



2017

National Agriscience Teacher of the Year Award



2016 Award Recipients

Trent VanLeuven, Idaho
Susan Swope, New Mexico
Larry Plapp, Wisconsin

John Poulson, Ohio
Farrah Johnson, Florida
Jessica Jones, Virginia

Purposes and Eligibility for the Award Program

This program distinguishes NAAE members who emphasize science concepts, principles and applications in their curricula. The award recognizes leadership in agriscience, civic, community, agriculture/agribusiness and professional activities. Outstanding agriscience educators are innovators and catalysts for student success in agriscience education. The National Agriscience Teachers of the Year award program is sponsored by Herman and Bobbie Wilson as a special project of the National FFA Foundation. Individuals may receive the regional award only once; previous national finalists, national winners, and regional winners are not eligible to apply.

Awards and Recognition

In 2017, the following awards and recognition will be offered. Each state winner will receive a certificate at the annual meeting of the state agricultural education association. NAAE will recognize six national winners, one from each region. All state winners will compete within their respective NAAE region for the regional award. Each regional winner will receive: (1) one round trip, coach airfare to the NAAE convention from the commercial airport nearest the winner's home or round trip mileage reimbursed at the current NAAE mileage rate not to exceed the dollar amount of one round trip airfare; (2) lodging for four nights at the NAAE convention; (3) an engraved plaque presented at the NAAE Convention; and (4) complimentary registration for the winner to the NAAE Convention. Spouses/guests/co-teachers are welcome to attend the convention with the award winner; however, travel costs and registration fees for spouses/guests/co-teachers will not be covered by the award program.

This award is sponsored by
Herman & Bobbie Wilson
as a special project of the
National FFA Foundation

The deadline for submitting state winning applications to
the national NAAE office is
May 15, 2017

NAAE is an equal opportunity organization. NAAE will not discriminate against any individual based on race, creed, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, age, physical or mental handicap, or veteran status.

Award Application Instructions

Eligibility: All active NAAE members, except current members of the NAAE board of directors, are eligible to enter. Each applicant must have been a NAAE member the three (3) previous years or continuously since he/she began teaching. Individuals may receive the regional award only once; previous national finalists, national winners, and regional winners are not eligible to apply.

Required Components of the Application:

1. Online Application – the first portion of the application must be the completed online. No other cover pages should be included. (The cover sheet is not considered a part of the page limitations.)

All items listed below should be saved as electronic files and uploaded to the online application form. Printed copies of the items below will not be accepted. Supported file types include .pdf, .doc, .txt, .jpg, .png, .gif, .tif, or .bmp.

- 2. Narrative** – the narrative is limited to eight 8 1/2” x 11” pages. The narrative must be typewritten and uploaded to the online application form. Use a font no smaller than 12 points and double-space. Multiple text formats are acceptable, including paragraphs, lists, and tables. The narrative must follow the outline specified as follows:
- a. Overview** – brief description of your agriscience education program (including how students apply scientific knowledge in their agricultural activities and the agriscience competencies they learn) and the community in which your program exists. (15%)
 - b. Teaching Philosophy** – a brief reflective statement (not to exceed one page) of your personal teaching philosophy especially related to your agriscience program. (10%)
 - c. Instruction** – examples (relating specifically to agriscience) of your effective classroom and laboratory instruction including innovative methods, resources, and curricula you have developed. (15%)
 - d. Experiential Learning** – examples of your accomplishments in getting students involved in agriscience work-based learning such as supervised agricultural experience programs, cooperative education, and internships. (10%)
 - e. Student Organizations** – examples of your students’ participation and successes specifically related to agriscience in student organization activities, such as FFA, PAS, NYFEA, and other student organizations. (10%)
 - f. Partnerships** – examples of your relationships with partners such as school leaders including science and math teachers, community leaders including agriscience industry, volunteers, and others who have the capacity to support your agriscience program. (10%)
 - g. Marketing** – examples of how you market (or promote) your local agriscience program to groups such as prospective students, parents, school administrators, and community leaders. Specifically address how emphasizing science stimulated additional support for your program. (10%)
 - h. Professional Growth** – examples of how you stay professionally prepared and up-to-date in teaching techniques and technical content as it relates to agriscience including information regarding your participation in professional organizations such as the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA), NAAE, and programs facilitated by NAAE including Communities of Practice. (15%)
- 3. Letters of Reference** – three letters of reference should be uploaded to the online application form. Sources of the letters should be as follows: one letter from an administrator; one letter from an agricultural educator; and one letter from a member of the community. (The letters of reference are not considered in the page limitations.) (5%)
- 4. Supporting Materials** – the supporting materials are limited to eight 8 1/2” x 11” pages and saved in a format that can be uploaded to the online application. Supporting materials (such as photographs with captions, news articles, and other items) must be formatted to 8 1/2” x 11”. Evaluation of supporting materials will be included with the evaluation of the components of the narrative (2.a.-2.h. above)
- 5. Application Signature Sheet** – the application signature page must be signed by the requested individuals and uploaded to the online application form. The application signature page can be found on page 4 of this document.
- 6. Professional Photo or Headshot** - A high resolution photo in .gif, .jpeg, .png, .bmp, .jpg, or .tif form must be uploaded as part of the online submission of your application.

Requested Components of Application:

1. **Photos Showing Instruction, Experiential learning, Student Organizations, Partnerships, and Marketing -**
High resolution photos in .jpeg, .png, .bmp, .jpg, or .tif form can be uploaded as part of the online submission of your application.

State-level Competition

When and Where to Submit: Entries must be submitted to the state association by the deadline established by the state association.

Evaluation Procedures: Each respective state association will determine the selection process for state winners.

National-level Competition

What to Submit: All required components of the application must be submitted online by May 15. No printed or emailed applications will be accepted.

When and Where to Submit: The online application and instructions can be found at <http://www.naae.org/resources/awards/index.cfm#naty>

State presidents will authenticate state winners using the NAAE State Winners' Validation Form provided to them by NAAE. All state winners must be authenticated by May 15.

Evaluation Procedures: The evaluation of applications will be completed electronically. Applications will be judged by NAAE regions on a rotational calendar. A committee appointed by NAAE will select regional winners.

NOTE: Regional winners must agree to attend and participate in the **entire** NAAE convention.

NAAE Award Application Signature Page

Please read below and provide the appropriate signatures. You must upload this page as part of the online submission of your application.

***Create an uploadable version by scanning the document after securing appropriate signatures. PDF format is preferred.*

Photograph License & Publicity Release

By submitting and signing this application, the applicant hereby agrees to the following terms and conditions regarding any photographs submitted to NAAE as supporting materials for such application.

License – By submitting any photographs to NAAE with this application, applicant hereby grants to NAAE a fully paid, perpetual, irrevocable, royalty free, world-wide non-exclusive license to display, distribute, sublicense, reproduce, modify, adapt and publish such photographs on NAAE’s website and in any other materials used to promote NAAE.

Consent & Authorization – Applicant hereby irrevocably consents and authorizes NAAE, and its successors and assigns, to use any photographs submitted with this application for the purpose of promoting NAAE. Applicant further hereby releases NAAE, and its officers, directors, agents, members, employees, successors and assigns, from any and all claims for damages for libel, infringement of the right of publicity, invasion of privacy, portrayal in a false light, or any other claim based on the use of any photographs submitted with this application.

Representations & Warranties – Applicant hereby represents and warrants that he/she has the power and authority to grant the rights licensed to NAAE in this application and that the use, copying, distributing, displaying, reproducing, modifying, adapting, and sublicensing of any photographs submitted with this application does not result in the infringement of any copyright, trademark, patent, or other intellectual property right of another. Applicant further represents and warrants that he/she has obtained the consent and authorization for the use of any photographs submitted with this application from all persons shown in such photographs or from the guardian of any persons under the age of eighteen (18) shown in such photographs.

Indemnification – Applicant hereby indemnifies and holds harmless NAAE, and its officers, directors, agents, members, employees, successors and assigns from any loss, liability, claim or demand, including reasonable attorney’s fees, made by any third party due to or in any way relating to the use of any photographs submitted with this application or any breach of any of the representations and warranties contained in this application.

If named as the regional winner, I will attend the entire NAAE Convention. Also, by signing this I agree to the Photograph License & Publicity Release above.

Signed:

Applicant’s Signature

Date

If this teacher is selected as the regional winner, he/she will be permitted to attend the entire NAAE convention.

School Official (including signature and title)

Date