

AND THE AWARD GOES TO...

We are excited to announce Jami Beck, 2nd Grade teacher at Three Rivers Elementary School in Tulare County, as our 2021 Outstanding



JAMI BECK, 2021 OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

educator of the Year!

Jami has a passion for bringing agriculture into the classroom through books. Books, featuring different foods and cultures encourage her

young students to try a new fruit, vegetable, or food. The next step is teaching how that food gets from farm to fork, or their classroom!

“I feel it is important for students to understand agriculture because they need to know where their food comes from. They need to know that all kinds of people are involved in agriculture. They need to know about the different jobs that are available in agriculture. Most importantly they need to know that we have to keep growing food. California is extremely important because we grow food to feed the world. We want students to be contributing members of society and what better way is there than helping through agriculture?”



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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Message from Bobbin Mulvaney
Owner-Operator, Mulvaney's B&L

It's important that everyone learns what real, whole food is. What does it look like? Taste like? How does it grow and get distributed? Ag in the Classroom does just that. The staff and board focus on supporting teachers with materials that are educational and fun! I'm most impressed that Ag in the Classroom educates 1.2 million students for under \$1.00 per student annually!



BOBBIN MULVANEY, BOARD MEMBER

I'm also excited that we teach students about careers in agriculture, climate change, and sustainability, as it's hard to discern noise from fact. Ag in the Classroom helps prepare kids with building blocks to inspire curiosity, giving future generations the opportunity to learn about California agriculture. I myself, spent a lot of my childhood immersed in agriculture. My family had a café in the Central Valley and grew 120 acres of cotton and feed corn. This prepared me for a career in hospitality, practicing the Farm to Fork lifestyle, and promoting ag education through organizations such as Ag in the Classroom. This is important work that feeds my soul! Please join me in putting “our money where our mouths are” and feed your soul while supporting agricultural literacy.

Photo Credit: DL Cunningham Photography

Fall 2021



Fresno Farms to You

It started with a Friday phone call.

The Fresno Unified School District, who was awarded a Farm to School Grant through the California Department of Food and Agriculture, was looking for resources to implement agriculture education and nutrition education across their district.

“Everything about Ag in the Classroom sounded great!” said Director of Nutrition Services at Fresno Unified School District, Amanda Harvey.



A partnership was born. The *Harvesting for a Healthy Community-Fresno Farms to You* program is a collaboration between the school district and the California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom that introduces students to a different Fresno commodity each month. September, the first month of the program, centered around tomatoes. Students learned why and how tomatoes grow while educators also explored the health and nutritional benefits of the commodity. Then, there's the fun part: eating! Each month Taste and Teach lesson plans encourage teachers and after

school coordinators to bring the featured fruits or vegetables into the classroom for hands-on eating and learning experiences. Colorful newsletters, monthly full-size posters and farmer spotlights that highlight a Fresno farmer each month, are all incorporated into this program.

“Fresno being the agriculture center of the world, the Taste and Teach program is so easy for educators to implement. We are so excited each month to see the newsletter and put the new posters in our cafeterias,” added Harvey.

ALL ABOARD!



New!

Take a trip into California's agricultural past.

LearnAboutAg.org



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Virtual but Vital

Zoom it was. For the second year in a row, the California Agriculture in the Classroom Annual Conference was virtual, due to the Covid-19 Pandemic.

The silver lining: more than 300 registrants, from 43 different California counties "tuned in" to the conference. Coincidentally 43-percent of registrants were first time attendees!

Conference highlights included: A "live" look at a Sacramento Valley tomato harvest, a tour of one of the oldest farmers markets in the state (in Auburn, CA), presentations by nearly a dozen agricultural organizations and in-depth educator workshops. We concluded with the ever-popular Farmer Panel.

Educators are hungry for the inside scoop on what it means to grow food in the golden state.

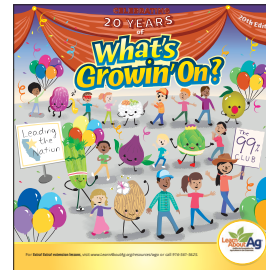


Speaking of teachers, we enjoy receiving messages like the one below, from a teacher in Richmond, California.

"Thank you for providing a virtual option for the Ag in the Classroom Conference, and it is offered for free, which fits the teacher's budget! I look forward to this every year as it energizes my commitment to bring agriculture, school gardens, and nutrition to my students and staff." 🌱

Twenty Years and the 99% Club!

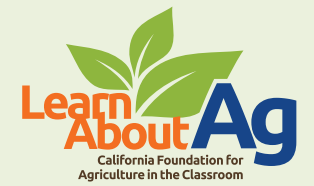
Light those birthday candles because *What's Growin' On?* turns 20! For two decades CFAITC has published this educational newspaper highlighting California's diverse agricultural industry through student-friendly articles, graphics, and activities aligned to California Academic Standards for grades 3-8.



We estimate that over 11.7 million readers have set their eyes on this

colorful publication. A collaboration between educators and agricultural industry experts, *What's Growin' On?* breaks down where our food and fiber come from in an entertaining and engaging manner.

The 99% Club will be our upcoming and 20th Anniversary edition. From almonds to artichokes, rice to raisins, plus ten other commodities that California produces 99% of, students will learn why these crops thrive here. The underlying theme: California is key to growing these crops and it's vital to preserve our agricultural heritage. In many cases, we are literally feeding the nation. 🌱



We are California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom (CFAITC). 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.

We are a 501 (c) (3) organization.
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