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visit www.sdffaoundation.org
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South Dakota's Future Leaders



Austin Joppa, Baltic "FFA is 100% the reason I know what I want to do in college. The Ag Mechanics and Agronomy CDE's have taught me that I really love those two occupations, so I will be studying agronomy."



Andrew Taylor, Winner "FFA is a place to do the impossible. Things I never thought could happen have occurred, and there is success is every failure."



Kayle Lauck, McCook Central "Being involved in the agriscience fair, I have become incredibly involved in protecting our environment. I have learned so many ways to be proactive in preserving our earth's natural resources and it has helped shape me into the person I am today."



Mitchell VanderWal, Northwestern "I have learned to expand my mind and think differently. Whether it is working with people that are hard to relate to or competing in a new event or answering a difficult question."



Kestlyn Willert, Brookings "FFA gives me a space for me to actually be me. I am not who I am without FFA. It also gives me important job skills that push me to go outside of my comfort zone. FFA truly focuses on each individual member."

I BELIEVE IN THE SOUTH DAKOTA FFA!

There are several ways to leave a legacy for the future and help FFA grow. You can ensure that the future is bright for young leaders in agricultural education with a planned gift. Many of these have wonderful benefits for the gift donors. Consider leaving a Legacy Gift through the SD FFA Foundation. Legacy gift options include:

Endowment

Contribute a minimum of \$10,000 over 10 years or less. The principle is invested and annual earnings are used to support the program of your choice.

Bequest

Indicate in your will that you'd like to leave part of your estate to the SD FFA Foundation. Gifts through your will can be a particular item, dollar amount or percentage of your estate.

Beneficiary Designation

Indicate that the SD FFA Foundation is a beneficiary of your life insurance policy, bank account, IRA or non-qualified annuity.

IRA

If your IRA has increased in value over the years and you have more income than you may need, then an IRA rollover gift is a simple and easy way to donate while not increasing your taxable income.

Assets

We can even accept real estate, crops and livestock.

When considering whether or not a planned gift is appropriate for you, ask yourself a few simple questions: "What do I want to give," "How should I give," "When should I give" and "Where will my gift make the most impact?" To visit about options for Leaving Your Legacy, contact the SD FFA Foundation.

Gerri@sdffaoundation.org • 605.765.4865



South Dakota FFA Foundation



WHAT'S BEHIND THE BLUE JACKET?

GIVE THROUGH THE SOUTH DAKOTA FFA FOUNDATION

FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for...

PREMIER LEADERSHIP

Name: Jeff Hoffman
Home FFA Chapter: Bridgewater FFA
Year Graduated High School: 1984
College: South Dakota State University
Recent Positions: Jeff was the Agriculture Education teacher/FFA advisor at Artesian High School two years, then moved home to Bridgewater where he taught 18 years. He was also an agronomist at Hefty Seed in Baltic and Ed's Fertilizer in Emery. From 2008-2019, Jeff taught agriculture education in Mitchell. He served as the 2003-2004 South Dakota Association of Agriculture Educator's President and the 2006 South Dakota Association of Career and Technical Education President.



What did he enjoy most about FFA? Jeff loved the opportunities FFA gave students. He thought of it as a great way for students to break out of their shell and explore unique opportunities, and even explore potential career paths. Jeff loved when students came back from events talking about new friends they made. Students networking and making connections were his favorite things.

How did FFA experiences contribute to his leadership development? Jeff served as chapter president and as state sentinel in '84. His high school FFA experience ultimately impacted his desire to be an Agricultural Educator. He wanted students to have the same great experiences he had.

What was his greatest success and why? Knowing Jeff, he would say his family, as that was the most important thing to him. But as his family, we would say it's the thousands of people he impacted. His hard work inspired so many people across the state and beyond. Jeff had such a caring attitude and hard work ethic.

What advice would he give today's FFA members? He would say "Push yourself to try new things." He was passionate about providing students an amazing Ag and FFA experience, and he loved it when students without an ag background graduated and explored a career in agriculture. He knew great experiences and opportunities would come from trying something new, and would encourage everyone around him.

PERSONAL GROWTH

Name: Sheri (Moeller) Kahnke
Home FFA Chapter: Brookings
Year Graduated High School: 1996
College: South Dakota State University – BS & MS Dairy Manufacturing
Current Position: Laboratory Operations Manager for Agropur U.S.



What did you enjoy most about FFA? Every year I looked forward to attending Camp, Made for Excellence, State and National Conventions. Each of those events allowed for team building and networking with other like-minded individuals possessing similar goals and passions about the agricultural industry.

How did your FFA experience contribute to your continued personal growth? Personal growth is a never-ending journey. The skills we have today are not necessarily the skills that will move us forward and help us succeed in the future. Personal growth requires life-long learning, so be willing to put in the effort required to continually develop yourself throughout your life. By teaching goal setting, personality assessments, team building and leadership skills the FFA organization does an outstanding job of helping individuals recognize their current skill sets and also dream and plan for their future.

What advice would you give FFA members today? Mother Theresa's quote says it best "Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow has not yet come. We have only today. Let us begin." I would only add - Do the next right thing today!

CAREER SUCCESS

Name: Laird Larson
Home FFA Chapter: Clark
Year Graduated High School: 1970
College: A student of the SDSU Cooperative Extension Service with no intentions of graduating
Current Position: Certified seed producer



For most of my 50 year farming career. Started a seed processing plant on our farm for our own production and custom seed cleaning for others. Serve on numerous local, state and national boards including serving as chairman of the SD Crop Improvement and SD Wheat Commission, and on the SD FFA Foundation board.

What did you enjoy most about FFA? Everything. Parliamentary procedure, leadership teams, judging teams, shop, Supervised Ag projects and maybe even record keeping that went with it. I use the skills learned during that time almost daily. I won the state meat judging contest and still judge meat in the counters before purchasing.

How did your FFA experience contribute to your career success? I always felt conducting or attending meetings was very beneficial. It wasn't what I brought to the meeting but what I brought home and put to use on my farm created the most successes. I always remember the FFA motto.

What advice would you give FFA members today? Be the best you can be. Get involved and participate. You'll be surprised how much stays with you.

South Dakota FFA Foundation, Inc. CONTRIBUTION

Yes! I want to help shape the next generation of leaders in FFA as they **Grow Leaders - Build Communities - Strengthen Agriculture**
Give online at: sdffaoundation.org (Please clip or copy this form to show your continued support for South Dakota FFA members, both present and future.)

Mail to: SD FFA Foundation, Inc. • 39393 133rd St., Bath, SD 57427

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\$50 \$100

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Greatest needs of FFA

Advisor support

Student leadership

Other _____

*Please include matching gift forms from employers that have such programs.



Members dedicated: 4700

Chapters leading: 91

GOALS FOR NEW YEAR

- Fund: • 400+ FFA jackets • additional ag college scholarships • Ag Adventure Center exhibits
- \$500 travel scholarships for all champion teams • WLC Scholarships • Chapter Service Grants
- State Convention "Living to Serve" project • Summer Leadership Retreat scholarships

Please remember the SD FFA Foundation in your will and estate planning. The SD FFA Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Your donation is eligible for a charitable deduction on your income tax return. Consult your tax advisor.