

State Awards Brunch



**May 1, 2024
10:30 AM
Rock Eagle 4-H Center**





Innovative Work in School Relations

Randie Gray

Randie Gray is the 4-H agent in Hancock County. She has been dedicated to the 4-Hers in Sparta for 17 years. Her love of 4-H began when she was a 5th grade 4-Her in the Newton County Horse Club. She lives on an eighty-acre farm in Hancock County with her husband Pete, her horses, and dogs.

Outstanding AmeriCorps/Vista-SW

Kathryn Maxwell

Nominated by: Katrina Searcy

Kathryn, a dedicated Cook 4-H AmeriCorps member in her third year of service, is a senior at ABAC with aspirations to become a 4-H agent post-graduation. A proud 4-H alumna and master 4-H'er, she finds joy in being a Swiftie and adores all things Taylor Swift.

Outstanding AmeriCorps/Vista-SE

Katie Kennedy

Nominated by: Megan Veal

Katie has been instrumental in the growth and sustainability of the Evans County 4-H program. She makes connections with our 4-H'ers and helps make activities fun! Katie's leadership on our monthly cloverleaf afterschool activities and junior/senior meetings have been the most significant to our program recruitment and retention.



Outstanding AmeriCorps / Vista-State Winner

Leonardo Rodriguez
Nominated by: Meghan Corvin

Leonardo has served for the last two years as Whitfield County's AmeriCorps member. Leo is a tremendous asset to Whitfield and has allowed us to expand our audience within our community.

Outstanding Individual Volunteer leader-NA

Phyllis Allee

Nominated by: Abbie Salmon

Phyllis has been a dedicated 4-H volunteer and a successful LifeSmarts coach for the past six years. She has made a positive impact on the lives of many young people in our community through her leadership, mentorship, and enthusiasm.



Outstanding Individual Volunteer leader-SW

Aaron Wise
Nominated by: Justin Hand

Aaron has demonstrated exceptional dedication and leadership as a volunteer coach for the Tift County 4-H SAFE Shooting Sports Team. Aaron is supported by his wife Jamie and three sons James, Will and JR.



Outstanding Individual Volunteer leader

Ellen Moncrief

Nominated by: Marcus Eason

Ellen Moncrief has been an Oglethorpe County 4-H Volunteer since 2014. She helps primarily with the 'Cooking to Share Project Club' but also takes on multiple other leadership responsibilities as well as providing resources for many 4-H'ers to attend summer camp.

Outstanding Individual Volunteer leader- State Winner

Suzanne Clark

Nominated by: Billie Ann King

Suzanne Clark, Pierce County 4-H Volunteer is key in the success of all Pierce County 4-H programming. Suzanne volunteers her time as Head Poultry Judging Coach, Cotton Boll & Consumer Judging Coach, Junior Camp, Senior Camp and Cloverleaf Camp Adult Leader. As a master mentor she provides approx. 30 students with assistance in DPA projects and portfolio opportunities. Suzanne is the definition of selfless servant.



Outstanding New Professional

Laura Lee Hughes

Laura Lee's passion for agricultural education can be traced back to some of her first experiences with 4-H where she spent time learning about agriculture, raising livestock, and attending summer camp. As the 4-H Agent in Ben Hill County, she specializes in agricultural literacy, leadership, and judging teams.



Outstanding New Professional- State Winner

Meghan Corvin

Meghan Corvin is in her third year serving Whitfield County Extension as the County Extension Coordinator and the 4-H Agent. Whitfield County 4-H has a very active 5th grade in school club program and special interest clubs include Tech Changemakers, Music Club, and a variety of afterschool club programs.

Outstanding Program Assistant-SW

Christopher Kuhbander **Nominated by: Katrina Searcy**

Critter Kuhbander, a student at ABAC, joins the Cook County 4-H team as Program Assistant. With a 13-year history in Ware County 4-H, he's known for community outreach, leadership, and fostering educational environments. A Master 4-H'er, SED Senior Board President, and Rock Eagle Camp Counselor, Critter brings dedication, expertise and heart.

Outstanding Program Assistant-State Staff

Lily Norton
Nominated by: Jade Haston

Lily Norton serves as the student worker for the 4-H Events Team. In this position, she assists state 4-H staff on and off-site with Georgia 4-H contests, conferences, and programs to ensure the successful execution of events. Lily deeply understands our programs and is passionate about her work to give back to the program that gave so much to her. She is incredibly bright, resilient, competent, ambitious, and dedicated to her work. Lily will surely be an asset to the workforce and a fantastic embodiment of the best that UGA and Georgia 4-H offer.

Outstanding Program Assistant-State Winner

Connie Richards

Nominated by: Stephanie Skojac

Connie Richards is Program Assistant for Murray County serving the Northwest Georgia area. She joined Georgia 4-H as a volunteer in 2007 then in 2015 began her career as a program assistant. She has been married for 27 years and has 2 daughters that have been very active in 4-H. She is also the President of Miracle League of Murray County a non-profit organization in her county.

Outstanding Support by ANR/FACS Professional-State Staff

UGA Warnell School of Forestry

Nominated by: Kasey Bozeman

The UGA Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources outreach faculty and staff provided leadership for the first-ever Georgia 4-H Natural Resources Exploration Camp. Campers shared how much they appreciated the professors teaching them interesting and important content while also building relationships with them throughout the week.

Outstanding Support by ANR/FACS Professional-State Winner

Christina Garner

Nominated by: Ashley Carroll

Christina Garner is the Stewart County CEC and FACS Agent. She has served in various roles in UGA Extension since 2017. In this time, she has contributed impactful work in all three program areas and worked to improve access to a variety of resources in her community and throughout Georgia.



Outstanding Support by Public Media

Georgia Farm Bureau News

Nominated by: Jade Haston and Carole Knight

Georgia Farm Bureau is a tremendous supporter of Georgia 4-H. Annually, GFB News highlights significant achievements of the 4-H Program. Not only does Georgia Farm Bureau News cover statewide events, but it also provides coverage to local county 4-H programs. We're so thankful to be able to partner with Georgia Farm Bureau News and can't wait for all the exciting things to come!



Outstanding Support Staff-SE

Kate Duggan

Nominated by: Susannah Lanier

Kate Duggan is the Administrative Assistant in Candler County. She has served in this role for 7 years and does an amazing job. She excels at QuickBooks and fiscal management, program organization and always has creative ideas. She is a vital part of the Candler County Extension team.



Outstanding Support Staff-NA

Shelisa Johnson
Nominated by: Cara Rhoad

Shelisa Johnson has been an Administrative Assistant in Fayette County since 2022. She manages QuickBooks, our Extension website, and helps with day to day office responsibilities.

Outstanding Support Staff-SW

Abby Vickers

Nominated by: Sonya Jones

Abby is an integral part of our Pulaski Extension family. She meets/greets our clientele, keeps all of us organized, and up-to-date on reporting. I can always count on her to be timely, going above & beyond in her duties, and helping us maintain order in the office during busy months.

Outstanding Support Staff-State Winner

Rebecca Branch

Nominated by: Jade Haston

Rebecca Branch serves as the Administrative Specialist in the State 4-H Office. As a colleague, Rebecca is helpful, reliable, and 100% a team player. Her joy is contagious, and she brings a lightness to our office. She is the epitome of making the best better and has made a great impact on the systems of the State 4-H Office.



Peach of a Profession

Ke'Marcis Howard

Ke'Marcis Howard serves as a State 4-H Events and Programs Coordinator. He helps in the planning and execution of events and activities. He holds a Master's in Higher Education from Piedmont University. His 4-H journey started as an Athens-Clarke County 4-H'er, later serving as an AmeriCorps in Ben Hill and Oconee Counties.



Professional Achievement Award

Christina Garner

Christina Garner currently serves as the Stewart County Extension Coordinator and county lead for the Healthier Together grant funded by the CDC. Garner works with both youth and adult audiences to address chronic disease, literacy, and leadership development in rural Southwest Georgia.



Professional Achievement Award

Madison Sands

Madison Sands currently serves as the Charlton County County Extension Coordinator. A graduate from ABAC, Madison was inspired to pursue a career in Agriculture Education after her studies at ABAC were in livestock production. Madison graduated with a Masters degree in Agriculture Education from North Carolina Agriculture and Technical State University. Madison has been in Charlton County for five years and has grown and expanded the program significantly since she has arrived.



Scholarship

Ashley Carroll

Ashley Carroll is the Tift County 4-H Agent. She leads a program of about 1,000 youth and coaches the Poultry Judging, Consumer Judging and LifeSmarts teams.



2024 GAE4-HYDP Annual Professional Development Conference

Rooted in Excellence

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