



FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR KENTUCKY'S YOUTH

June 2023

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2023 TEEN CONFERENCE

Over the course of four days on UK's campus in Lexington youth were able to hear from inspirational speakers, learn about career opportunities, and most importantly spend time learning about themselves and others. Additionally, new State Officers were installed, four new Emeralds were announced, and youth were awarded scholarships.

The Foundation also hosted a Friends & Alumni Mixer (pg. 11). Thank you to Teen Conference, State Teen Council and State Officer sponsors Valvoline, Tarter, Kentucky Farm Bureau, Farm Credit Mid America, and Kentucky Soybean Promotion Board for making the week possible.

Pictured Top left: Outgoing Kentucky 4-H State Officers being made Honorary Agricultural Commissioners by Dr. Ryan Quarles



Pictured Bottom Left: Incoming State Officers with Fran McCall, Kentucky Farm Bureau representative (L to R: Reporter Kailyn Owens, Crittenden County; Treasurer Mirabella Koralia, Jefferson County; Secretary Kenzie Owens, Carter County; Vice President Avery Cole, Warren County; and President Mollie Webb, Barren County.

Join us for the 3rd Annual
Kentucky 4-H
FRIENDS + ALUMNI
Ice Cream Social
August 17, 2023 || Kentucky Expo Center || 7 PM EST

Sponsored By: **Chaney's Dairy Barn**

Kentucky 4-H Foundation is an independent non-profit partner of the Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service - 4-H Youth Development, UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment. Educational programs of the Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service serve all people regardless of economic or social status and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, creed, religion, political belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, marital status, genetic information, age, veteran status, or physical or mental disability.

MEET THE 2023 EMERALDS



**LUCAS
ARNOLD**

HOPKINS COUNTY



**DAPHNICA
WOODS**

ALLEN COUNTY



**AVERY
COLE**

WARREN COUNTY



**MAGALEE
BLAZINA**

CRITTENDEN COUNTY

The Kentucky 4-H Achievement program is a cumulative compilation of 4-H'ers entire 4-H experience and work. 4-H'ers apply and compete for four progressively higher Achievement levels (Bronze, Silver, Gold, and Emerald). Each level provides youth with recognition and prizes including scholarships to attend State Teen Conference, National Congress, and National Conference.

The highest honor in Kentucky 4-H's Achievement Program, the Emerald Award, is presented annually to four 4-H'ers chosen following a rigorous application and interview process. In addition to their interview, participants are judged on their resume, cover letter, a video presentation, which highlight their accomplishments across five categories: Leadership, Citizenship, Communications/Marketing, Community Service, and Participation.

Each year, the Foundation seeks out donors to sponsor each of the Emerald Awards. We are grateful for this year's sponsors The Paul & Jill Hall Foundation; Steve & Melanie W. Kelley; Russ Kissel, Brian Dunham and Glen and Becky Kinder; and Pamela R. Lawson. If you are interested in sponsoring an Emerald Award, please contact Director of Advancement, Ben Carr (ben.carr@uky.edu).

Pictured Right (top to bottom):

Pamela R. Larson, former Foundation Board Chair with 2020 State Officer and Current National 4-H Youth Advisory Council Member Deja Hatchett; Foundation Board Members and Emerald Sponsors Glen Kinder and Melanie Kelley; Foundation Board Chair and Former State Officer, Dr. Brent Hutchinson with 2020 Emerald Winner and 2020 State Officer Morelia Falcon.



2023 EMERALD GALA



Emerald Gala

Our sixth annual gala raised over \$225,000 for Kentucky 4-H youth! Thank you to our Exclusive Emerald Sponsor - Kentucky Farm Bureau. We also want to say a special Thank you to David & Roberta Wallace for their sizable donation to the Achievement Program.

A special thank you to the Emerald Gala Committee!!

Top Left to Right: 2019 Emerald Winner and 2020 State Officer, Morelia Falcon with KJ Bail; Emerald Sponsor Kentucky Farm Bureau's team; David and Nancy Beck; Ruth Ann and Tim Hendrick; 202 Emerald Winner Issac Hosay with parents; 2023 Emerald Gala Chair, Elizabeth Lunsford with guests Chase Lunsford, Megan Beane; 2023 Honorary Emerald Award Recipient Melanie Kelley with husband Steve; Harland and Jenny Lynn Hatter; 2022 Emerald Winner, Sidney Sowder; Friend Sponsor Hilpp Construction and guests; Charles and Glenda Comer with son Kiernan; Foundation Board Member, Steven and Bianca Lycans and daughter, and Silver Sponsor, H&R Agri-Power.



TEEN CONFERENCE: LEADERSHIP KEY NOTE

This year, Azhani Tealer, fifth-year senior Middle Blocker for the University of Kentucky Womens Volleyball Team, delivered the keynote address for the Teen Conference Leadership Minor. Azhani was a contributor to the 2021 National Champion team and won SEC Defensive Player of the week three times in 2022. Azhani's experience as a teammate and leader on a top-tier NCAA team, gave her a unique and fresh perspective on leadership.

Thank you to the Kentucky Soybean Board for providing this opportunity.



MESSAGE FROM STATE PRESIDENT: MAGALEE BLAZINA

I am so grateful for this past year serving the organization that has helped me in so many ways. There are so many memories and experiences I will never forget. My team and I have been able to travel across the state and meet with countless members. This is not something we took lightly coming out of the pandemic. We have also been able to work closely with our State Teen Council and ensure they had a productive rebuilding year.

We have also been grateful to be able to promote 4-H at the state level. From speaking to state legislators and policy makers to supporters and donors on the importance of 4-H, my team and I have had impactful conversations. We are so thankful for everyone who supports the Kentucky 4-H program. Thank you to everyone who has donated or sponsored a 4-H program this year. I know my team and I will continue to find ways to give back to the organization that has given us so much.



2022-23 Kentucky 4-H State President, Magalee Blazina passing the President's gavel to incoming President, Mollie Webb

FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- Chairperson:**
Dr. Brent Hutchinson
- Vice Chairperson:**
Melanie Watson
- Secretary:**
Elizabeth Lunsford
- Treasurer:**
Glen Kinder, IV
- Nominating & Board Development Chair:**
Dennis Cannon
- Director at Large:**
Melanie W. Kelley
- Youth Representative:**
Magalee Blazina

BOARD MEMBERS

- Ryan Bivens*
- Ramel Bradley*
- Eric Comley*
- Harland Hatter*
- Ruth Ann Hendrick*
- Dr. Rachel Guidugli*
- Steven Lycans*
- John May*
- Fran McCall*
- Kristin Smith*
- Dr. Laura Stephenson*
- Madison Wilmoth*

FOUNDATION BOARD HOSTS TEENS

This June, the Foundation Board of Directors held its second quarter board meeting in Lexington. After the meeting the board hosted a few 2023 State Teen Council members, the incoming and outgoing State Officers, and leaders from the various Kentucky 4-H Teen Leadership Boards. Foundation board members enjoyed the opportunity to hear from 4-H'ers about how programs and opportunities funded through the Foundation directly affect their lives.



WELCOME TO THE STATE OFFICE



WELCOME
MIKE MEYER
ASSOCIATE 4-H PROGRAM LEADER



WELCOME
PATRICK ALLEN
SPECIALIST FOR 4-H EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES



University of Kentucky
College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment
Cooperative Extension Service
4-H Youth Development



University of Kentucky
College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment
Cooperative Extension Service
4-H Youth Development

\$1,000 Lexi Kinder Scholarship

funded by the Lexi Kinder Scholarship Endowment and Glen & Becky Kinder

2023 Recipient: *Cailin Adkins, Kenton County*

"4-H has provided me with many opportunities that have made me the person I am. I can't even imagine my life without 4-H in it. 4-H has given me extremely good communication skills, amazing leadership skills and great organizational skills."



Cailin Adkins with the Kinder Family

\$1,500 JW Kidwell Memorial Scholarship

funded by Courtney Barancin, Matthew Barancin and Dorie Smith

2023 Recipient: *Kayleigh Thomas, Hardin County*

"4-H gave me the opportunity at a very young age to express my passion for agriculture and share that with others. Now a senior in high school, I am going to use that passion that began as a quiet, shy little girl in 4-H to teach agriculture at the high school level."



Kayleigh Thomas with Dr. Brent Hutchinson, Foundation Board Chair

\$1,000 Chris Caddell Memorial Scholarship

funded by the Chris Caddell Memorial Scholarship Endowment, the Caddell Family, and Heritage Bank

2023 Recipient: *Makaylee Thompsan, Edmonson County*

"4-H Camp was my home away from home, where I was taught to be myself, step out of my comfort zone, and where my leadership skills and my love for 4-H blossomed."



Makaylee Thompsan with Brian Dunham representing the Caddell Family

\$1,000 Ale-8-One/Michael Bandy Scholarship

funded by the Michael Bandy Scholarship Endowment and Ale-8-One Bottling Company

2023 Recipient: *Carlie Hansen, Ohio County*

"4-H has helped me to become a confident and vibrant young women who never stops until she succeeds. It has set me up for a lifetime of self-discovery, growth and inspiration. 4-H has helped me to learn how to see challenges as opportunities, and has undoubtedly impacted how I see myself, as well as the people and the world around me."



Carlie Hansen with Dr. Brent Hutchinson, Foundation Board Chair



During State Teen Conference, 4-H partnered with nonprofits across central Kentucky to provide teens the opportunity to participate in three hours of community service. Pictured are youth from across the Commonwealth revamping a garden space at Bryan Station High School in Lexington.

"Being able to serve alongside new friends has been the best experience. I am leaving realizing how many opportunities I have back home to serve that I need to take advantage of..."

Zeely Schwartz, Spencer County 4-H'er





Recently I had the privilege of attending the historic announcement of the landmark gift to the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment from Mr. Bill Gatton. During the event Mr. Gatton's favorite poem "The Bridge Builder" was shared with us and it made a profound impression on me and reminded me of the work we do as Kentucky 4-H and the remarkable commitment to our beloved organization that you have made as donors to the Kentucky 4-H Foundation.

For over 100 years, 4-H has welcomed young people of all beliefs, and backgrounds, giving youth a voice to express who they are and how they make their lives and communities better. As donors and supporters, you have been the bridge builders for thousands of youth to thrive. Kentucky 4-H is a more robust organization, contributing to the advancement of our clubs, communities, country, and world because of you. As the Kentucky 4-H Program Leader, I am forever grateful for you and your commitment, thank you.

The Bridge Builder

BY WILL ALLEN DROMGOOLE

An old man going a lone highway,
 Came, at the evening cold and gray,
 To a chasm vast and deep and wide.
 Through which was flowing a sullen tide
 The old man crossed in the twilight dim,
 The sullen stream had no fear for him;
 But he turned when safe on the other side
 And built a bridge to span the tide.

"Old man," said a fellow pilgrim near,
 "You are wasting your strength with building here
 Your journey will end with the ending day,
 You never again will pass this way;
 You've crossed the chasm, deep and wide,
 Why build this bridge at evening tide?"

The builder lifted his old gray head;
 "Good friend, in the path I have come," he said,
 "There followed after me to-day
 A youth whose feet must pass this way.
 This chasm that has been as naught to me
 To that fair-haired youth may a pitfall be;
 He, too, must cross in the twilight dim;
 Good friend, I am building this bridge for him!"



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT:
MORELIA FALCON
 2020 EMERALD
 2020 STATE TREASURER
 2023 NATIONAL 4-H YOUNG ALUMNI ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Kentucky 4-H is proud to recognize Morelia Falcon, newly elected member of National 4-H Council's Young Alumni Advisory Committee! Morelia was a 2020-21 State Officer and 2020 Emerald Award Winner. She will serve a 3-year term on the committee alongside former State Officer, Deja Hatchett!

\$1,000 PW Lawrence Scholarship

funded by the PW Lawrence Trust Endowment

2023 Recipient: *Caroline Olds, Oldham County*

"As I am getting ready to begin college, I can see just how much 4-H has prepared me for my next steps."



Caroline Olds with Dr. Brent Hutchinson

\$500 William T. & Joan Comer Family Scholarship

funded by the Comer Family Endowment

2023 Recipient: *Sarah Sink, Trigg County*

"The anticipation I felt in attending meetings and activities with my mom and older siblings was one of pure joy. 4-H has been an important part of my life. I grew up hearing, "4-H is training you to be a community leader; it is putting into action everything you are being taught at home."



Sarah Sink with Charles Comer

\$500 Dr. Mark Mains Scholarship

funded by Dr. Mark Mains

2023 Recipient: *Emma-Katherine Lawrence, Shelby County*

"A shooting sports coach taught me to always smile and to cherish the small moments and to have a positive mindset, not only on the line, but in my daily life as well. These volunteer coaches always went above and beyond what was asked of them, and I would not be where I am in my sport today without their initial support and guidance."



Emma-Katherine Lawrence

\$500 Sawmill Farm Scholarship

funded by Aaron and Melissa Miller

2023 Recipient: *Joseph Redmon, Nelson County*

"4-H has taught me to get out of my comfort zone and to do the hard things because they can lead to even better outcomes."



Joseph Redmon with Melissa Miller

\$500 Fresh Start Farm Scholarship

funded by Ryan and Misty Bivens

2023 Recipient: *Brilee Sanders, Fayette County*

"As I embark on my future endeavors, I am confident that the skills, values, and network I have acquired through 4-H will continue to positively impact my journey, equipping me with the necessary tools to overcome challenges and seize opportunities."

\$500 Donnalee Small Memorial Scholarship

funded by Glen and Becky Kinder
 2023 Recipient: Andrew Myers, Oldham County
 "4-H has empowered me to become the best leader I can be and to always keep moving forward."

\$500 SET Scholarship

funded by the Kentucky 4-H SET Program
 2023 Recipient: Paris Carter, Livingston County
 "I say there is something for everyone in 4-H!"

\$500 Hazel Nadine Lacefield Memorial Scholarship

Funded by Glen & Becky Kinder
 2023 Recipient: Makayla Hamilton, Casey County
 "After attending Summit my 7th-grade year I knew that I one day wanted to be on a Kentucky 4-H Leadership board. I looked up to those board members and aspired to be much like them, I knew that I wanted to make an impact on people's lives the same way they made one on mine."

\$1,500 Scholarship for Service

funded by Heritage Farm
 2023 Recipient: Briar Elmore, Casey County
 "My involvement in Kentucky 4-H has been one of the most contributing factors to my personality and leadership development. When I joined the 4-H program I had no idea how many opportunities and doors 4-H would open for me."



Andrew Myers with Foundation Board Treasurer, Glen Kinder and family



Makayla Hamilton with Foundation Board Treasurer, Glen Kinder and family



Briar Elmore with Foundation Board Chair, Dr. Brent Hutchinson



Top Left to Right: 2022 State Officer Lance Munday, Garrett, Foundation Intern and 2020 State Officer Morgan Barnes, 2022 State President, Magalee Blazina; 2016 State Officer, Paloma (Falcon) Culver, 2022 State Officers Kiersten Foit and Katherine Zimmerman, 2020 State Officer, Morelia Falcon, KJ Bail, 2016 State Officer, Noah Carter, and Camila (Falcon); 2022 State Officer, Lucas Arnold, 1979 State Officer, Pamela Larson, Head Clover, Dr. Rachel Guidugli, 1994 State Officer and Foundation Board Chair, Dr. Brent Hutchinson, Magalee Blazina, 1979 State Officer, Jill Hall; Nick Carter, Harland and Jenny Lynn Hatter; Associate 4-H Program Leader, Mike Meyer and 2016 State Officer and Carter County 4-H Agent, Rebecca Hayes.

KENTUCKY 4-H FOUNDATION MISSION STATEMENT:

Fund opportunities for Kentucky 4-H youth



\$1,000 Expand Your Horizons Collegiate Scholarship Program

endowed and funded by Paul & Jill Hall to support collegiate students who are Kentucky 4-H Alum. Paul and Jill were both active Kentucky 4-H'ers serving on State Teen Council as state officers in 1977 and 1979 respectively.



Bradley Webster, Warren County
with Jill Conrad Hall



Isaac Hosay, Warren County
with Jill Conrad Hall

IN MEMORY OF PAUL HALL

It is with deep sadness and heavy hearts that we bid farewell to a remarkable individual and a true champion of Kentucky 4-H, Mr. Paul Hall. With profound gratitude and admiration, we take this moment to honor and celebrate the life and legacy of a philanthropist whose generous contributions have made a lasting impact on countless young lives.

Mr. Hall's passion for 4-H and its mission to provide educational opportunities, foster leadership skills, and promote positive youth development were evident in his numerous acts of generosity. His contributions have helped transform the lives of countless young people, enabling them to explore their passions, build confidence, and become responsible citizens.

Beyond his financial support, Mr. Hall was a

source of inspiration and motivation for both 4-H members and volunteers alike. His genuine interest in the success and well-being of each young person he encountered left an enduring impression, reminding us of the importance of mentorship, guidance, and nurturing relationships.





Gold Awards

Opposite Page Top Left to Right: Cailin Adkins, Daniel Brown, Jenna Diaz, Briar Elmore, Benjamin Falk, Makayla Hamilton, Heidi Hite, Ella McManis, Brenna Mefford, Lance Munday, B. Kolton Zimmerman, Maya Payne.

This Page Top Left to Right: Sarah Sink, Kelia Sullivan, Kailyn Stokes, Ella Thomas, Kayleigh Thomas, Raini Hall, Lydia Hinman, Isaac Heisdorffer, Juliann Heisdorffer, Mirabella Koralia, Jordan Reynolds, Ty Jones, Audrey Barker, Emma Koscho

