



MN FFA Convention Workshops

Workshops Description
<p>“Achieve What It Takes” by investing in others, your future, and your leadership skills through the student workshops at the MN FFA Convention. Attend the workshop you’ve been looking forward to or be bold and try something new! Learn from National Officers, visiting State Officers, fellow FFA members, university professors, and industry professionals in this year’s exciting workshops.</p>

Sunday, April 21

2:00 PM, Sunday 4/21		
Presenter	Workshop Title	Location
Morgan Anderson, National FFA	An Attitude of Gratitude	Ruttan B35
Mark Swanson, Growing Hope Globally	The Global Farmer Experience	Ruttan B42

3:00 PM, Sunday 4/21		
Presenter	Workshop Title	Location
Courtney Taibi, New York FFA	Keys of Communication	Ruttan B35
Mark Swanson, Growing Hope Globally	The Global Farmer Experience	Ruttan B42

Monday, April 22

8:30 AM, Monday 4/22		
Presenter	Workshop Title	Location
Sue Knott, MN Ag in the Classroom	Planting Seeds for Future FFA members: Involving K-6 students in Agriculture	LES 220
Morgan Anderson, National FFA	An Attitude of Gratitude	Coffey 120
Cadyn Johnson & Meg Moynihan	Bend Don't Break - Mental Health & Well Being Resources	Ruttan B42
Dr. Rebecca Swenson, U of M Agriculture Communication & Marketing	Telling Persuasive Stories: Effective Public Speaking for Agricultural, Food & Environmental Sciences	Ruttan B22
Sleepy Eye FFA	Making Posters/ Cards Service Project	Coffey 125



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9:30 AM, Monday 4/22		
Presenter	Workshop Title	Location
Amy Smith, Laura Rice, Kristin Kovar, Nate Purrington & Students	Change Lives, Teach Ag	LES 220
Emily Grace Rezek, Alabama FFA	Communication	Ruttan B22
Brian Mcniell & Anja Johnson, U of M Extension & MN 4-H	Discovery 4-H & FFA Crop Scouting	Coffey 120
Sleepy Eye FFA	Making Posters/ Cards Service Project	Coffey 125

10:30 AM, Monday 4/22		
Presenter	Workshop Title	Location
Ariel Kagan, MN Farmers Union	Why, what and how? Careers in climate and agriculture	LES 220
Sydney Wichard, North Carolina FFA	"We're Rich! Values Edition"	Ruttan B22
Benjamin Bremmer, Illinois FFA	United as One	Coffey 125
Amy Jentges, Wisconsin FFA	Golden Goal Setting	State Fair Progress Center
Jackson Baird, Kentucky FFA	Inspire	State Fair Progress Center
Kimball FFA	Line Dancing	State Fair Progress Center



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Workshop Descriptions		
Presenter	Workshop Title	Description
Morgan Anderson, National FFA	An Attitude of Gratitude	Our daily lives are full of people, places, and things to be thankful for... but sometimes we forget to show it! Together, we'll discover how to possess an attitude of gratitude and we'll walk away with an opportunity to immediately put our learning into action!
Mark Swanson, Growing Hope Globally	The Global Farmer Experience	Join us for the "The Global Farmer Experience", an interactive simulation game based on the challenges facing farmers in developing countries. Find out how you will fare when faced with the kind of difficult decisions farmers must make every day in the developing world and learn how you and your FFA chapter can make a difference to create lasting solutions to hunger.
Courtney Taibi, New York FFA	Keys of Communication	This workshop breaks down the key components of communication that build us up to be better leaders and team members. In this workshop, we will participate in goofy games involving blindfolds, obstacles, good music, and lots of fun.
Sue Knott, MN Ag in the Classroom	Planting Seeds for Future FFA members: Involving K-6 students in Agriculture	This workshop will offer FFA members engaging ideas for leading agricultural activities with elementary students. Attendees will complete hands-on activities that build agriculture awareness and excitement with K-6 students. These activities will serve as a starting point for FFA members to brainstorm opportunities to interact with elementary students in their community. FFA members will leave this workshop with exciting ideas to grow agricultural literacy and their FFA program!
Dr. Rebecca Swenson, U of M Agriculture Communication & Marketing	Telling Persuasive Stories: Effective Public Speaking for Agricultural, Food & Environmental Sciences	Do you want to tell persuasive stories that move people to action? Do you want to improve your public speaking skills? This workshop will share tips and techniques for engaging different audiences, finding persuasive evidence, and structuring your stories to be more effective. We will discuss how to improve your speaking skills and practice some of these techniques in small groups. Workshop attendees will also learn how good storytelling and communication skills can lead to agricultural communication careers and new opportunities.
Cadyn Johnson & Meg Moynihan	Bend Don't Break - Mental Health & WellBeing Resources	Join us to learn about the importance of mental health and well-being among your friends and fellow students in your schools. Learn about the Bend Don't Break initiative happening in FFA Chapters across Minnesota and how impactful these are among the



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		<p>student body.</p> <p>Learn resources available to you all, and how you can replicate a similar program to promote good mental health and well-being among your classmates.</p>
Amy Smith, Laura Rice, Kristin Kovar, Nate Purrington & Students	Change Lives, Teach Ag	<p>W.B. Yeats once said, "Education is not the filling of a pot but the lighting of a fire." As a state FFA convention attendee, someone evidently lit your fire for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success in agriculture, food, and natural resources! Could YOU do the same for others? Come explore career opportunities in Agricultural Education through interactive learning experiences, and connect with students and faculty from three Minnesota institutions with Ag Ed degree programs.</p>
Emily Grace Rezek, Alabama FFA	Communication	<p>Students will develop their communication skills by using interactive games, which will enhance interpersonal skills such as effective speaking, active listening, and non-verbal communication. This workshop is hands-on and inclusive for every member.</p>
Brian Mcniell & Anja Johnson, U of M Extension & MN 4-H	Discovery 4-H & FFA Crop Scouting	<p>Join us for an immersive workshop designed to transform you into a skilled crop scout! In partnership with 4-H and FFA, this hands-on session will equip you with the practical skills needed to identify pests, diseases, and other crop issues directly in the field.</p> <p>Through interactive activities and guided field exercises, you'll learn how to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilize scouting techniques to detect crop threats early Identify common pests, diseases, and weeds affecting crops Collect and analyze data to make informed decisions Implement integrated pest management (IPM) strategies for sustainable crop production <p>Get ready to roll up your sleeves and dive into the heart of agriculture! Whether you're a seasoned 4-H or FFA member or just starting your journey in agriculture, this workshop will provide you with valuable hands-on experience and insights to excel in crop scouting.</p> <p>Don't miss this opportunity to become a crop scouting champion and contribute to the future of agriculture!</p>
Sleepy Eye FFA	Making Posters/Cards Service Project	<p>Come and have some fun while making posters and cards for nursing home residents! You can also write thank you notes to your advisors for all they have done for you! Service is very rewarding, so come and join us!</p>



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<p>Ariel Kagen, MN Farmers Union</p>	<p>Why, what and how? Careers in climate and agriculture</p>	<p>Climate-smart agriculture is a new and quickly growing field, and there's a shortage of workforce that has the needed skills that are being sought by public, private, and non-profit organizations. Whether focused on soil data, policy engagement, supply chain management, international trade, or financial flows, there's so much opportunity for growth and meaningful impact in these roles. This workshop will provide an overview of what's driving the growth in climate-smart agriculture, give examples of career paths and educational resources, and offer participants an opportunity to discuss their career goals and interests with practitioners in the field.</p>
<p>Sydney Wichard, North Carolina FFA</p>	<p>We're Rich! Values Edition</p>	<p>Join us for an engaging workshop where we identify our values and how to utilize those as leaders within our chapter's and communities. Be prepared to leave with the motivation to harness your own personal values to create positive change! Together, let's walk away from this workshop with the necessary tools to build upon our leadership skills to best serve others!</p>
<p>Benjamin Bremmer, Illinois FFA</p>	<p>United as One</p>	<p>This workshop is a hands-on activity using clues from the 3 circle model to unlock a lock box. Students will gain an understanding of each component of the model. They will also investigate the full range of opportunities available through ag education.</p>
<p>Amy Jentges, Wisconsin FFA</p>	<p>Golden Goal Setting</p>	<p>Get ready to work your way towards success with Golden Goal Setting! Join us as we look into the importance of setting our goals, and how we can utilize resources and skills to accomplish them!</p>
<p>Jackson Baird, Kentucky FFA</p>	<p>Inspire</p>	<p>This is a workshop about how to inspire others to not only be comfortable with themselves but also help to advocate for others. Through games and activities participants will learn how to tell stories and better inspire others!</p>
<p>Kimball FFA</p>	<p>Line Dancing</p>	<p>Line dancing is a big part of what happens when FFA members get together. Why not learn a few dances? Together we will have fun and learn some dances. As members learn together, community builds together.</p>