

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Ag in the Classroom has a bright future based on 25 years of success**

The Kansas Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom (KFAC) is marking a milestone – 25 years of providing Kansas teachers and students with educational resources and programs incorporating agriculture into the classroom – with a silver anniversary dinner, sponsored by The Farm Credit Associations of Kansas and celebration event to be held March 24 at the Kansas State University Alumni Center in Manhattan.

The evening's activities will center on the theme *Planting the Seeds for a Bountiful Future: Celebrating 25 years of Agriculture Literacy*.

Headlining the celebration program will be noted economist and futurist Dr. Jay Lehr, who will share his views on the future of agriculture. Sponsored by Nutrients for Life, Lehr combines five decades of expertise and experience in the agriculture industry with a contagious enthusiasm for the future of the American farm and ranch. According to Lehr, it is agriculture's responsibility to continue to produce its single most important crop, the next generation of outstanding children. Lehr makes a strong case that today's farmer is the very best environmental steward and land conservationist, ensuring the highest quality in our water and air resources.

The evening will close with a live auction. All funds raised will assist KFAC in its mission to provide educational resources and programs for the next 25 years.

During its first quarter-century, KFAC has developed and distributed two educator guides, *Exploring Kansas Farm Animals* for first grade and *Exploring Kansas Crops* for third grade. A third guide, *Exploring Kansas Natural Resources* targeted at fifth grade, is close to completion. The educator's guides and their corresponding magazines, *Kansas Kids Connection*, are distributed at no charge to Kansas educators. Other educational outreach programs include school assembly programs, the Teacher of the Year Award and an annual post card contest. KFAC, in cooperation with Kansas State University, also offers summer graduate-level courses to educators. All KFAC materials align with State of Kansas curriculum standards.

Some of the featured auction items include:

- Landscape painting with Kansas Soils donated by Betty Mosier, artist
- “Elm Creek Crossing” print by Earl Kuhn donated by High Plains Journal
- Landscape Crop Art Photograph & Autographed Posters signed and donated by Stan Herd
- Photographs of Burning Flint Hills by Jim Nedresky
- Framed “Spring in the Heartland – Quail” print by artist Jerry Thomas donated by Jackson County Conservation District
- Boy’s Toys, toy box donated by Caterpillar Work Tools

To attend the celebration, or for more information about the Kansas Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom, visit the website at [www.ksagclassroom.org](http://www.ksagclassroom.org) or contact the KFAC office at (785) 532-7946 or by e-mail at [kfac@ksu.edu](mailto:kfac@ksu.edu).