



NEWS RELEASE

National FFA Organization
6060 FFA Drive
P.O. Box 68960
Indianapolis, IN 46278-1370

P: 317-802-6060
F: 317-802-6061

www.ffa.org

**Not to be released before 9:30 p.m.
October 23, 2009**

**Contact: Julie Adams
(317) 802-4225**

The National FFA Organization National Event Winners-- Prepared Public Speaking 2009

Indianapolis, Indiana-- Winners of the National FFA Prepared Public Speaking Career Development Event (CDE) were announced Friday at the seventh session of the national FFA convention. The event was held in conjunction with the 82nd National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Ind. Mr. Dustin DeVries of Texas served as superintendent of this year's event.

The top four individuals received scholarships to further their education at a post-secondary institution of their choice. The scholarships and the prepared public speaking event are sponsored by Monsanto of St. Louis, Missouri as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

This year's participants were:

Top Placing Individuals

- 1st Place-- McKenzie Walta of Kingfisher HS FFA, OK
- 2nd Place-- Caitlyn Prichard of Chipley HS FFA, FL
- 3rd Place-- Alyssa Ramsey of Madison County HS FFA, NC
- 4th Place-- Darcy Messerly of Enterprise HS FFA, UT

Individual Emblems Listed

Gold Emblem Individuals

Caitlyn Prichard of Chipley HS FFA, FL	McKenzie Walta of Kingfisher HS FFA, OK
Alyssa Ramsey of Madison County HS FFA, NC	Darcy Messerly of Enterprise HS FFA, UT

-- MORE --

Silver Emblem Individuals

Elizabeth Wilson of Jacksonville HS FFA, AL	Rebecca Hall of Western Brown HS FFA, OH
Malorie Bankhead of Livermore HS FFA, CA	Jessica Budge of Sherwood HS FFA, OR
Caitlin Walton of Caesar Rodney HS FFA, DE	Marissa Stewart of Lamesa HS FFA, TX
Travis Chase of New Plymouth Jr/Sr HS-FFA, ID	Alix Drown of James Wood HS FFA, VA
Shane Bell of Albert Lowry HS - Winnemucca FFA, NV	Olivia Yates of Pullman HS FFA, WA
Leah Hasler of Moriarty HS-FFA, NM	Katrina Adkins of Clay Co HS FFA, WV

Bronze Emblem Individuals

Lydia Shumaker of Palmer HS FFA, AK	Kathleen Miron of Forest Lake HS FFA, MN
Melissa Smith of Chino Valley HS FFA, AZ	Jennifer Mohon of Simpson County Vo Tech FFA, MS
Mollie Dykes of Lake Hamilton HS FFA, AR	Emily Whitmarsh of Miller HS FFA, MO
Lauren Mertens of Prairie Jr Sr HS-FFA, CO	Ryder Simeniuk of Opheim HS FFA, MT
Bianca DeLuca of Lyman Hall FFA, CT	Debra Wray of Ord HS FFA, NE
Patrick Savelle of Oconee Co HS FFA, GA	Devon Farr of Coe Brown Academy Much To Do, NH
Josh Troester of Eldorado HS-FFA, IL	Ashley Frazell of Newton HS FFA, NJ
Rachel Floreman of Mc Cutcheon FFA, IN	Lauren Osborn of Letchworth Ctrl Sch FFA, NY
Jamie Leisitkow of Wapsie Valley Jr/Sr HS FFA, IA	Jessie Topp of Carrington HS FFA, ND
Kaylee Koch of Coffeyville HS Sek Vo Tech, KS	Alexandria Spease of Greenwood HS FFA, PA
Will Blackford of Calloway Co HS-FFA, KY	Nicolle Corchado of DR Maria Cadilla De Martinez, PR
Victoria Arnold of Pleasant Hill HS FFA, LA	Laura Anderson of Rd Anderson Applied Tech Cent, SC
Brianna Gorence of Caribou Technology Center-Caribou FFA, ME	Kiley Kaufman of De Smet HS FFA, SD

-- MORE --

Scarlett Fost of Northern Garrett Co HS FFA,
MD

McKenzie Curlin of Munford FFA, TN

Stephanie Muise of Essex Agricultural & Tech
School - FFA, MA

Anna Peissig of Colby HS FFA, WI

Tiffany Rogers of Cassopolis Ross Beatty HS
FFA, MI

Samantha Heitsch of Cheyenne East HS
Frontier FFA, WY

The prepared public speaking CDE is designed to recognize outstanding FFA members for their ability to prepare and present a factual speech on a specific agricultural issue in a well thought out and logical manner in a competitive setting. Members prepare and deliver a six-to eight-minute speech from memory and respond to five minutes of questions. The event is just one way FFA members can develop their ability to communicate in a powerful, organized and professional manner.

The event, held at the Marriott Hotel in Indianapolis, Ind., is one of many educational activities at the national FFA convention in which FFA members practice the lessons learned in agricultural education classes.

The National FFA Organization, formerly known as the Future Farmers of America, is a national youth organization of 506,199 student members - all preparing for leadership and careers in the science, business and technology of agriculture - as part of 7,429 local FFA chapters in all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. The National FFA Organization changed to its present name in 1988, in recognition of the growth and diversity of agriculture and agricultural education. The FFA mission is to make a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education. The National FFA Organization operates under a Federal Charter granted by the 81st Congress of the United States, and is an integral part of public instruction in agriculture. The U. S. Department of Education provides leadership and helps set direction for FFA as a service to state and local agricultural education programs. Visit www.ffa.org for more information.

The FFA Mission: FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education.

This Page is NOT a part of the News Release

Printed For: National FFA Organization

File Name: Pub Speak Data File 20091019 at 1830 for NFFA

Page: 4

Date: 10/22/2009

Time: 4:23 PM

This Page is NOT a part of the News Release