

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.