

KFB, KFAC honor three Kansas educators with Excellence in Teaching awards

Kansas Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom (KFAC) and Kansas Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture are announcing the 2016 Excellence in Teaching award winners. This award is given to exemplary teachers who integrate agriculture into their classroom lessons and curriculum. These honorees include Audra McCurdy, an agriculture enrichment instructor at Williamsburg Elementary in Williamsburg; Amanda Rensink, a fifth grade teacher at Tescott Grade School in Tescott; and Jay Super, science teacher at Maize High School.

McCurdy uses hands-on reinforcement activities with each of her ag enrichment lessons. Beyond that, McCurdy also served as the chairman of four major events for students, parents and her community: Harvest Day, Machinery Day, Ag Fair and Recycled Art Fair. Additionally, she leads her students in raising livestock and gardens on school grounds.

Amanda Rensink, a fifth grade teacher at Tescott Grade School in Tescott, Kan., keeps agriculture at the forefront of her students' learning. During weekly presentations about the 50 states, students are expected to report on the major crops, livestock and unique agricultural aspects of their chosen state. Rensink also incorporates multiple experiential learning activities including starting garden plants, observing pollinators, participating in "Willie and the Beanstalk" and "Grain to Grocery" programs.

A science teacher at Maize High School, Jay Super is the third recipient of the KFB Foundation for Agriculture Excellence in Teaching Award. In Super's classroom, students are able to learn about growing beds and hydroponics as well as participate in field trips to local farms. Super taps into his community by bringing in local farmers and collaborates with other teachers to enhance their students' learning.

These three teachers will receive their choice of \$600 toward attending the National Agriculture in the Classroom Conference in Phoenix, Ariz., or a \$200 check to purchase agriculture education supplies for their classroom.

About Kansas Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom

The Kansas Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom (KFAC) is a 501c3 nonprofit organization. KFAC was founded in 1982 as part of a nationwide initiative to help students gain a greater awareness of the role of agriculture in the economy and society, so that they may become citizens who support wise agricultural policies. For more information, visit www.ksagclassroom.org or phone (785) 320-4350.

About Kansas Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture

The Kansas Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture was formed in 1998. The Foundation awards scholarships and grants that fund programs and projects

designed to help improve agriculture and the quality of life in Kansas. The Foundation has awarded more than \$500,000 in scholarships and grants. Visit www.kfb.org for more information about the Foundation.

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