

National Teach Ag Campaign

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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEBRASKA FARM BUREAU FOUNDATION SELECTED AS 2017 TEACH AG CHAMPION

CHICAGO – Each year, the National Teach Ag Campaign formally recognizes individuals and organizations who work tirelessly to address the national demand for agriculture teachers, as Teach Ag Champions. Teach Ag Champions are selected based upon their exceptional work in identifying the needs of their states and implementing effective strategies to recruit and retain high quality and diverse agriculture teachers. This year, the Nebraska Farm Bureau Foundation was named one of **two** 2017 National Teach Ag Champions.

The Nebraska Farm Bureau Foundation has worked alongside Nebraska Team Ag Ed since 2014. As part of their commitment to agricultural education in Nebraska, the Nebraska Farm Bureau Foundation has pioneered two scholarship programs; one for current agricultural education majors at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln, and one for current agriculture teachers within the state of Nebraska, who are in their first to fifth years of teaching to help pay off student loans. To date, the NE Farm Bureau Foundation has allocated \$30,000 to be split between both programs for a total amount of \$77,500 by the end of 2017. The scholarship programs started in Nebraska have inspired other states to develop similar partnerships as well.

The Nebraska Farm Bureau Foundation will be recognized for its outstanding accomplishments at the National Teach Ag Day live celebration that will be held Thursday, September 21st, at the Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences, in Chicago, Ill. It is thanks to partnering organizations like the Nebraska Farm Bureau Foundation, that make the valuable work of the National Teach Ag Campaign possible.

The National Teach Ag Campaign is an initiative of the National Council for Agricultural Education, led by the National Association of Agricultural Educators. It is funded by the CHS Foundation, DuPont Pioneer, Growth Energy, and BASF as a special project of the National FFA Foundation. The National Teach Ag Campaign raises awareness of the need to recruit and retain high quality and diverse agriculture teachers, encourages others to consider a career teaching agriculture and celebrates the positive contributions that agriculture teachers make in our schools and communities. www.naae.org/teachag

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