

OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR

And the award goes to...

Congratulations to Jessica Eves, our 2024-2025 Outstanding Educator of the Year.

A teacher at the Darnall Charter School in San Diego, California, Jessica’s students grow and then prepare their own food!

“Understanding how much time and effort goes into growing our own food gives us students better appreciation for all the work our farmers do to get food to our tables,” she explained.

Many ag-ha! moments abound. For example, students are amazed how many potatoes they can grow with just a few seeds. They also loves what happens after harvest.

“My students can’t wait to make new recipes with the produce grown in our garden. While one of the top favorites is butternut squash mac and cheese, my students beg for seconds of our sauteed greens!”



New Executive Director

California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom announces the appointment of Amanda Fletcher as its new Executive Director.

Amanda succeeds Interim Executive Director Becca Whitman, who after six years on CFAITC’s Board of Directors, guided the organization through a critical transition period with exceptional leadership.

Amanda brings a wealth of experience in agriculture education, management, and community engagement, coupled with a profound passion for agricultural literacy. Her tenure at CFAITC has provided valuable insights into the organization’s strategic goals and programmatic needs, positioning her to lead CFAITC into an exciting new era of growth and impact.



“My agricultural roots run deep, growing up in Dixon, California, where my family was involved in hay, row crops, and cattle,” said Amanda. “From my early involvement in 4-H and FFA to earning an Agriculture Education degree from California State University, Chico, my lifelong commitment to agriculture has shaped my career. I’m honored to lead CFAITC and am eager to build on its incredible legacy by connecting with educators, students, and industry partners to inspire a deeper understanding of California’s rich agricultural heritage.”



2600 RIVER PLAZA DRIVE #220
SACRAMENTO, CA 95833-3293

ADDRESS SERVICE
REQUESTED

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

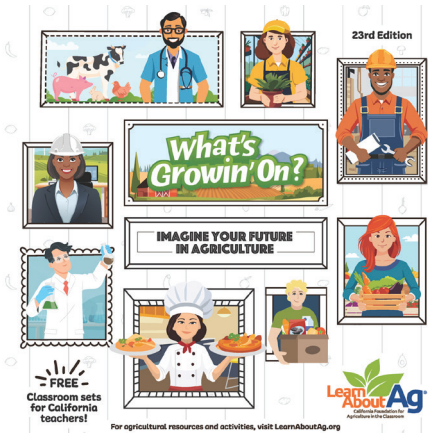
Spring 2025



Imagine Your Future in Agriculture

The newest edition of What’s Growin’ On? - an annual publication by California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom, has hit newsstands or should we say classrooms, near you!

This year’s edition, the 23rd, entitled Imagine Your Future in Agriculture, shines a light on the diverse career pathways within agriculture. Everything from animal science, plant science, and agriculture mechanics to forestry, natural resources, agricultural business and more, is explored in this colorful, interactive, 16-page student newspaper.



Crafted by educators and reviewed by agriculture industry experts, the activities align with California Academic Standards, including Common Core and Next Generation Science Standards.

While the resource is aimed at students grades three through eight, readers of any

age can learn something within these colorful pages which include activities, quizzes, crossword puzzles, and fun facts galore. And jokes. You can’t forget the jokes. Peruse the paper yourself, using the QR code.



VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.LEARNABOUTAG.ORG!

SAVE THE DATE

California
Foundation for
Agriculture in
the Classroom
Conference

Sacramento, CA

September 26-28,
2025



major donors

CALIFORNIA FOUNDATION FOR AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM
RELIES ON THE GENEROUS SUPPORT OF OUR DONORS, WITHOUT
WHOM OUR MESSAGE WOULD GO UNHEARD.
THANK YOU.

BARNRAISER - \$100,000 & UP

The James G. Boswell Foundation
The Raley's Companies

CULTIVATOR- \$50,000 & UP

Farm Credit: AgWest Farm Credit, American
AgCredit, CoBank, Colusa-Glenn Farm
Credit, Fresno Madera Farm Credit, Golden
State Farm Credit, Yosemite Farm Credit
Oreggia Family Foundation
Reniers Family Charitable Fund
Stater Bros. Charities
Zenith Insurance Company

SEED SOWER - \$10,000 & UP

Dairy Council of California
George and Ruth Bradford Foundation
Grand National Foundation
J.R. Simplot Company
McDonald's
National Agriculture in the Classroom
Orange County Farm Bureau
Sustainable Futures Fund
Syngenta Crop Protection, LLC

GARDENER - \$5,000 & UP

Corteva Agriscience
E. & J. Gallo Winery
Catherine Epperson
Grimmway Farms
Los Angeles County Farm Bureau
Nationwide Agribusiness
Kevin and Bea Olsen
The Finch Family Foundation
The Wonderful Company Foundation
Thornton S. and Katrina D. Glide Foundation
Maureen Tolson
Vaquero Foundation

PLANTER - \$2,500 & UP

Associated Feed & Supply Co.
California Fertilizer Foundation
Parsons Farms
Eloise Pound
Elio and Joy Rodoni
The Albert & Rina Brocchini
Family Foundation
Stephen and Janet Waltz

TILLER - \$1,000 & UP

4 R Farming, Inc.
Anthony Costa & Sons
Atwood Ranch
Balyeat Ranch
Bengard Ranch, Inc.
Booth Ranches, LLC
Button & Turkovich, LLC
C.A. Webster Foundation
C.B. Nichols Egg Ranch
CALAMCO
Cal-Bart Orchards, Inc.

California Cantaloupe Advisory Board
California Farm Bureau
California Fresh Carrot Advisory Board
Catlett Warehouse
Caviglia Brothers
Jon Caywood
Central California Irrigation District
Chicken Ranch Tribal Council
Chino Valley Ranchers
Clendenin Orchards
James and Anada Cooper
County Line Farming Co., Inc.
Cypress Abbey Company
DM Color Express, Inc.
Eugene Duncan
Anne Epstein
Farmers Warehouse
Foothill Tropicals
G & L Rominger, LLC
Garton Tractor Family Fund
Haney & Associates Real Estate
Hohberg Poultry Ranches
Hunn and Merwin and Merwin, Inc.
InterWest Insurance Services, LLC
J. Trolan Family
Richard and Sandra Johnson
Judith McBean Foundation
Lake Road Grizzly Ranch
Land O'Lakes
Long Ranch, Inc.
Lovelace & Sons Farming
Patricia McDaniels
Tyler Metz
Ontario Ranch Holsteins
Pacific Coast Producers
Pauli Ranch
Pioneer Equipment Co.
Placer County Farm Bureau
Rubin Seeds, LLC
Rue & Forsman Ranch Partnership
Michael Rue
Sacramento Region Community Foundation
San Joaquin-Stanislaus Cattlemen's Association
Richard and Patricia Shade
Steve E. Park Apiaries, Inc.
Sutter Basin Growers Cooperative
The Bertha and John Garabedian Charitable
Foundation
Tovar Family LP
Vrbas Vineyards
Western Valley Insurance Associates

**Your support makes our
work possible.
Thank you from the
CFAITC team.**



California Farm Day

Over 31,000 students registered to
"tune in" to our Virtual Farm Day!

Through a mix of pre-recorded
segments and live interactive hosts,
classrooms explored working in the
wide and wonderful world of agriculture.
Our newest edition of the student
newspaper, featured in the cover story,
guided our Farm Day adventures.

The 60-minute show highlighted
careers in the fields of geology, soil
science, agriculture sustainability,
veterinary science, food safety, the dairy industry, agriculture
mechanics, animal behavioral health and more! Quizzes followed each
segment to test students' newly gained agricultural knowledge.

Support for this program was provided by the California Department of
Food and Agriculture Cal-AgPlate Grant, J.R. Simplot Company and the
Thornton and Katrina Glide Foundation. Presenting sponsor McDonald's,
California & Nevada franchise owners, made the production possible. 🌱



Imagine This

What do almonds, rice, citrus olives, bees, aquaculture, and
chickens have in common?

These are the seven topics of this year's winning
Imagine this... Story Writing Contest stories.

Winning authors and the high school art
students who illustrated their stories were
celebrated at the California Capitol this March,
recognizing this outstanding achievement.

The annual writing contest encourages students
to write creative tales (fiction or nonfiction) about
California agriculture, resulting in a published
book that is written and illustrated by students, for students!

Encourage the 3-8 grade students in your life to participate.
The story submission deadline has changed! Submissions are
now accepted August 1 through October 1, 2025. 🌱



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.
WWW.LEARNABOUTAG.ORG

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Shannon Douglass President <i>Douglass Ranch</i>	Rebecca Machado <i>Nationwide Insurance</i>
Shaun Crook 1st Vice President <i>Crook Logging, Inc</i>	Bobbie Mulvaney <i>Mulvaney's B&L</i>
Ken Dey <i>J.R. Simplot Company</i>	Ron Peterson <i>Peterson Family Farms</i>
Felipe Espino <i>Raley's</i>	Jane Roberti <i>Roberti Ranch</i>
Sandy Fiack <i>Zenith Insurance Company</i>	

STAFF

Amanda Fletcher <i>Executive Director</i>	Marjie Zarinelli <i>Curriculum Developer</i>
Mandi Bottoms <i>Curriculum Coordinator</i>	Ric Murphy <i>Program Director</i>
Claire Broadus <i>Program Coordinator - Northern California</i>	Morgan Nunes <i>Program Coordinator - Central California</i>
Alyssa Boydston <i>Program Coordinator - Southern California</i>	Becca Whitman <i>Strategic Relations</i>
Jennifer Harrison <i>Communications Coordinator</i>	