

NEBRASKA

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



Pete Ricketts, Governor

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Christin Kamm
402-471-6856

NAYI EXPANDS OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH IN AGRICULTURE

Students Selected to Attend 46th Annual Ag Event

LINCOLN— The Nebraska Agricultural Youth Institute (NAYI) is a Nebraska tradition and a unique opportunity for students to increase their knowledge and appreciation of agriculture. Nearly 200 Nebraska high school juniors and seniors will serve as delegates at this year's 46th annual NAYI, July 10-14, in Lincoln. NAYI is sponsored in part by the Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA).

"NAYI is a meaningful and memorable experience for students interested in agriculture," said NDA Director Greg Ibach. "It's also an investment in Nebraska as NAYI delegates learn about potential career paths available in the agricultural industry."

During the five-day Institute held at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's East Campus, delegates participate in agriculture policy and group discussions as well as career development activities. Motivational speakers and a farm management program help delegates grow their leadership potential and strengthen their pride in Nebraska agriculture. The week also provides delegates an opportunity to network with industry leaders, top-notch speakers and ag representatives.

Since its start in 1971, NAYI has shared the importance of agriculture with nearly 6,000 youth from across the state. Delegates apply for and are selected to attend the Institute free of charge due to numerous donations from agricultural businesses, commodity groups and industry organizations.

"I'd like to thank all of our sponsors for their continued support of NAYI," said Ibach. "Their generous contributions have helped make NAYI the incredible program that it is, and the longest running one of its kind in the nation."

NAYI events and additional youth learning opportunities throughout the year are organized by the

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Nebraska Agricultural Youth Council (NAYC). NDA selects Council members who are passionate about agriculture and who want to teach young Nebraskans about the state's leading industry. This year's Council is comprised of 21 college-age men and women from across the state.

To learn more about NAYC or NAYI, visit the NAYI website at www.nda.nebraska.gov/nayi/. Or, follow NAYI activities on Facebook and Twitter by searching and liking the Nebraska Ag Youth Institute or by following #NAYI17.

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ATTENTION MEDIA: A list of the 2017 NAYI delegates and their hometowns is attached. Photos of the delegates can be requested by emailing agr.webmaster@nebraska.gov.

