

PROGRAM UPDATES

Seed Survivor Mobile

The California tour of the Seed Survivor Mobile classroom visited 117 schools and 16 events between November and April. More than 30,000 students participated, learning how food is grown and what plants need to survive. The tour's final stop was at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo's Open House on Saturday, April 16, where guests enjoyed exploring the mobile's computer games and planting sunflower seeds. Teachers and future teachers in attendance explored Ag in the Classroom's teaching resources.



Invasive Species

In January, the invasive species fact sheets were mailed to the principal of every private and public K-12 school in California. Explore the resources at www.LearnAboutAg.org/invasivespecies.



Message from Judy Remy

I have found that the Ag in the Classroom brand is to agricultural education like the Disney brand is to family entertainment. When you are introduced to an organization you know is making a difference, it stays with you. I did not imagine I would ultimately come to work for Ag in the Classroom when, 30 years ago, I met this group of talented people, committed to teaching students, teachers and families about California agriculture.



JUDY REMY,
DIRECTOR OF
DEVELOPMENT
AND MARKETING

My journey getting here included advertising and marketing with radio and television stations in Sacramento and ultimately working for the Walt Disney Company. The Disney brand is second to none when it comes to family entertainment. With my arrival at Ag in the Classroom, one year ago, I quickly discovered this organization's powerful brand recognition.

As I develop donor relations, what rings true is the positive brand awareness Ag in the Classroom has throughout the industry. As I work with my colleagues, I understand how they have created this stellar reputation. Their attention to industry accuracy and teacher relations is unparalleled. This small staff does amazing things across the state. As the population increases, the demands are even greater to make sure the agriculture story is told. You can be proud that they are worthy stewards of your donations. Thank you, and please contact me if you have suggestions for increasing support of this important message. 🌱



2300 RIVER PLAZA DRIVE
SACRAMENTO, CA 95833-3293

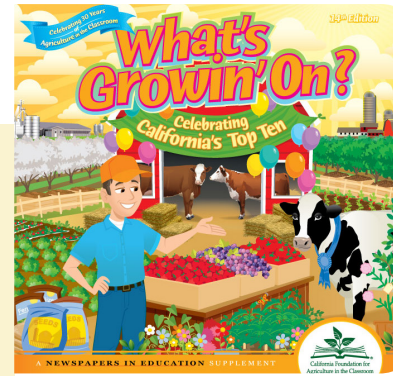
ADDRESS SERVICE
REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 1407
SACRAMENTO, CA



Celebrating 30 Years and 10 Top Crops

The California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom celebrates its 30th anniversary this year, a milestone made possible by its generous donors. The organization set out on a mission in 1986, to increase agricultural understanding and awareness among California's students and educators. With the backing of more than 1,400 companies and individuals, Ag in the Classroom continues today to equip students and educators with resources to discover and teach agriculture.



WHAT'S GROWIN' ON?
STUDENT NEWSPAPER

The *What's Growin' On?* student newspaper is one of the Foundation's most popular resources, reaching over 1 million readers annually. The latest edition showcases California agriculture by celebrating the state's ten most valuable commodities, providing information and activities related to milk, almonds, grapes, cattle, strawberries,

walnuts, lettuce, hay, tomatoes, and nursery plants. Each page includes a STEM activity, highlighting how science, technology, engineering and math play a role in the journey from farm to fork. A career spotlight helps students discover the many opportunities agriculture provides.

As the newspaper explains, much has changed in the past 30 years, including an increase in population and decrease in acres of farmland. More than ever, it is important to recognize the achievements of modern agriculture and continue efforts to promote critical thinking about the food and fiber industry among California's students. 🌱



upcoming events:

30th Anniversary Golf Tournament

Poppy Hills Golf Course
Pebble Beach
July 28, 2016

California Agriculture in the Classroom Conference

Holiday Inn Sacramento-
Capitol Plaza
September 22-24, 2016

Thank You for the Gift of 30 Years

100 donors have given \$30,000 in our 30 years

The California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom thanks the 100 organizations and individuals who have contributed gifts totaling \$30,000 over the past 30 years. This core group of donors brought our vision to life. Throughout the years, many more individuals and organizations have given, allowing Ag in the Classroom to expand its reach, touching the lives of more than 15 million students. As a celebration of this achievement, donors are being presented with a 30th anniversary Apple Award at special events throughout the year. Thank you to this esteemed group for their commitment to agricultural literacy. 🍏



Agrium
Altria Corporate Services, Inc.
Allied Insurance
American AgCredit
AMVAC
Anonymous
Bank of America
Bank of America Foundation
Blue Diamond Growers
The James G. Boswell Foundation
George and Ruth Bradford Foundation
Brocchini Farms, Inc.
Cal Poly Agriculture
CALAMCO
California Association of Nurseries and Garden Centers
California Avocado Commission
California Beef Council
California Cotton Alliance
California Department of Food and Agriculture
California Department of Food and Agriculture - Fertilizer Research and Education Program
California Egg Commission
California Farm Bureau Federation
California Farm Water Coalition
California Forest Products Commission
California Fresh Fruit Association
California Heartland
California Milk Advisory Board
California Rice Promotion Board
California Strawberry Commission
California Teachers Association
California Walnut Board
CAPCA
Jack Cooke
Crop Production Services

D'Arrigo Brothers Company
Debber Family Foundation
Dole Food Company, Inc.
The Dolphin Group, Inc.
Don Diego Fund
Dow AgroSciences
Fairweather Foundation
Farm Credit
American Ag Credit
CoBank
Farm Credit West
Fresno Madera Farm Credit
Golden State Farm Credit
Yosemite Farm Credit
Farmland Management Services
Foster Farms
Fresh Produce and Floral Council
The Bertha and John Garabedian Charitable Foundation
Tony Giannoni
R. Gorrill Ranch Enterprises
Grand National Foundation
Grapery
Great Valley Center
Kenneth Groefsema Ranch
Hester Charitable Remainder Trust
Jim Hicks and Company
Jim Hicks Family Foundation
Jim and Neta Hicks
Hilmar Cheese Company
The Jacobsen Family
Barbara Johnson
Bob Johnson
Los Angeles County Farm Bureau
The Lyman/Tremont Groups, Inc.
McDonald's
Monrovia Growers
Monsanto Company
Morris Trust

National Agriculture in the Classroom Organization
National Institute of Food and Agriculture
Nationwide
Nationwide Health Plans
Olive Hill Greenhouses
Olson Foundation
Oreggia Family Foundation
P & H Creative Group
Pauli Ranch
Regnar & Beverly Paulsen Foundation
Pearlstein Family Foundation
Public Health Institute
Rabobank, N.A.
Raley's Supermarkets
Resnick Family Foundation
Rotary Club of East Sacramento
J.R. Simplot Company Foundation
State Compensation Insurance Fund
Sunkist Growers
Syngenta Crop Protection, Inc.
Peter and Amelia Tognazzini
Tri Valley Growers
UC Hansen Trust
United States Department of Agriculture
United Way California Capital Region
Vino Farms
Walmart Stores, Inc.
Warne Family Charitable Foundation
Wells Fargo
Wells Fargo Foundation
Western Growers
Edwin and Jeanne Woods Family Foundation
Yosemite Farm Credit
Zenith Agribusiness



JEFF MIEDEMA WITH STUDENT, CHLOE UM

Imagining Agriculture in Los Angeles

Jeff Miedema has been submitting his students' work to the *Imagine this...* Story Writing Contest since 1995. That's only two years after the contest was created. For the past 20 years, Miedema has used the contest to introduce his Los Angeles County students to agriculture.

"My students learn about the history of farming in our local community and the rich heritage we owe to the farming industry in our region and the state," he said. "Our city, San Dimas, was founded by farmers and ranchers. Although farming has moved out of our region over the years, it is important to know our past. We also need to know that California, as a state, produces an abundance of agricultural products, which provide a healthy economy and elevated standard of living."

Miedema believes the *Imagine this...* Story Writing Contest is a great incentive for students to research and explore a wide variety of agricultural products. "It's important students know about all the wonderful products, from medicines to daily staples, that California produces and that these commodities just don't materialize out of thin air. There is a whole industry that employs hundreds of thousands of people that grow or raise the items we use every day," he said.

"These commodities just don't materialize out of thin air."



Many of Miedema's students have received regional recognition over the years, and this year, his student, Chloe Um won the state award for fifth grade. Miedema traveled to Sacramento for the awards ceremony on March 16, along with his student and her family. Um's winning story, *Healing Kiwifruit*, is a well-crafted fairytale about her favorite fruit.

"Kiwifruit is my favorite fruit, and I wanted to tell more people about it. I tried to think of an interesting way to tell younger students about the fruit," Um said.

Looking back on the past 20 years, Meidema has many fond memories from helping his students discover agriculture through their research and writing. However, nothing can top the experience of seeing his student honored as a state winner.

"My favorite memory is how special everyone in Agriculture in the Classroom made my student feel by setting up a book signing event and on-camera interview," he said. "To see my student smiling with happiness from her success as she met so many wonderful people, toured the Capitol, and received her awards was truly an unforgettable experience." 🍏



Order the book of winning stories at www.LearnAboutAg.org/imaginethis
Thank you, J.R. Simplot, for your sponsorship!



CALIFORNIA FOUNDATION FOR AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM

Our mission is to increase awareness and understanding of agriculture among California's educators and students. Our vision is an appreciation of agriculture by all.

{800} 700-AITC (2482)

www.LearnAboutAg.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kenny Watkins,
Chairman
San Joaquin County
Mark Dawson
Sacramento County
Martha Deichler
San Diego County
Debbie Jacobsen
Fresno County
Jamie Johansson
Butte County
Rick Phillips
Idaho
Jane Roberti
Sierra County
Craig Thomson
Sacramento County

STAFF

Judy Culbertson
Executive Director
Liz Baskins
Program Coordinator
-Outreach
Lyn Hyatt
Administrative Coordinator
Jennifer Ray
Program Coordinator
-Communication
Terri Salmund
Administrative Assistant
DeAnn Tenhunfeld
Program Coordinator
-Curriculum

🍏
Judy Remy
Director of Development and Marketing

DONATE ONLINE

www.LearnAboutAg.org/handsonag

CFAITC is a 501 (c)(3) organization.
Tax ID: 68-0100601