

California Department of Food and Agriculture

2017 CalAgPlate Program Project Abstracts

Sacramento Farm Day

\$7,000

California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom

The California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom will conduct a Sacramento Farm Day to provide fundamental information about California agriculture to students. Students will be invited to attend the event and rotate through a variety of stations each focusing on a different aspect of agriculture. Organizations such as local Farm Bureaus and Future Farmers of America Chapters will be engaged to lead hands-on activities and increase awareness of the importance of agriculture. The objective is to have the students and teachers leave the event with the knowledge and resources to assist in implementing agriculture into their educational environment after the event. This project has the ability to reach 1,000 students from 35 classes within Northern California, including underperforming and Title 1 schools.

Centennial Farm Foundation & Ag Education Program

\$10,000

Centennial Farm Foundation

The Centennial Farm has been educating Southern California youth about agriculture for over 25 years. The three-acre, fully functioning farm at the Orange County Fair & Event Center demonstrates a wide variety of crops and livestock for children to interact with, supported by a common-core based curriculum delivered by trained docents. The curriculum focuses on where our food comes from, the important roles agriculture has in our lives (including food and non-food products) and basics about the agriculture industry in California. Students learn important lessons about nutrition, California specialty crops, and the environment and potential agricultural career paths. The Farm will develop and implement a postsecondary internship program for students in agriculture education-related fields. The interns will work to integrate food and nutrition education, rooted in agriculture education, while demonstrating agriculture first hand, applying what they have learned in their classrooms and gaining important work experience. The intern program will serve to demonstrate the importance of agriculture science and careers, as it integrates curriculum and exhibits into the existing young student education and general public programs.

“Life’s Big Ag-Venture!” An Exhibit Designed to Create Awareness of Careers in Agriculture

\$10,000

California Exposition & State Fair

“Life’s Big Ag-Venture!” will provide a mobile educational exhibit modeled after a board game to be showcased for two consecutive years at the California State Fair and State Fair Farm School Tours. This project encourages interest in agricultural careers and joining Ag associated support organizations. Mobile components designed for travel broaden the reach of the project. The exhibit will simulate a person's travels through career aspirations in agriculture while providing hands-on interactives related to agricultural learning experiences. While encouraging participants to join local agricultural organizations upon games end. This project has the potential to be seen and enjoyed by millions with opportunity for continued travel after funding ends.

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Farm Lab: The Journey of Our Food from Field to Fork Ag Education **\$8,000**

Students for Eco-Education & Agriculture

The Students for Eco-Education and Agriculture (SEEAG) Farm Lab Program will help students make a connection between the farmland around them and the food on their tables. This project will help students relate their meals to farmers, farms, and the food supply chain. They will learn to become advocates for agriculture, as well as making healthier food choices. The Farm Lab Program strives to help promote Healthy Families and Communities, while also supporting the agriculture industry. The program provides lessons that are engaging to students and valuable for teachers. The SEEAG Program is taught in the classroom, as well as on field trips to local farms where students are able to experience first-hand the lifecycle of crops, agricultural science experiments, and see real-life applications of careers in agriculture.

Madera Fair iFarmers' Market Kiosk **\$4,000**

Madera District Fair

The Madera District Fair will be installing an interactive agricultural education activity center for the annual fair that will be centered-around the iFarmers' Market Kiosk. The activity center will house six iPads featuring curriculum applications created by The American Farm Bureau's My American Farm project while featuring a hands-on "A Day at the Farmers' Market" for children to explore. The exhibition will allow children to role play by making healthy food choices and participate in crop and orchard harvesting activities of California produced foods.

Leadership and Programmatic Development **\$221,000**

California Association, Future Farmers of America

This project supports leadership and programmatic development for California's statewide Future Farmers of America (FFA) program. California FFA has over 330 school chapters throughout the state that provide integral leadership instruction through use of the FFA student organization to nearly 87,000 student members. Funding for this project will support the Leadership Continuum, the State FFA Leadership Conference, and outreach activities. This project allows increased access, awareness and opportunities for students to engage in agriculture education, leadership development and career training in the agricultural industry.