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#MAKEMOMENTS MATTER



@ Michigan FFA



@ Michigan\_ffa



@ Michigan FFA Association

## WHILE IN EAST LANSING...

The state officer team asks you to remember that you are part of a proud organization. Please dress neatly in official dress and exercise good manners at all times. While the State FFA Convention is a pleasant and exciting occasion, all FFA members are asked to refrain from boisterous activities which detract from the excellent image of our organization.

### Emergency Only - Please contact

Dr. Tiffany Rogers-Randolph at (269) 921-0583  
or Mr. Mark Forbush at (989) 277-9249



**MICHIGAN FFA**  
*Association*

# 96TH MICHIGAN FFA *State Convention*



**MICHIGAN STATE**  
*University*

FEBRUARY 28 - MARCH 1, 2024

# WELCOME TO THE 96TH MICHIGAN FFA *State Convention*

The 2023-2024 state officer team would like to extend a warm welcome to all FFA members, advisors, friends, and parents at the 2024 Michigan FFA Convention. We hope that you will enjoy these three days, along with the excitement and inspiration derived from its activities and participants. We invite you to join in the enthusiasm generated from the sea of blue and gold jackets in the MSU Wharton Center. This is your convention and its success depends on you!

## STATE CONVENTION APP



Enjoying State Convention? Be sure to check out our app to never miss an update! Search **"Michigan FFA Events App"** to download on the App Store and Google Play Store.



## 2023-2024 STATE OFFICER TEAM

PRESIDENT.....	WILLIAM BARNUM
VICE PRESIDENT.....	MAZE GUSA
SECRETARY.....	LILLY NYLAND
TREASURER.....	NATHANIEL COCHRANE
REPORTER.....	SAMANTHA STANKE
SENTINEL.....	LAUREN GORSUCH
REGION I STATE VICE PRESIDENT.....	LEXIE STUMP
REGION II STATE VICE PRESIDENT.....	EMMA KUHL
REGION III STATE VICE PRESIDENT.....	LOGAN VOLMERING
REGION IV STATE VICE PRESIDENT.....	EMMA CHALLENGER
REGION V STATE VICE PRESIDENT.....	MADALYN SIMPSON
REGION VI STATE VICE PRESIDENT.....	NATALEIGH HILLIKER

## CONVENTION IN REVIEW



Upload your photos from convention for a chance to be featured on our social media platforms!

## CONVENTION SENSORY ROOM

Part of the Wharton Center Jackson Lounge will be a sensory friendly space. This area is intended to offer a space where individuals can view the general sessions in the Wharton Center with reduced lighting and noise. This part of the Jackson Lounge will be sectioned off and offer a few chairs and the ability to watch a livestream of the sessions on a TV.

To help maintain the intentions of this space, the first time a student utilizes the space, their advisor or other adult chaperone will check them in with the courtesy corps representative located there. If the student would like to return to the space for a later session, they will not need their advisor or adult chaperone to sign them back into the room. We ask that students sign in and out each time they are in the room.

## KEYNOTE SPEAKER *EJ Carrion*

EJ Carrion is an afro-latino entrepreneur who builds social impact companies to level the playing field and create more equitable spaces for people to thrive. He is the co-founder and CEO of Student Success Agency, a digital mentoring platform that helps schools support students anywhere, anytime from their electronic devices. EJ has received many awards and recognitions, and has presented to audiences across 46 states and around the world.



### LEADERSHIP CONTEST SITES:

- Agricultural Issues** - B115 Wells Hall  
*Sponsored by Zoetis*
- Creed Speaking** - 1415 Biomedical Physical Sciences  
*Sponsored by AgroLiquid*
- Demonstration** - 108 Bessey Hall  
*Sponsored by Greenstone Farm Credit Services*
- Extemporaneous Public Speaking** - 105 South Kedzie Hall  
*Sponsored by Michigan Soybean Committee*
- Greenhand Conduct of Meetings** - N100 Business College Complex  
*Sponsored by Crystal Flash*
- Greenhand Public Speaking** - 1345 Engineering Building  
*Sponsored by Greenstone Farm Credit Services*
- Job Interview** - 290 Spartan Way (MSU Stadium)  
*Sponsored by Michigan Agricultural Commodities*
- Jr. High Conduct of Meetings** - 158 Natural Resources  
*Sponsored by Hutson Inc.*
- Jr. High Public Speaking** - B119 Wells Hall  
*Sponsored by Cooperative Elevator*
- Parliamentary Procedure** - Kiva, Erickson Hall  
*Sponsored by Foster Swift Collins & Smith, PC*
- Richard Karelse Public Speaking** - 1410 Biomedical Physical Sciences  
*Sponsored by Michigan Potato Industry Commission*



All events will take place in the Wharton Center, unless otherwise specified.



# WHILE AT CONVENTION

We expect all members and attendees at the 96th Michigan FFA State Convention to actively contribute to the creation of a positive and inclusive environment for all. Delegates at the 95th National FFA Convention ratified new value statements that promote a more inclusive, equitable organization for all FFA members.

1. We respect and embrace every individual's culture and experiences.
2. We welcome every individual's contribution to advance our communities and the industry of agriculture.
3. We cultivate an environment that allows every individual to recognize and explore their differences.
4. We create leadership opportunities for every individual to enhance their personal and professional endeavors.



## MICHIGAN FFA Foundation

If you would like to support Michigan FFA member activities, please visit [www.michiganffa.org/foundation](http://www.michiganffa.org/foundation) or scan the QR code:



## VISITING NATIONAL OFFICER *Amara Jackson* 2023-2024 NATIONAL FFA PRESIDENT



**Hometown and State:**  
Corunna, Michigan

**FFA Stats:**  
Chapter: Corunna FFA Chapter  
Enterprise: Agricultural Sales Placement, Equine Science Placement  
State Office: 2021-22 Michigan FFA State President

**Activities:**  
Oklahoma State University  
McKnight Leaders Scholar,  
Oklahoma State University  
Collegiate FFA, Oklahoma State University  
Ferguson College of Agriculture Ambassador

Amara Jackson is currently serving as the 2023-2024 National FFA President. Amara says she joined FFA because of people. "When my sister brought me along, I felt a part of something bigger than myself, and I saw that people in the organization believe in me," Amara says. This year, she hopes to build strong relationships with others she meets. "It's important for me to create one-on-one conversations that allow everyone to discover their potential," she says. "I know I will have a successful year if I witness just one person discover something new about themselves."

# WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2024

## MORNING

7:30-12:30	<b>CONVENTION REGISTRATION</b> Lobby, Wharton Center
8:00-11:00	Tons of Tabs Collection Lobby, Wharton Center
8:00-12:00	Arthur Berkey Agriscience Fair Set Up Jackson Lounge, Wharton Center
8:00-9:00	Courtesy Corps Meeting <b>(Mandatory for Courtesy Corps Student Volunteers)</b> Jackson Lounge, Wharton Center
9:00	<b>STATE LEADERSHIP CONTESTS</b> <b>Participants report to holding rooms by 8:45 AM</b> (Leadership contest sites listed on previous page)
10:30-11:30	National Officer Workshop with Amara Jackson Room 008, Justin S. Morrill Hall of Agriculture
11:00-12:00	Lunch — Akers Hall Cafeteria
12:00-5:00	Arthur Berkey Agriscience Fair Judging <b>(Not open for viewing at this time)</b> Jackson Lounge, Wharton Center

## AFTERNOON

12:15	<b>FIRST CONVENTION SESSION</b> Opening Ceremonies Session Chairs — Nathaniel Cochrane and Madalyn Simpson Welcome Greeting Moment of Reflection Year in Review Retiring Address — Emma Challenger & Samantha Stanke State Officer Family Recognition Honorary State FFA Degree Ceremony Closing Ceremonies
	<b>Immediately Following Session:</b> Delegate Meeting — Great Hall, Wharton Center <b>(Mandatory for Delegates)</b>
2:00	National Chapter Finalist Presentations Room 108, Bessey Hall
2:00-3:00	Student Workshop Room 008, Justin S. Morrill Hall of Agriculture
2:00	State FFA Band Rehearsal Pasant Theatre, Wharton Center
2:00	State FFA Choir Rehearsal Rehearsal Studio, Wharton Center
2:00	State Officer Guardian & Advisor Reception Akers Hall Dining Room
3:45	<b>SECOND CONVENTION SESSION</b> Opening Ceremonies Session Chairs — Maze Gusa & Nataleigh Hilliker Welcome Greeting Retiring Address — Lilly Nyland & Logan Volmering WLC Scholarships Outstanding Agricultural Educator Award National Officer Address — Amara Jackson

Chartering New Chapters  
Nominating Committee Recognition  
Introduction of State FFA Officer Candidates  
Academic Excellence Awards **(Seated In Balcony)**  
Closing Ceremonies

**EVENING**

5:00 Arthur Berkey Science Fair Opens for Viewing  
Jackson Lounge, Wharton Center

5:00-6:30 Dinner — Akers Hall Cafeteria

6:30 Michigan FFA Choir Entertainment  
*Directed by Alex Gerleman*

7:00 **THIRD CONVENTION SESSION**  
Opening Ceremonies  
Session Chairs — Emma Kuhl & Lexie Stump  
Welcome  
Greeting  
Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Committee Recognition  
National Chapter Awards  
*Sponsored by Farmhouse Fraternity*  
Zindel Award  
#SpeakAgMichigan Awards  
Greetings from other State Associations  
Retiring Address — William Barnum & Lauren Gorsuch  
Crop Management Contest Awards  
Outstanding Junior Awards **(Seated In Balcony)**  
*Sponsored by the Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity  
& Sigma Alpha Sorority*  
Closing Ceremonies

8:30-10:30 Dance — 139 Akers Hall  
*Supported by Michigan FFA Alumni & Friends*

# THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2024

**MORNING**

7:00-8:00 Breakfast — Akers Hall Cafeteria

7:30 Delegate Check-In  
**(Mandatory for Delegates)**  
Pasant Theatre, Wharton Center

8:00 **STATE LEADERSHIP CONTESTS**  
**Participants report to holding rooms by 7:30 AM**

8:00 **FOURTH CONVENTION SESSION**  
*Pasant Theatre (Mandatory for Delegates)*  
Opening Ceremonies  
Welcome  
Parliamentarian Introduction  
Roll Call  
Minutes from the 95th Michigan FFA Convention  
Treasurer's Report  
Superior Chapter Awards  
B.O.M.C. Awards  
P.O.A. Committee Report  
Glassbrook Grants  
Tons of Tabs  
Constitutional Amendments  
Legislative Reception Information  
Closing Ceremonies

9:00 **LEGISLATIVE RECEPTION**  
Heritage Hall **(Mandatory for Delegates)**

11:00-12:00 Lunch — Akers Hall Cafeteria

# FFA CORPORATE DONORS

## PLATINUM STAR PARTNERS



## GOLD STAR PARTNERS



## FIVE STAR PARTNER



## FOUR STAR PARTNERS

Corn Marketing Program of Michigan Hutson Inc.  
Nutrien Ag Solutions  
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## THREE STAR PARTNERS

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Michigan Milk Producers Association  
Michigan Pork Producers Association  
Michigan Potato Industry Commission  
Michigan Soybean Committee  
Michigan Wheat Program

## TWO STAR PARTNERS

Cooperative Elevator Co.  
Foster Swift Collins and Smith, PC  
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Michigan Agricultural Commodities  
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Michigan Nursery and Landscape Association  
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# 2023 INDIVIDUAL DONORS

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## Bronze Level – \$100-\$249

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Mark and Janet Varner  
Elinor Weisgerber  
Robert and Marva Zeldenrust

## AFTERNOON

(Thursday Continued)

12:00 Michigan FFA Band Entertainment  
*Directed by Michael Parker*

12:20 **FIFTH CONVENTION SESSION**  
Opening Ceremonies  
Session Chairs — Lilly Nyland & Logan Volmering  
Welcome  
Greeting  
Introduction of 2003 -2004 State Officer Team  
Retiring Address — Maze Gusa & Nataleigh Hilliker  
Proficiency Awards Part 1 (**Seated In Balcony**)  
Richard Karelse Public Speaking Finalists Announcement  
Demonstration Contest Finalists Announcement  
Proficiency Awards Part 2 (**Seated In Balcony**)  
Recess

3:00 **RECONVENE FIFTH CONVENTION SESSION**  
Greeting  
Creed Speaking Awards  
Junior High Conduct of Meetings Awards  
Junior High Public Speaking Awards  
Arthur Berkey Science Fair Results  
Richard Karelse Public Speaking Contest Finals  
Conferring of State FFA Degrees (**Seated In Balcony**)  
Closing Ceremonies

## EVENING

5:00 VIP Foundation Social  
Christman Lounge, Wharton Center

5:00-6:30 Dinner — Akers Hall Cafeteria

7:00 **SIXTH CONVENTION SESSION**  
Opening Ceremonies  
Session Chairs — William Barnum & Lauren Gorsuch  
Welcome  
Greeting  
FFA Foundation Recognition  
Keynote Speaker — EJ Carrion  
Michigan FFA Alumni & Friends Raffle Announcement  
Recognition of Gold & Silver State Degrees  
Stars Over Michigan:  
*Star in Agribusiness, Agriscience,  
Placement, & Production*  
Nominating Committee Report  
Closing Ceremonies

## MI FFA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION Raffle for Ag Education

**\$10 PER TICKET**

### GRAND PRIZE:

John Deere XUV835M Gator

### SECONDARY PRIZES:

Children's Battery Powered John Deere Gator, FFA Quilt, 4-Person Saginaw Bay Walleye Charter on the Rock N' Reel 2.0, Michigan FFA Alumni Life Membership



### TICKET SALES - LOBBY, WHARTON CENTER

Wednesday and Thursday: 11:00 AM - 7:00 PM

### DRAWING TO TAKE PLACE DURING SESSION 6



**#MAKEMOMENTSMATTER**



## MORNING

- 7:00 - 7:45 Breakfast — Akers Hall Cafeteria
- 7:15 - 7:30 Delegate Check In  
**(Mandatory for Delegates)**  
Pasant Theatre, Wharton Center
- 7:30 State FFA Choir  
*Directed by Alex Gerleman*
- 7:30 Election of Ceremonial State Officers  
**(Mandatory for Delegates)**  
Pasant Theatre, Wharton Center
- 8:00 **SEVENTH CONVENTION SESSION**  
Opening Ceremonies  
Session Chairs — Emma Challender & Samantha Stanke  
Welcome  
Greeting  
Scholarship Recognition  
Demonstration Finals  
Challenge 24 Recognition  
Greenhand Conduct of Meetings Awards  
Greenhand Public Speaking Awards  
Retiring Address — Emma Kuhl & Lexie Stump  
Election Results  
Announcements and Recess
- State Band Entertainment  
*Directed by Michael Parker*
- Election of Regional State Vice Presidents  
***This is for delegates and candidates only***  
*Region I — C133 Akers Hall*  
*Region II — C135 Akers Hall*  
*Region III — C136 Akers Hall*  
*Region IV — C138 Akers Hall*  
*Region V — C139 Akers Hall*  
*Region VI — C140 Akers Hall*
- RECONVENE SEVENTH CONVENTION SESSION**  
Greetings  
Extemporaneous Public Speaking Awards  
Job Interview Awards  
Richard Karelse Public Speaking Awards  
Retiring Address — Nathaniel Cochrane & Madalyn Simpson  
Agricultural Issues Awards  
Demonstration Awards  
Parliamentary Procedure Awards  
Introduction of State Regional Vice Presidents  
Convention In Review  
Installation of 2024-2025 State Officers  
Closing Ceremonies

## PRESENTATIONS



*Arthur Berkey Science Fair*

**Wednesday, February 28**  
Jackson Lounge, Wharton Center  
Judging from 12-5 PM  
**(Exhibits closed during judging)**

5:00 PM Open for viewing  
**(Exhibits open throughout convention)**



*National Chapter Presentations*

**Wednesday, February 28**  
Bessey Hall  
Room 108  
2:00 PM

## CONVENTION WORKSHOPS



*National Officer Workshop*  
**TODAY IS THE DAY**

**Wednesday, February 28**  
**Amara Jackson**  
2023-2024 National FFA President  
Justin S. Morrill Hall of Agriculture  
Room 008  
10:30-11:30 AM

Have you ever felt like time flies by? Or, maybe, that your time isn't being spent on what you value? Together, we will identify the value of our time and how our time represents the person we are becoming.



*Student Workshop*  
**THE KEY TO TEAM TRIUMPH**

**Wednesday, February 28**  
**Stephanie Harvey**  
Michigan FFA Past State Officer  
Justin S. Morrill Hall of Agriculture  
Room 008  
2:00-3:00 PM

Through dynamic exercises, real-world scenarios, and Olympic-style challenges, students will gain practical insights into the power of effective teamwork, setting a strong foundation for their future.

## INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE TECHNOLOGY TOURS



**Thursday, February 29**  
Anthony Hall, Room 1281  
Session Times Offered At:  
8:00 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:00 AM

Scan QR Code Below to Sign-Up



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