



Iowa FFA Foundation

Cultivating partnerships supporting agricultural education in Iowa

April 2021 | www.iowaffafoundation.org | [Donate](#)

Executive Director's Reflections

Friends,

If you are like me, a shudder runs through your veins each time you debate turning on or reading the news. If we look left, look right or even look straight ahead, our news has been inundated with an unending tsunami of negative information. It is so easy to be overwhelmed by various claims, trying to sort out fact from fiction and determine what to believe, it may be easy to adhere to the viewpoint of the most vocal. In a world like this, how often do you hit pause and reflect on what is truly right?



This past week was the 93rd Annual Iowa FFA State Leadership Conference. After a virtual event last year, this year's iteration was again held in person – and yes, the safety of our students was of utmost concern throughout the planning process and event. Beyond the pandemic, this week's event underscored that while there is much that we may wish to change in this world, there is A LOT of room to be optimistic about our future.

More than 5,000 students, guests, advisors, partners and parents came to Des Moines to participate in this annual event. It would be easy – often expected – to feature all of the great award and event winners; today, I want to recognize a few intangibles I witness every convention. Each year I witness, "Please," "Yes Sir" or "Yes Ma'am" and "Thank You" as the most common phrases spoken; students holding doors open for other students regardless of age, chapter or gender; young students receiving mentorship and motivation by their older peers and genuine laughter and praise as kids are kids and truly achieve.

Yes, in an uncertain world, I am proud to be a part of an organization where the motto of Learning to Do, Doing to Learn, Earning to Live and Living to Serve is not a fancy

catchphrase, but rather a core belief visibly demonstrated throughout our events and gatherings.

I sincerely thank all who took time to be a part of the Iowa FFA State Leadership Conference this week, especially to all who made the truly impactful financial investments to make this event possible. Because of you, lives continue to be changed!

Sincerely,

Josh



Welcome 2021-22 Iowa FFA Officer Team

From Left to Right; Iowa FFA President, Mia Gibson from North Fayette Valley at West Union; Secretary, Maddie Stevenson, Roland-Story at Story City; NC Vice President Ella Hommel from Grundy Center; SE Vice President Kesley Holdgrafer from Northeast at Goose Lake; SW Vice President Samuel Martin from Davis-Rogers at Shenandoah; NE Vice President Avery Hanaway from Independence; NW Vice President Kiley Allan from Le Mars; SC Vice President Trenton Ellander from Newton and Reporter Kanyon Huntington from East Union at Afton.

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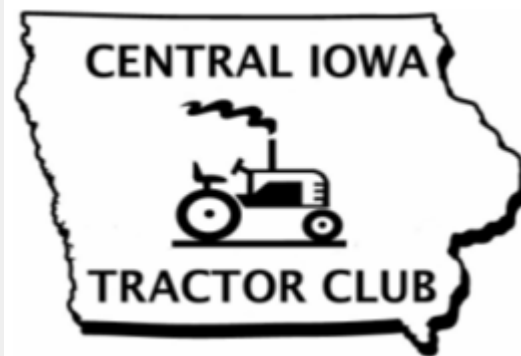
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Central Iowa Tractor Club Seeks FFA Members Interested in Tractor Restoration.

The Central Iowa Tractor Club is seeking FFA members who are interested in tractor restoration. Students can email Merle Hoppenworth at Hoppy@Huxcomm.net to be added to the membership as free student members and will receive the clubs newsletter which can be seen [here](#). FFA members who are interested do not need to have a tractor, but merely show interest in the activities of tractor restoration and antique iron.

The Central Iowa Tractor Club is also sponsoring a \$250 prize to the Overall Champion FFA Tractor at the 2021 Iowa State Fair.

2021 Dennis Selness Scholarship Winner Named

The Iowa FFA Foundation is pleased to announce the winner of the 2021 Dennis Selness Scholarship. The award goes to Molly Simmons of the Panorama FFA Chapter. Congratulations Molly!

DENNIS SELNESS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP



MOLLY SIMMONS
PANORAMA FFA



Golfers Needed!

Registration for the 25th Annual Iowa FFA Foundation Golf Tournament is now open and teams are filling up fast. The four person best ball charity tournament will be held Thursday, June 17th at Veenker Golf Course in Ames.

Golfers will enjoy a day on the legendary Veenker course while engaging with the Iowa FFA State Officer team and have the chance to bid on amazing packages and items through the silent auction. Lunch is provided to each team and trophies will be awarded to the champion team members.

Funds raised through the golf tournament directly support scholarships for the Iowa FFA State Officers. More information can be found at www.iowaffafoundation.org.

No matter the size, your act of generosity will make a substantial impact to agricultural education in Iowa.

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Iowa FFA Foundation

FFA Enrichment Center [1055 SW Prairie Trail Pkwy. Ankeny, IA 50023](#)