

California Department of Food and Agriculture 2018 CalAgPlate Grant Program Project Abstracts

Leadership and Programmatic Development

\$212,500

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 90,000 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.

California Exposition & State Fair

\$9,500

California State Fair Farm Tours Insect Pavilion Station

The California State Fair's three-acre demonstration farm has been an important partner in agricultural education, showcasing the industry to millions of visitors since 1974. The California State Fair Farm Tours creates educational opportunities for today's youth to be interested in and excited about farming and agriculture. The Farm is toured by over 5,000 students a year. This project will add a very important element to the already successful State Fair Farm Tours program. While the tours will continue to teach students about California agriculture through the existing learning stations, a new station will be added: The Farm Tour Insect Pavilion. Inside the Insect Pavilion, students will learn about Biodiversity, Invasive Insects, Pollinators, and Climate Change. The Farm Tours Insect Pavilion will engage Kindergarten through Sixth (K-6) grade students in fun, interactive, hands-on science-based curriculum.

Pick a Peck of Produce

\$7,000

California Foundation for Ag in The Classroom

The California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom (CFAITC) will conduct a six-month taste and teach project to expose students to California commodities. Educators will be provided specific curriculum and hands-on activities for students to increase awareness of the importance of agriculture. The objective is to have the students and teachers complete the project with growth in agricultural literacy and nutritional awareness when the project is completed. This project will reach 750 students from 30 classrooms, focusing on students of low to moderate-income households that are eligible for the Free & Reduced-Price meal program.

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EnrichLA Rural Center Expansion**\$6,500***EnrichLA*

The EnrichLA Rural Center Expansion project will develop a fully functioning nursery on land donated by El Sereno Middle School. The nursery will be maintained by the Garden Ranger Program and students of El Sereno, allowing surrounding schools within LA County to receive materials and seedling needed to start their own school garden. These students will have the opportunity to have hands on training teaching them the skills and knowledge to build and sustain their gardens. This project will decrease long-term costs of buying seedlings and empower the EnrichLA community in providing better services as they continue to grow more school gardens and run educational programs.

Madera Fairs “FARM to FAIR”**\$5,000***Madera District Fair*

Madera District Fair will expand the FARM to FAIR venue which features the cornerstone element ‘iFarmers’ Market kiosk by adding an interactive center about responsible water use in farming feature. The educational activity will show water sourcing and farming use by illustrating flood irrigation, micro sprinkler irrigation, and drip irrigation model fields. Interactive raised garden bed displays will educate on local farming and allow guests to water each display to see the effect of each irrigation method. This project will educate children and fair goers about responsible water use in farming and the California agriculture industry.

Project AWE: Dirt to Dinner Educational Program**\$9,500***Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District*

Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District is renovating the Nicolaus Dairy to create a Dirt-to-Dinner program to enable the use of the site as an agriculture education venue for elementary field trips, high school work-based learning, and to the community. Students will have the opportunity to participate in an interactive hands-on gardening field trip, while farm plots, orchards, and pollinator gardens will be available for high school Career Technical Education program use. This program will facilitate agricultural and environmental education to local students and the community.

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!”

\$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.

California Department of Food and Agriculture

2017 CalAgPlate Program Project Abstracts

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.

California Department of Food and Agriculture

2016 CalAgPlate Program Project Abstracts

LearnAboutAg Assemblies

\$10,046

California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom

The California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom will conduct assemblies at elementary schools and focus on the theme LearnAboutAg: An Introduction to Agriculture. Students will be led through a five-lesson unit on California crops where they will learn about the work involved in producing food by following a commodity from the farm to table. The objective is to have participants leave the assembly with a foundation of knowledge about agriculture, resources to further that understanding, and connections to other schools that are also learning about agriculture. This project has the ability to reach 40 teachers and 1,200 students in Northern and Central California.

AgKnowledge Program

\$8,954

Grower Shipper Association Foundation

The AgKnowledge Program provides community leaders and policymakers with an in-depth nine-month course to experience agriculture in a deeper, more meaningful way. Program fellows have the unique opportunity to learn from local farmers and industry leaders in Monterey County. Fellows will gain an understanding of complex agricultural issues. It is expected that the Program Fellows will have a better understanding of the agricultural industry and apply those practices in their daily professional lives.

School Farm Tours and the Importance of Dairy in California's Agricultural Sector

\$20,000

Dairy Council of California

The California State Fair has a three-and-a-half-acre farm attraction for fairgoers and has developed an agriculture education program to allow school farm tours and educational workshops. The Dairy Council will add a dairy unit to the farm and expand the agricultural education to include all five food groups. Through a combination of learning experiences, students will learn how dairy foods go from farm to table. The goal of the farm tour workshops are to provide a holistic representation of agriculture and showcase the breadth of the industry.

Leadership and Programmatic Development

\$218,000

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 324 school chapters throughout the state that provide integral leadership instruction through use of the FFA student organization to nearly 84,000 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.

California Department of Food and Agriculture

2015 CalAgPlate Program Project Abstracts

California State Fair Farm Tour

\$24,722

California Exposition & State Fair

The California State Fair's three acre demonstration farm has been an important partner in agricultural education, showcasing the industry to millions of visitors since 1974. The California State Fair Farm Tour project creates educational opportunities for today's youth to be interested and excited about farming and agriculture. Funding provides access to farm fieldtrips to over 117,000 elementary students within Sacramento County and supports the creation of a video highlighting the farm tour. The developed fieldtrips and video will engage students K-6 in science based curriculum coupled with five fun interactive stations for hands on learning.

Crops Contest & Classroom Kits for High School Ag Teachers

\$12,630

Stanley W. Strew Education Fund

This project will provide 35 high school agricultural instructors with classroom resource kits and training related to crop and plant science. The goal of this project is to get more students exposed to crop and plant science in the classroom through contests and other projects. This project builds upon a previous CalAgPlate grant showcasing career opportunities in crop science.

Leadership and Programmatic Development

\$212,000

California, Future Farmers of America (FFA)

This project supports leadership and programmatic development for California's statewide FFA program. Nearly 80,000 high school students in 324 local communities are part of California's FFA program. Activities funded under this project include the Leadership Continuum (statewide workshops), the State FFA Leadership Conference, and outreach activities (website/newsletters). More than 11,000 students participate in developed workshops and conferences. This project supports agricultural education through access to educational, leadership and career opportunities in the agricultural industry.

California Department of Food and Agriculture 2014 CalAgPlate Program Project Abstracts

Ag in the Classroom – Teacher Seminar

\$10,700

San Joaquin Farm Bureau Federation

The San Joaquin Farm Bureau Federation is seeking a grant for *the* Ag in the Classroom program, with the objective of educating K-12 teachers on the significance of agriculture in our everyday lives. Educational learning will be hands on, with a series of tours of agricultural facilities and presentations throughout San Joaquin County (SJC). The objective is to educate teachers and give them the materials needed to ensure that their students are able to make connections between their lives and everyday foods, fibers and other agricultural products. Lesson plans that align with Common Core Standards as well as resources and materials will be given to each participating educator. Teachers will increase their overall knowledge of agriculture in SJC and agriculture's role in history and the local economy by 45-50 Percent. Funding in the amount of \$10,700 is requested for transportation costs, professional services and for materials to carry out this program.

Calaveras FFA Ag Mentorship Project – A Sustainable Farm to School Model

\$22,960

Gardens to Grow In

The Calaveras Future Farmers of America (FFA) Ag Mentorship Project will develop a school garden and farm-to-school program that is based on linking FFA members to local farmers and to elementary school garden and agriculture programs. It will focus on building a working relationship with a local farmer who will mentor the FFA members at Calaveras High School to revitalize and manage their campus farm as well as use his own farm as a working model to teach the students the skills and knowledge they will need to sustain their farm. These same students will then be part of a team that works one day a week at elementary schools in the district to support garden maintenance and management at those sites. They will pass on the knowledge and skills they have gained to 6th grade students, teachers and volunteers at each of the elementary school sites by helping them build and sustain their gardens.

California Department of Food and Agriculture

2014 CalAgPlate Program Project Abstracts

Centennial Farm Ag Education

\$25,000

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 and 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 role 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, the environment, and potential agricultural career paths. Funds from the CalAgPlate program will support enhancing the curriculum and exhibits for further messaging, particularly related to career awareness. The Farm offers three school programs during the year, targeting elementary school children from urban areas in Southern California. These programs include the Junior Farmers Tours, Discovery Days and the Ranch After-School Program. Approximately 100,000 visitors participate in the year-round Farm programs. Over 18,000 youth and their families also visit the Farm's exhibits during the annual Youth Expo, and over a million visitors each year are exposed to the Farm and its critical message about agriculture through the annual Orange County Fair.

Increasing Agricultural Career Opportunities Awareness by Student Tours

\$7,010

Stanley W Strew Educational Funds

Nationally, there are twice as many career opportunities advertised as there are agriculture college graduates to fill them. With the retirement of baby boomers increasing, these opportunities will continue to outpace the supply of graduates. This program seeks to increase the awareness of teachers and students about the abundance of career opportunities in agriculture by showcasing these careers in tours. Two one-day tours will be conducted, one in the service area of Butte College and the other in the service area of Woodland College. Each tour will include three local farming and agribusiness stops in addition to speakers who will highlight the diversity and abundance of career opportunities in agriculture. By showing students and teachers instead of simply telling them, there is hope that the students and their peers will begin to consider taking college courses in agriculture, seeking agriculture majors and eventually pursuing related careers. This project is intended to be a pilot that can be repeated in additional areas and at a larger scale in the future.

California Department of Food and Agriculture 2014 CalAgPlate Program Project Abstracts

Leadership Continuum & Programmatic Support

\$162,607

California Association, FFA

The California Association, Future Farmers of America (FFA) is for students enrolled in agriculture education and natural resources programs in high schools throughout California. The programs mission is to make a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through agriculture education. California FFA has over 300 school chapters throughout the state that provide integral leadership instruction through use of the FFA student organization to over 76,000 students/members. In addition to daily classroom instruction, FFA delivers statewide programming that enhances the goals and outcome of the leadership continuum by increasing access, awareness and opportunities for students to engage in agriculture education, leadership development and career training. FFA strives to increase student access to information about career, leadership and programmatic opportunities.