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MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 1, 2023
Updated August 11, 2023

TO: National Association of Agricultural Educators Membership

FROM: Alissa F. Smith, NAAE Chief Executive Officer *AFS*

SUBJECT: Announcement of 2023 NAAE National Award and Scholarship Recipients

On behalf of the NAAE Board of Directors, it is with pleasure that I announce the names of the NAAE Award and Scholarship Recipients for 2023. As usual, the competition for these awards was intense.

The following are the **2023 National Award and Scholarship Recipients** who will be recognized November 28 – December 2 at the 2023 NAAE Convention.

Outstanding Early Career Teacher Award

Region I Jaimee Brentano, OR
Region II Randy Bean, OK
Region III Alysha Kientopf, SD
Region IV Rylyn Small, MO
Region V Hunter Morton, SC
Region VI Rayne Ives, NY

Outstanding Agricultural Education Teacher Award

Region I	Stephanie Schofield, OR
Region II	Kadie Smith, OK
Region III	Mary Handrich, WI
Region IV	Donald Barnhart, OH
Region V	Matthew Barnhill, NC
Region VI	Melessa Suder, VA

Outstanding Middle/Secondary Agricultural Education Program Award

Region I	El Capitan High School, CA
Region II	Tonganoxie High School, KS
Region III	Southeast Region Career & Technical Center, ND
Region IV	Streator Township High School, IL
Region V	Bell High School, FL
Region VI	Royalton-Hartland High School, NY

Outstanding Postsecondary Agriculture Program Award

Region I	Laramie County Community College, WY
Region II	Oklahoma State University, OK
Region III	University of Minnesota Crookston, MN
Region IV	Illinois State University, IL
Region V	Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, GA
Region VI	The Pennsylvania State University, PA

Ideas Unlimited Award

Region I	Kelsey Williams, ID
Region II	Nicole Hinrichsen, KS
Region III	Joe Ramstad and , MN
Region IV	Taylor Wilkinson, IL
Region V	Allie Crockett, GA
Region VI	Lisa Boltz, PA

Teacher Mentor Award

Region I	JD Cant, OR
Region II	Jacob Larison, KS
Region III	Dr. T.J. Brown, MN
Region IV	Annette Applegate, IN
Region V	Ann Johnson, TN
Region VI	Sara Seiser, MD

Outstanding Service Award

Region I	Thomas Clifton, ID
Region II	ML Lockwood, OK
Region III	Terry Rieckman, SD
Region IV	Dean Dittmar, IL
Region V	Jerry Johnson, TN
Region VI	Thomas Hojnowski, PA

Lifetime Achievement Award

Region I	Kip Hansen, UT
Region II	Greg Cash, CO
Region III	Roger King, WI
Region IV	Jeff Maierhofer, IL
Region V	Dr. Frank Flanders, GA
Region VI	Joseph Linthicum, MD

Teachers Turn the Key Professional Development Scholarships

Region I Alexandra Pettit, AZ
 Shanna Abatti-Fitzurka, CA
 Jessica Watarai-Ordillo, HI
 McKenna Ford, ID
 Trevor Motley, MT
 Danielle Bull, OR
 Hannah Giles, UT
 Rylee Maddox, WA
 Megan Barton, WY

Region II Kisia Weeks, AR
 Zach Callaghan, KS
 Cody Dean, OK

Region III Jamie Pudenz, IA
 Harley Braun, MN
 Cora Huss, ND
 Donavan Phoenix, NE
 Morgan Ackerman, SD
 Joelle Liddane, WI

Region IV Jerry Brockett, IL
 McCord Snider, IN
 Cassidy McAllister, KY
 Samantha Wagner, MI
 Lily Grant, MO

Region V Lexi Sanchez, FL
 Lissi Chism, GA
 Millie McKinney, MS
 Jared Parks, NC
 Brooke Hall, SC
 Brandon Rogers, TN

Teachers Turn the Key Professional Development Scholarships (continued)

Region VI Rebecca Ferguson, CT
 Kasey Revel, DE
 Kelly Bryant, MD
 Renee Stillwell, NJ
 Alison Parrott, NY
 Victoria Brown, PA
 Bethany Grooms, VA
 Emily Dunkle, WV

NAAE Upper Division Scholarships

Recipients of the NAAE Upper Division Scholarships will be recognized at the Alpha Tau Alpha National Conclave held in connection with the National FFA Convention and Expo in Indianapolis, Indiana in October. Attendance is not required to receive the scholarship.

- Region I Turner Lear, Oregon State University
 Faith Richins, Utah State University
 Alissa Whitaker, University of Idaho
- Region II Alyssa Sherron, Kansas State University
 Mikayla Wrenn, Texas A&M University
- Region III Karli Knopf, University of Minnesota Twin Cities
 Jared Mickelson, University of Wisconsin–River Falls
- Region IV Jaiden Flora, Northwest Missouri State University
 Madison Goodlett, University of Kentucky
 Patricia Habenstreit, Michigan State University
 Lauren Mellott, The Ohio State University
 Madyson Planck, University of Kentucky
 Paige Teeters, Wilmington College
 Branson Van Fleet, The Ohio State University
- Region V Anna Epperson, University of Tennessee–Knoxville
 Kayleigh Fowler, Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College
 Abigail Rose, North Carolina State University
 Savannah Scott, Middle Tennessee State University
- Region VI Brandon Bixler, The Pennsylvania State University
 Paige Rohrback, The Pennsylvania State University

All special award regional winners and recipients of Teachers Turn the Key will be recognized at the 2023 NAAE Convention, November 28 – December 2 in Phoenix, Arizona. Award winners will receive specific information regarding convention by email in the coming weeks. **Outstanding Early Career Teacher, Outstanding Ag Ed Teacher, Outstanding Middle/Secondary Ag Ed Program, Outstanding Postsecondary Agriculture Program award winners and Teachers Turn the Key recipients should not take any action regarding travel, hotel, or registration arrangements until they receive further instructions from NAAE. If you have already pre-registered for convention, you will be reimbursed by NAAE. Please contact Katie Wood (kwood.naae@uky.edu) to take care of your reimbursement as soon as possible.**

cc: NAAE Board of Directors
State Ag Teachers' Association Presidents
State Executive Directors and Secretaries

****NOTE****

Outstanding Early Career Teacher, Outstanding Ag Ed Teacher, Outstanding Middle/Secondary Ag Ed Program, Outstanding Postsecondary Agriculture Program award winners and Teachers Turn the Key recipients should not take any action regarding travel arrangements, hotel reservations, or convention registration until they receive further instructions from NAAE!! Please look for those instructions by email within the next couple weeks. These will be emailed to your email address provided on the application. Please contact our office if you have any changes to your contact information.