Additionally, she has been a volunteer Public School Religion teacher for over 20 years.

Denny was born and raised on a produce farm and is the oldest of 10 children. She has an associate's degree in accounting from Spencer Business College. She is the founder and executive director of Fast Food Farm, a non-profit organization developed to provide a creative learning tool for schools, organizations, and the community to educate youth and adults about the importance of agriculture and how it connects with the origin of their favorite fast foods.

Denny and her husband, George ("Scrap"), live on their fourth-generation family sugarcane farm spanning 2,500 acres. They have been married for 50 years and have three children and seven grandchildren.

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



## **Lauren DeLoach Goble**

### **Georgia**

Over the last eight years, Lauren Goble has taught PreK through first grade. She resides in Gray, Georgia with her husband, Corey and Basset Hound, Scarlett. Lauren feels fortunate to live

and work in the same rural county she grew up in and to follow in the footsteps of her grandmother and mother as an educator. Goble shared, "The Ag in the Classroom program has been instrumental in allowing me to teach one of my passions – an understanding of where our commodities come from, and ensuring that a new generation learns the value of farming and agriculture."



## **Ray Huff**

### **Kansas**

Mr. Ray Huff is a father, husband, 8th generation farmer, teacher, Charter Director, and principal at Service Valley Charter Academy in Southeast Kansas. Ray considers himself fortunate to

work in a school where he is able to combine nearly all of his passions, which include: the outdoors, agriculture, our environment, and working with kids. Along with his passionate staff, Ray has been able to build a program at a K-8 elementary school that uses agricultural and environmental education to motivate and nurture student learning. Combining his passion for agriculture and our environment, Ray strives to create a sense of self-worth within our future land stewards through critical thinking, work ethic, and responsibility.



## **Judiann Carmack-Fayyaz**

### **New York**

Judiann developed a school garden and greenhouse program to teach food and agricultural literacy to middle and high school students in Bridgehampton, NY. Students in technology, food, and plant science classes use the garden as a

classroom to become environmental stewards and to solve real world problems.



## **Cheryl Bombenger**

### **North Dakota**

Bombenger has been in education for over 30 years, and is currently a third grade teacher at Clara Barton in the Fargo Public Schools. "TA - DA," Teaching Activities Done Aesthetically, is the program that

she has designed that incorporates right brain activities, focusing primarily on incorporating songs, (including over 200 ag songs) into academic areas to engage learners and improve academic skills. She has co-written a teacher resource book and math songs along with the founder of the UND Music Therapy Program, as well as recording a CD that incorporates the use of music to improve academic areas. Cheryl's passion is to foster the love of learning. She has authored the North Dakota AgMag, as well as national educational journal articles. She is currently working on a master's degree in Educational Leadership.



## **Lisa Storm**

### **Oklahoma**

Lisa grew up in southwest Oklahoma and attended OSU where she met her husband John. After graduation Lisa worked as the home economist for Shawnee Milling Co. and later for OSU Cooperative Extension.

Lisa has two children Meredith and Nick, and a daughter-in-law Sarah. As her love for teaching children grew, Lisa made the move to public education and has taught second and third grades. She lives and works in Kingfisher, OK. She enjoys cooking, reading, and playing the piano. She uses Ag in the Classroom lessons extensively and has written 50 agriculture lessons for use with the interactive Smartboard.



## **Laura Shiplet James &**

## **Shirley Hershey**

### **Pennsylvania**

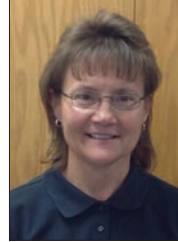
Mrs. Laura Shiplet James and Mrs. Shirley Hershey have been

working together for 10 years as first grade teachers in Oxford Area School District. Each has vast experience in education, Laura has taught for 27 years and Shirley for 10 years. This dynamic duo teamed up and created Farm Fest Day as a culmination activity to a year-long adventure with agriculture for their first grade students. In addition to their local agricultural literacy efforts, they have both been involved in the state level Ag in the Classroom programing and attending previous National Ag in the Classroom conferences.

WHITE-REINHARDT AWARDS  
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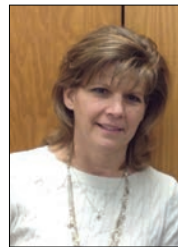
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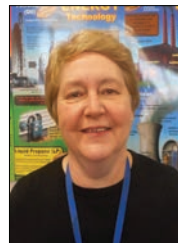
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# STATE TEACHERS OF THE YEAR

STATE	RECIPIENT	SCHOOL	GRADE(S)
Arizona	Sarahbeth Belvado	Gateway Polytechnic Academy	K-6 Special Education
California	Julie Cates	Linwood Elementary	6th
Colorado	Kendra Jacoby	Skyview School of STEM	K-5
Florida	Jill Sullivan	Mayport Coastal Science Middle	6-8 Agri-science
Florida	Cynthia Nowicki	Whispering Pines	9-12 Horticulture and Career Prep
Florida	Scott Savett	Parkway Middle	6-8 STEAM Horticultural Science
Florida	Ronda Curtis	Bagdad Elementary	K-5 Special Education
Georgia	Lauren Goble	Mattie Wells Elementary	1st
Illinois	Carole Scannell	St. Germaine School	4th
Iowa	John Seiser	Northeast Hamilton CSD	5-6
Kansas	Ray Huff	Service Valley Charter Academy	Principal
Kentucky	Rita Taulbee	Lebanon Junction Elementary	2nd
Louisiana	Vickie Mayeux	Cottonport Elementary	Pre-K
Maine	Stephanie Enaire Morgan Kerr	Gray - New Gloucester Middle	5th
Michigan	Doreen "DJ" Logan	Gateway North Elementary	K
Minnesota	Tom Frericks	William Kelley Elementary	5th
Nebraska	Judi Roach	North Elementary	4th
Nebraska	Anica Brown	Pound Middle	7th Science
New Hampshire	Mike Smith	Mascenic Regional High	High School Science
New Mexico	John Turrietta	Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary	5th
New York	Judiann Carmack-Fayyaz	Bridgehampton	6-12 Technology, Botany, Nutrition
North Carolina	Erica Summerlin	Lebanon Road Elementary	K
North Dakota	Cheryl Bombenger	Clara Barton Elementary	3rd
Oklahoma	Amber Bales	Morrison Elementary	3rd
Pennsylvania	Judy Stayton	Montgomery County Youth Center	5-12 Science, Geography and Civics
South Carolina	Jennie Burns	Leaphart Elementary	4-5 Visual Arts
Tennessee	Jennifer Bates	Clyde Riggs Elementary	1st
Texas	Michele Marie Knauf	Sacred Heart Catholic School	2nd and 4th
Utah	Jennifer Dabb Chipman	Promontory School of Expeditionary Learning	K-8 Art
Virginia	Donna Musick	Damascus Middle	6th Math and Science

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 SCHAARDT Courtney  
 TURNBULL Stacie

### NEW HAMPSHIRE

COX Debbi

### NEW JERSEY

LEAFEY- Cheryl  
 DEPASQUALE  
 TAYLOR Carolyn  
 TRAPANI Anna

### NEW MEXICO

BROWN Laura  
 BROWN Melissa  
 BUTTERFIELD Cheryl  
 CARTWRIGHT Ashley  
 CHAVEZ Trisha  
 CURRY Traci  
 DEAN Teresa  
 GOODPASTURE Kelli  
 GRAY Carisa  
 HINRICHS Kayla  
 HUSSON- Abby  
 MATTER  
 IBUADO Lorena  
 JACKSON Jewell  
 JACKSON Melinda  
 JANECKA Julie  
 JOYNER Annette  
 KING Jessica  
 LANGLEY Olivia  
 LARDNER Britney  
 MADRID Eva  
 MARISCAL Silvia  
 MENDES Marilyn  
 MONTES Haley  
 MONTOYA Anita  
 MURPHY Chris  
 MURPHY Deshae  
 NEAL Kim  
 OGDEN Tessa  
 RUNYAN Marlee  
 SANDOVAL Theresa  
 SIMPSON Kassi  
 SOSA Sarah  
 TURRIETTA John  
 VALDEZ Amanda  
 WHITEHAIR Irowena

### NEVADA

SMYER Amber

**NEW YORK**

BIGNESS Katie  
 BURAKOFF Aaron  
 BYERS Lisa  
 CARMACK- Judiann  
 FAYYAZ  
 DAIGLER Diana  
 PROKOP Sandra  
 WOLANYK Elizabeth

**OHIO**

SAPIENZA Kathy

**OKLAHOMA**

BALES Amber  
 BEAVERS Kitty  
 BESSINGER Dana  
 DELMEDICO Beverly  
 DESKIN Debra  
 FOX Linda  
 HARMON Audrey  
 HENSON Lena  
 IRVIN Marcia  
 LEWIS Zena  
 LEWIS Michael  
 LONG Cheri  
 SAWATZKY Paula  
 STORM Lisa  
 THOMPSON Pat

**OREGON**

ALEXANDER Dawn  
 HONAKER Jessica  
 JANSEN Jessica  
 RALLS Katie  
 REDDICK Kristie

**PENNSYLVANIA**

ALBERT Evelyn  
 COURTNEY Leigh Ann  
 DZIELAWA Shawn  
 FELLOUZIS Mandy  
 GEHRING- Laura  
 OTTINGER  
 HERSHEY Shirley  
 JAMES Laura  
 MCCULLOUGH Angela  
 STAYTON Judith  
 VALLERA Farah  
 WIBLE Tonya

**SOUTH CAROLINA**

KNIGHT Vonne

**TENNESSEE**

ASHE Hilda  
 BAKER Brenda  
 BATES Jennifer  
 CHASTINE Kristy

COBLE Faye  
 DUSTIN Kendra  
 FLEMING Chris  
 FLYNN-HOPPER Rachael  
 LASKO Xan  
 MAY Jane  
 NICELY Tanna  
 STEEN Debra  
 STRASSER Dan  
 TEAL Valerie  
 VIA Catherine  
 WHITE Lindsey

**TEXAS**

FLEMING Dakota  
 KNAUF Michele  
 ONEY Mona  
 WILSON Craig

**UTAH**

CHIPMAN Jennifer  
 GARDNER Andrea  
 HILL Alisha  
 HUNT Sara  
 MILLIGAN Carrie  
 SPIELMAKER Debra  
 STEWARDSON Denise  
 WALLIN Lynn

**VIRGINIA**

MASSENGILL Jennifer  
 MAXEY Tammy  
 MUSICK Donna  
 WEBBER Diana

**WASHINGTON**

AVERY Lisa

**WISCONSIN**

ADAMSON Kayla  
 LOETHER Teyanna  
 PRUE Ashley  
 WHITE Krista

**WEST VIRGINIA**

BENNETT Mary Beth

**AFRICA**

SAMUEL Heskor *Wandegeya (Kampala)*

**CANADA**

VERHAEGHE Lindsey *Calgary (Alberta)*  
 BRAIDO Melissa *Mississauga (Ontario)*  
 BOUWMEESTER Audrie *Mississauga (Ontario)*  
 BLOCK Rick *Saskatoon (Saskatchewan)*



Havasu Falls - Wikipedia

# SCHEDULE AT-A-GLANCE

## MONDAY, JUNE 20, 2016

7:00 AM - 7:00 PM Pre-Conference Tours

## TUESDAY, JUNE 21, 2016

12:00 PM - 6:00 PM Registration Open

7:45 AM - 3:00 PM Pre-Conference Tours

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM NAITCO Meeting Aztec B/C

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM NAITCO Dinner Offsite

## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22, 2016

6:30 AM - 5:00 PM Registration Open

7:00 AM - 12:00 PM Traveling Workshops

7:00 AM - 12:00 PM Exhibit and Silent Auction Set-up Wigwam Foyer

12:00 PM - 9:00 PM Exhibits and Silent Auction Open Wigwam Foyer

12:00 PM - 2:15 PM OPENING LUNCHEON Wigwam Ballroom

Welcome from Mark Killian, Director, AZ Department of Agriculture  
Mark Anderson (USCHI), Harvesting: Crops and Careers

KEYNOTE ADDRESS: 'Focus on Impact... The Lessons that Matter'  
David Mouser, Superintendent Tri-Valley Schools, Downs, IL

2:15 PM - 3:30 PM Workshop #1 See Agenda

3:30 PM - 3:45 PM Coffee Break

3:45 PM - 5:00 PM Workshop #2 See Agenda

5:30 PM - 6:30 PM Reception Wigwam Foyer

6:30 PM - 9:00 PM Opening Dinner - Ag Advocate Award, Live Auction Wigwam Ballroom

## THURSDAY, JUNE 23, 2016

7:30 AM - 7:30 PM Registration Open

7:30 AM - 9:00 AM Breakfast - White Reinhardt and CHS Awards Wigwam Ballroom

9:15 AM - 10:30 AM Workshop #3 See Agenda

10:30 AM - 10:45 AM Coffee Break

10:45 AM - 12:00 PM Workshop #4 See Agenda

12:15 PM - 2:00 PM LUNCHEON - Excellence in Teaching about Agriculture Awards Wigwam Ballroom

2:15 PM - 3:30 PM Workshop #5 See Agenda

3:30 PM - 3:45 PM Coffee Break - Silent Auction Closes

3:45 PM - 5:00 PM Workshop #6 See Agenda

5:30 PM - 7:30 PM Silent Auction Pick Up

6:15 PM - 8:30 PM Fiesta on the Lawn - Buffet and Networking

## FRIDAY, JUNE 24, 2016

7:00 AM - 12:00 PM Registration Open

7:00 AM - 8:45 AM CLOSING BREAKFAST – Thank you Arizona, Hello Kansas City! Wigwam Ballroom

KEYNOTE ADDRESS: 'Fluent in 'Bug': The magical language that  
inspires learning'  
The Bug Chicks: Kristie Reddick, Jessica Honaker

7:30 AM - 9:00 AM Silent Auction Pick Up

8:00 AM - 2:00 PM UPS Pop Up Store Registration Area

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM Mini Workshops (Four 25-minute rotations) See Agenda

11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Exhibit Break-down Wigwam Foyer

11:45 AM - 10:00 PM Post-Conference Tours

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**2017 NATIONAL AGRICULTURE**  
**IN THE CLASSROOM**  
**CONFERENCE**  
**KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI**  
**JUNE 20-23, 2017**



## **NAITC 2017**

### **CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS**

The 2017 National Agriculture in the Classroom Planning Committee is soliciting presenters for Workshop and Mini-Workshop Sessions. Participants will receive a \$50 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 Wednesday, June 21, 2017 and Thursday, June 22, 2017. Each Session will be one hour in length, with rooms set up in 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 Friday, June 23, 2017. 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 7, 2016 5:00 pm PST

All applicants that apply by the October 7, 2016, deadline will be notified of a decision on your proposed sessions by November 18, 2016.

Final Notification to Applicants: November 18, 2016.

For proposal submission requirements and instructions, visit: [Naitcconference.usu.edu](http://Naitcconference.usu.edu).

**YOU'RE INVITED**  
to join us for the  
2017 National Agriculture in the Classroom Conference  
in the "Show Me" state of Missouri  
where the theme will be "Show Me Agriculture"

**June 20-23, 2017**  
**KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI**  
Sheraton Kansas City Crown Center

Watch the website at [naitcconference.usu.edu](http://naitcconference.usu.edu)  
for details as the planning progresses,  
the schedule evolves and the activities  
are announced.

\* One \$50 discount per accepted session, up to the maximum of the conference registration fee. Presenter discounts are not applicable to complimentary conference registrations. No cash value, non-transferrable except to a co-presenter.

PLAN AHEAD FOR  
**NAITC 2018 PORTLAND, MAINE**  
**June 26-29, 2018**





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**ARIZONA**

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