

# Indiana Young Farmers' Association

WINTER  
2023



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## 2023 New Orleans National Institute

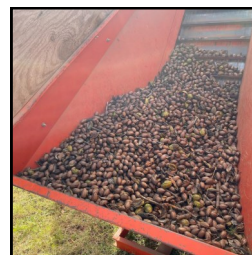
The 2023 National Institute was held in College Station, Texas and we had a large group of Indiana Young Farmers members in attendance. We had two days of tours in the area around College Station.

On day one we visited the beef and sheep research farms for Texas A&M University, learned how Texas A&M University is assisting pecan growers as they demonstrated pecan harvesting, tasted some delicious ice cream at Blue Bell Creamery, and got a demonstration of aerial pesticide application.

Day two included a visit to learn about livestock genetics at Transova, a tour of Producers Cooperative store, feed mill, and fertilizer, and a stop at the George Bush Presidential Library. The day concluded with a visit to downtown Bryan, Texas.

The week concluded with a day at Kyle Field (Texas A&M Football) to learn about agriculture in Texas and recognize the winners of the Agricultural Communications contests. New national officers were installed before a live band performed as the entertainment.

The 2024 National Institute will be held in Albuquerque, New Mexico.



## President's Corner

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from Southern Indiana! I hope everyone's holidays were wonderful and that you had a great time with family and friends.

The State Convention committee has been busy planning our annual State Convention to be held this year in Fair Oaks, IN. There will be two exciting farm tours and a special leadership program. The weekend will kick off with a fun social evening on Friday night with a Roaring 20's themed Murder Mystery. Saturday we will tour Fair Oaks Farm and have a leadership session. The evening will consist of the gala and live and silent auctions. Remember to bring your checkbook to help support the state organization and get some great items!

*Michael Tormoehlen*

## 2023-2024 Indiana Young Farmers' Executive Committee

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## IYFA Kids' Contests

### **Kids' Photo Contest (8th grade & younger; 9th & older compete as adults)**

- Photos need to fall under Ag or Non Ag themes. All photos will be judged as one category for all ages.
- Entries are to be 5x7 mounted color prints (no frames).
- All photos must have a title on either the front or back.
- Turn in photos at convention registration by 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, February 24.
- All entries must have name, parents' names, title and chapter on the back.
- Photos must be originals taken by the child.
- Entries may be picked up on Saturday evening, February 24, at headquarters.

### Dates & Deadlines

January 24

Deadline for hotel reservations

February 1

Deadline for:

\*Dues

\*Convention Pre-registration

\*Ag Expressions Essay Contest

\*Spokesperson Contest

February 23-25

IYFA State Convention

The Farmhouse Restaurant & Convention Center

Fair Oaks, IN

# 2023 Indiana Young Farmers State Convention

## Convention Schedule

### Friday, February 23, 2024

6:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.	Registration
6:00p.m.-10:00 p.m.	Murder Mystery The Roaring 20's Theme

### Saturday, February 24, 2024

8:00 a.m.-8:30 a.m.	Registration
8:00 a.m.-8:45 a.m.	Delegate Session (Delegates & Exec Members Only)
9:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m.	Farm Tour #1
10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	Spokesperson & Farm Business Management Contests
12:00 p.m.-1:30 p.m.	Awards Luncheon
2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m.	Farm Tour #2
3:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m.	Leadership Session Self-Guided Building Tours
6:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m.	Registration & Chapter Photos Silent Auction Opens
6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.	Gala & Awards Program
8:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m.	Live Auction
9:00 p.m.-12:00 a.m.	Dance

### Sunday, February 25, 2024

8:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.	New Executive Committee Meeting All needed to help clean up and pack up!
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Get out of the snowy weather and freezing cold!  
Come inside and warm up by celebrating 61 years.

Convention will begin Friday evening with a  
Roaring 20's themed Murder Mystery.

Saturday we will begin with our Delegate session.  
We will then have our first farm tour. Following  
the tour, we will have the Spokesperson & Farm  
Business Management contests. Lunch will follow  
at the hotel. Following lunch, we will embark on  
the second farm tour. After the second farm tour,  
members may do self-guided tours through some  
of the building or join in on the leadership session.

Prior to the Saturday Evening Gala, be sure to bid  
on some items in the Silent Auction. Also, be sure  
to get your chapter photos.

Saturday evening will conclude with our annual  
Gala where we will hand out awards, recognize  
past officers, special guests, and install the new  
officer team.

After the Gala, we will complete the evening with  
our Live Auction. Then we will dance the night  
away.

We hope to see many new and old faces this year  
at convention! Come help us celebrate 61 years of  
**EXCELLENCE!**

The logo for the Indiana Young Farmers Association, featuring the lowercase letters 'iyfa.us' in a blue, cursive, handwritten-style font.

# 2024 Spokesperson for Agriculture Contest

2024 marks the 49th year for the Young Farmer Spokesperson for Agriculture Program.

The objectives for the program are as follows:

1. To provide an educational program that inspires participation from the majority of the chapter belonging to the IYFA.
2. To enhance public speaking skills of all young men and women by encouraging competition.
3. To further educate the general public about issues facing agriculture in this nation and world.
4. To provide a rewarding and fun-filled experience where contestants will be excited about participation.

## Contestant Eligibility:

Any active member of the Indiana Young Farmers' Association or any high school (9th-12th grade) FFA member may enter. Previous state winners must sit out two years.

## Topic:

Spokespersons competing in the contest must present a prepared five minute statement on a current topic that will provide a positive perspective of agricultural and renewable resources to an audience of consumers and producers. A ten minute questioning period by the judges will follow.

## Criteria for Selection:

In both the statement and the questioning period, evaluation will be based on how well the spokesperson considers a variety of view points, how accurate and convincing they are, and on the overall delivery of their presentation. Questions in the ten minute questioning period will be asked by the judges. Contestants are encouraged, but not required to use props, which may help get the point across in the five minute statement. Visual aids needing additional set up or equipment are not permitted.

Please email a copy of speeches by February 1, 2024 to Amber Smith at

[indianayoungfarmers@gmail.com](mailto:indianayoungfarmers@gmail.com).

"Speak Up for Ag!"



# 24th Annual Agricultural Expressions Essay Contest

Members will have the opportunity to voice their pride and concerns for agriculture and also enhance their writing skills by competing in the IYFA essay contest.

The top three placing essays will be recognized.

Please submit essays postmarked by February 1, 2024 to:

IYFA

P.O. Box 136

Brownstown, IN 47220

Or email to: [indianayoungfarmers@gmail.com](mailto:indianayoungfarmers@gmail.com)

## Objectives:

1. Provide an opportunity for both consumers and agriculturalists to better understand each other.
2. Promote agriculture and encourage more appreciation for the quality of food available in the United States.
3. Provide an opportunity for communication and interaction between consumers and agriculturalists.
4. Promote IYFA as a dynamic organization in the agricultural field.
5. Provide an educational opportunity for IFYA members to voice their pride and concerns for agriculture.
6. Enhance writing skills of participants while providing them an opportunity to voice their opinions on issues facing agriculture today.

## Contestant eligibility:

Any member or high school (9th-12th grade) FFA member who has not won the past two years of the IYFA Essay Contest will be eligible to participate.

## Topic: Any agriculture topic

Writers competing in the contest must submit a 500-1,000 word statement (essay), letter-to-the-editor of a local newspaper, or letter to an opinion setter (politician, chamber leader, etc.) on the above topic.

## Scoring Criteria for Essay:

**Content:** Consideration of other's viewpoints (15), Accuracy and convincing (20), Readability (15),  
**Subtotal (50)**

**Research:** Evidence to support statement (10), Bibliography and footnotes (10), **Subtotal (20)**

**Composition:** Grammar (10), Format and originality (10), Writing skills (10), **Subtotal (30)**

**Grand Total (100)**

**Penalty:** Five (5) points will be deducted from the total score for each 25 words under 500 or over 1,000 in essay itself.

## 2024 Photo Contest

**Contestant Eligibility:** Any active member of the IYFA or high school (9th-12th grade) FFA member can enter. Past state winners of the Photo Contest are not eligible the year after they win. Individuals submitting photographs release copyright to the IYFA.

### **RULES:**

1. Each member or advisor may submit one photo in each of the following categories:
  - Ag
  - Non-Ag
2. Entries are to be 5x7 mounted color print(s) (no frames).
3. All pictures must have title, which may be located on the front or back.
4. Turn in photos at convention registration by 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, February 24, 2024.
5. All entries must be identified on the back of the picture with name, chapter, home address, title of picture and category.
6. Must be original photographs taken by the person that has submitted the photo(s).
7. Entries may be picked up on Saturday evening, February 24, at headquarters.

**TOPICS:** Photographs competing in the contest must present a photograph of an agricultural, environmental, agribusiness, or rural life-style topic that will provide a positive perspective of agriculture/renewable resources to an audience of consumers and producers.

**WINNERS:** You may only win in one category; a winner will be selected for each of the two categories and one selected for Best Overall Photo.



## 2024 Farm Business Management Contest

This year's Farm Business Management Contest will be similar to previous years. You will have one hour to complete the exam. Chapter advisors will not be permitted to participate, but are encouraged to work with chapter members to help prepare them for the contest.

Please remember last year's winning team must sit out one (1) year before competing again. The contest will be held on Saturday, February 24, 2024.

For more information please contact Amber Smith at [indianayoungfarmers@gmail.com](mailto:indianayoungfarmers@gmail.com).



# Registration Form

## Indiana Young Farmers' Association State Convention

THE FARMHOUSE RESTAURANT & CONVENTION CENTER, Fair Oaks, IN

February 23-25, 2024

*Postmark Date for Pre-Registration is February 1, 2024*



**Please print and fill in all information: use only one registration form per couple.**

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Young Farmer Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_ Check if you are a Delegate: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

	Pre Reg	Number Attending	Total	Late Reg	Number Attending	Total
Total Convention: (includes registration and meals)	\$130.00	X _____	= \$ _____	\$160.00	X _____	= \$ _____
Total Convention Child not attending Daycare:	\$130.00	X _____	= \$ _____	\$160.00	X _____	= \$ _____
Saturday Daycare (includes dinner)	\$50.00	X _____	= \$ _____	\$60.00	X _____	= \$ _____
<b>Grand Total</b>			\$ _____			\$ _____

Names/ages of children in daycare program:  
\_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*You must register for convention to participate in any convention activity.\*\***

\*\*All pre-registration must be postmarked and paid in full by February 1, 2024.  
Hotel reservations should be made by January 24, 2024 to get the guaranteed \$129 room rate.\*\*

Make checks payable to **IYFA**

Mail to:  
Indiana Young Farmers'  
Association  
P.O. BOX 136  
BROWNSTOWN, IN 47220

For reservations call:  
The Farmhouse Restaurant & Convention Center  
74 N 600 E, Fair Oaks, IN 47943  
Phone 1-219-394-2100  
OR  
Go to [iyfa.us](http://iyfa.us) and click the reservation link on the State Convention page.