

PROGRAM UPDATES

Annual Conference

On July 14 and 15, more than 150 teachers and educators joined us in the heart of California agriculture as we Grew Our Future. This year our Annual Conference provided teachers with new resources to help their students LearnAboutAg®. Attendees heard from speakers such as *The Produce Mom*®, an inspiring advocate of fresh produce, and the motivational Beau Williamson, past National FFA President.



Literacy for Life Grants

The Literacy for Life grants, sponsored by the Oreggia Family Foundation, are designed to help initiate new projects or expand existing ones that promote agricultural literacy. This year we awarded 30 teachers reaching over 900 students.

"One of the best things about teaching agriculture in the classroom is that I can get all of my kids involved".

Lisa Liss, Woodlake Elementary
Sacramento County and Teacher of the Year

"To watch [my students] take ownership in making our school garden better is truly priceless."

Jami Beck, Three Rivers Elementary
Tulare County

Message from Tony Toso

It is a great privilege to be a part of such a tremendous organization like the California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom. The young lives that are touched and influenced by the outreach provided by this organization is immeasurable and benefits not only their lives, but it makes for better local communities, a better California, and a better world. Ag in the Classroom makes it fun for our kids to understand where their food comes from and who produces it. The Ag in the Classroom message illustrates the benefits of agriculture to students and to their teachers which is a testament to the true roots of the organization and our mission statement - to increase awareness and understanding of agriculture among California's educators and students.



TONY TOSO,
BOARD MEMBER

The work that is done by Ag in the Classroom is incredibly important to future generations of Californians. The knowledge that these students gain from ag education and the hands-on experience that they receive from various projects will play a significant role in their growth and development, and will stay with them for a lifetime. What a great opportunity the foundation provides for California's young people! We would love to have you be a part of this incredibly worthwhile endeavor. I encourage you to help with educating today's students about where their food comes from by considering gifting a donation to this wonderful organization.



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Summer 2017

Taste and Teach makes classrooms tastier!

In the 2016-2017 school year, California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom, with the support of Raley's Family of Fine Stores, provided 100 classrooms throughout Northern California with resources to implement memorable learning experiences that will help students make improved food choices. In addition to lesson plans and hands-on activities, teachers received \$100 gift cards to purchase featured seasonal agricultural commodities from Raley's grocery stores. We are excited to offer this program to 250 teachers in the 2017-2018 school year.

At Raley's and Ag in the Classroom, we have seen that when you increase children's access to wholesome foods they are more likely to make better choices. We also



STUDENTS CUT UP AVOCADOS AND TOMATOES FOR THEIR MONTHLY TASTING OF FRESH PRODUCE.

know the importance of teaching students about California agriculture's role in promoting a healthy economy, while providing a safe and nutritious food supply.

Throughout the year teachers posted photos of their experiences on social media platforms. Using #TasteAndTeach, pictures of students enjoying citrus fruits, avocados, blueberries, and other produce

popped up on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

Teacher Dana Brent shared via twitter, "Students learned about leafy greens, ratios, and built salads! Math was fun and tasty today!" Hearing success stories like this truly solidifies our belief that there isn't a subject under the sun that can't be taught using agriculture as the theme. Thank you Raley's for your support!

VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.LEARNABOUTAG.ORG!



upcoming events:

**CA Ag in the Classroom
Golf Tournament**
Poppy Hills Golf Course
Pebble Beach
September 13, 2017



Register today at
LearnAboutAg.org

California Certified Organic Farmers

Promoting knowledge about California's agriculture is an important part of what we do. The support of California Certified Organic Farmers (CCOF) has been a great benefit as our organization strives to provide accurate and interesting information to teachers and students. For this reason, we would like to thank CCOF for their continued collaboration and funding.



CCOF is a nonprofit organization founded in 1973 that advances organic agriculture through organic certification, education, advocacy, and promotion. Today, CCOF represents more than 3,200 certified organic members in 42 states and three countries.

"We are proud to support teachers who provide opportunities for students to learn more about USDA certified organic—what it means and how organic food is produced," said Cathy Calfo, executive director/CEO of CCOF. The *Look at Agriculture... Organically!* grants are a part of the CCOF Foundation's Future Organic Farmer Grant Fund, an initiative that provides grants to support students of all ages learning about organic agriculture.

The CCOF Foundation is addressing the challenges facing the organic community through a variety of programs. It is through programs like these that they are hoping to change the way the world eats—one farmer and one consumer at a time.

"It is important to develop an appreciation for agriculture and teach students where their food and fiber come from. We are excited to continue this partnership with CCOF and provide our California educators with this opportunity," said California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom executive director Judy Culbertson.



THE **LOOK AT AGRICULTURE... ORGANICALLY!** GRANTS ARE DESIGNED TO CREATIVELY ENHANCE THE UNDERSTANDING OF ORGANIC AGRICULTURE FOR KINDERGARTEN THROUGH EIGHTH GRADE STUDENTS. GRANTS UP TO \$1,000 WILL BE AWARDED! CHECK IT OUT AT LEARNABOUTAG.ORG!

2017 CAL Awards

The California Farm Bureau Federation and the Dairy Council of California were awarded the inaugural California Agricultural Literacy Awards, also known as the CAL Awards, by the California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom.

Designed to demonstrate the Foundation's gratitude, the CAL Awards are presented to organizations who have been instrumental in the success of agricultural education in California.



CAL Award artwork presented to award recipients.

CAL Award recipients received their awards at a special event of the California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom. The event on April 7, 2017 was held at High-Hand Nursery and Café in Loomis, California. In addition to the award ceremony, guests enjoyed Julia Daniels, the third grade winner of the *Imagine this... Story Writing Contest*, reading her story entitled *Spaghetti Problem Solved*. Funds raised from this event provide learning opportunities and resources for California students and teachers.

In our transition from a rural to urban society, the link between the farmer and non-farmer has weakened. Figures say that more than 98% of us no longer are involved in food production. Thanks to the efforts of the California Farm Bureau Federation and the Dairy Council of California, California students are able to learn why we must have an appreciation for that small percentage of our population growing our food and fiber.



"Ag in the Classroom provides valuable programs and resources to teachers. We are extremely proud to support and work along side them in bringing agriculture to our students and teachers."

Paul Wenger, President
California Farm Bureau Federation



"Partnerships like the one between Dairy Council of California and Ag in the Classroom are the key to shared outcomes that create collective impact and can successfully propel our mission and cause."

Tammy Anderson-Wise, C.E.O.
Dairy Council of California



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.

{800} 700-AITC (2482)

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