

DUBUQUE COUNTY EDUCATION OUTREACH NEWSLETTER



DUBUQUE COUNTY FARM BUREAU

Agriculture in the Classroom

November 2023 Issue 49

Blink and You Miss It!

Where did the month of October go?! It was definitely one of those blink and you miss it months. With conferences, cooler weather, and the first few flakes of the season, there is definitely hints that November is here.

I will be officially back from maternity leave on November 13. We are looking at possibly adding a few more classrooms to our monthly programming the second half of the year. If this is something you would be interested in, please reach out and we will get you on the schedule!

In the month of January, I will be releasing information on the 2024 Chick Hatching Program. The program will run similarly to the past couple years with 2 rounds and 2 classrooms in each round and have an application process.

Iowa Agriculture Literacy Foundation will be releasing information on the 2024 Teacher Supplement Grant soon. I will send out a message with the details when that becomes available.

I wish you a wonderful Thanksgiving and please know that I am truly thankful for all of you and your students!

Rachel Ambrosy
Education Outreach Coordinator
Dubuque County Farm Bureau
Rachel.Ambrosy@ifbf.org



November Featured Resources

Click on the resource to go directly there!

Iowa Agriculture Literacy Foundation

- [Gobble Up! Lessons \(3rd-5th\)](#)
- [Urban Agriculture Innovation \(9th-12th\)](#)

National Agriculture in the Classroom

- [The Geography of Thanksgiving Dinner \(6th-8th\)](#)
- [From Sap to Syrup \(K-2nd\)](#)



Follow us on Facebook at Dubuque County Farm Bureau Education Outreach to stay up to date on grants, contests, resources and more!

What's Inside:

- Silos & Smokestacks Field Trip Program
- 2023 Excellence in Teaching About Agriculture Award
- All IALF Student Contests Are Open
- Scholarship Opportunity to National Ag in the Classroom Conference



The Silos & Smokestacks National Heritage Area (SSNHA) Field Trip Program is a grant initiative designed to help schools in the 37 county heritage area fund the transportation costs associated with field trips to designated SSNHA Heritage Sites and farm sites giving students the opportunity to learn about America's agricultural heritage firsthand. The award funds 75% of the total amount of transportation costs to and from the school and the selected SSNHA Heritage Site or farm site. Award not to exceed \$350.00.

The Field Trip Program Award requires a 1:1 non-federal match. Schools must make a minimum 25% cash match to the awarded amount.

In-kind match may be the instructor's time and salary, volunteer chaperone's time, admission and/or meals.

You can find more information and the application by going to <https://www.silosandsmokestacks.org/educate/field-trip-program/>

White-Reinhardt Scholarship to Attend National Agriculture in the Classroom Conference

The American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture is accepting applications for the White-Reinhardt scholarships to attend the 2024 National Ag in the Classroom Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah, June 24-27, 2024.

The scholarships are designated for full-time educators and/or volunteers who actively participate in classroom ag literacy programs or events. This scholarship provides travel expense funds for educators to attend the national conference and then use the information gained to expand their outreach to students regarding food, fiber, and fuel.

The scholarships are valued at \$1,200 plus registration costs. Applications for scholarships are due Dec. 1, 2023. You can find more information and apply by going to <https://www.agfoundation.org/projects/ag-scholarships>.



2023 Excellence in Teaching About Agriculture Award Application Open

What is the Excellence in Teaching about Agriculture Award? The Iowa Agriculture Literacy Foundation will present one award given to an Iowa Educator currently engaged in classroom instruction at the pre-Kindergarten through 12th grade levels. The teacher selected will receive \$500 and have up to \$1,000 of their related expenses paid to attend the 2024 National Agriculture in the Classroom Conference held in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Who is Eligible? Certified non-vocational teachers currently engaged in integrating agricultural concepts into classroom settings at the pre-K to 12th grade levels in Iowa are eligible.

What are the Criteria for Selection? Teachers must integrate/utilize agricultural information within their classroom curriculum in an effort to assist students in learning the importance of agriculture. Instruction may include, but is not limited to:

- understanding the importance and value of agriculture in students' daily lives;
- understanding the relationships among agriculture, food and fiber production, animals, health, energy systems, technology, economics, and the environment;
- identifying and understanding the connections between academic content areas and agricultural careers including, but not limited to, STEM careers;
- understanding the overall connectedness between STEM and agriculture.

Evaluation Criteria: The degree to which an educator exemplifies:

- Leading instruction on accurate agriculture knowledge, attitudes, and skills.
- Demonstrates teaching excellence in gaining student understanding of selected agricultural literacy theme(s).
- Grants, community extensions, professional development relating to increasing agriculture literacy in the classroom will be considered.
- Innovative, integrated, and interdisciplinary programs are encouraged.

Applications must be submitted on or before November 18, 2023.

If you have any questions, please contact Cathryn Carney at 515-331-4183 or by email at ccarney@iowaagliteracy.org.

To nominate yourself, please go to <https://form.jotform.com/232745349393162>

To nominate a teacher, please go to <https://form.jotform.com/232745660595162>



To kick off the 2023-2024 school year, all student contests are now open! There are contest options available for all grade levels to participate: PizzaThon (K-5), Bushel of Stories (3-8), Gobble Up! (3-12), and High Steaks! (3-12).

PizzaThon: A Farm-to-Table Pizza Competition

Engage grades K-5 Iowa students in the science and social studies of producing pizza ingredients! Use curated lesson plans and resources to teach the concepts necessary to complete the project. Final projects are due by **February 5**. Winners will be announced no later than April 26.

Find rules and more information here:

<https://www.iowaagliteracy.org/Tools-Resources/General/For-Students/PIZZATHON>



A Bushel of Stories: A Student Writing Competition

Write a story about agriculture with the potential to become a real, published author! Iowa students in grades 3-8 are welcome to participate in this competition. Final stories are due by **March 22**. Winners will be announced no later than April 15. More information can be found by going to <https://www.iowaagliteracy.org/Tools-Resources/General/For-Students/A-Bushel-of-Stories>



Gobble Up! A Turkey Marketing Competition

Use your creativity and develop a marketing strategy for turkey! Learn about agriculture careers, nutrition, and the turkey industry. You can win up to \$200 and a turkey lunch for your classroom. Talk to your teacher and register to participate. Final projects are due by **December 20**.

Winners will be announced no later than January 17. Complete contest details can be found by going to <https://www.iowaagliteracy.org/Tools-Resources/General/For-Students/Gobble-Up>



High Steaks! A Beef Marketing Competition

Use your creativity and develop a marketing strategy for beef! Learn about agriculture careers, nutrition, and the beef industry. You can win up to \$200 and a beef lunch for your classroom. Talk to your teacher and register to participate. Final projects are due by **March 15**. Winners will be announced no later than April 10. Details, lessons and examples can be found at <https://www.iowaagliteracy.org/Tools-Resources/General/For-Students/High-Steaks>



For more information or if you would like assistance with your projects, contact Education Outreach Coordinator Rachel Ambrosy at rachel.ambrosy@ifbf.org.