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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**PRESS CONTACT:**

Laici Neumann

AFR Cooperative Press Secretary

laici.neumann@afrmic.com

405-218-5593

**AFR Awards State Scholarships**

OKLAHOMA CITY—Twenty-five Oklahoma youth were recognized as recipients of the 2022 American Farmers & Ranchers (AFR) Cooperative Statewide Scholarship.

AFR's annual state scholarships are available to qualified students in all 77 Oklahoma counties. Students are eligible to apply for the AFR Incoming Freshman State Scholarship during their senior year of high school. Students may then apply for the AFR Continuing Education State Scholarship throughout their undergraduate career. Both previous and first-time applications are eligible for the AFR Continuing Education Scholarship.

“Our organization and our membership are committed to the future of the agricultural industry in Oklahoma,” said AFR Cooperative President Scott Blubaugh. “We are proud to provide opportunities for professional development for our state’s agricultural youth. This financial support is just one more way for us to invest in tomorrow’s industry leaders.”

Scholarship applications are selected by the AFR Scholarship Committee based on knowledge of the organization, AFR involvement, leadership activities, scholastic achievement and financial need. To be eligible for either scholarship, applications must have attended a minimum of two years of the AFR Senior Leadership Summit. They must also have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 and be an AFR Insurance policyholder.

**AFR Incoming Freshman Scholarship Recipients:**

Abby Bell, Bristow

Cade Janda, Elgin

Cassidy Baughman, Lone Grove

Elena Santiago, Frederick

Faith Whitehouse, Mounds

Gavin Sager, Beaver

Jace James, Altus

Jacey Kuhn, Tecumseh

Katelyn Blevins, Hobart

Paige McNeil, Bristow

Kye Heldermon, Marlow

AFR Continuing Education Scholarship Recipients:

Abbigail Long, Beggs

Cade Leonard, Chelsea

Cooper Shebester, Alex

Grace Finnan, Glenpool

Haylee Lundry, Haworth

Jaxson McCullah, Beggs

Kaylan Plemmons, Broken Bow

Keegan Carrera, Shawnee

Kensington Kerbs, Shawnee

Rylee Detrick, Ringwood

Seth Jackson, Tecumseh

Tala Gillenwaters, Mooreland

Jentry Squires, Kingfisher

Reagen Detrick, Ringwood

Scholarship recipients are announced June of each year and are recognized the following February during the annual AFR convention. For more information on AFR scholarship opportunities or other AFR Youth Program projects, contact AFR Youth Coordinator Tailor Atkinson at (405)218-5566 or [tailor.atkinson@afrmic.com](mailto:tailor.atkinson@afrmic.com).

AFR Cooperative is a membership services organization established in 1905 as Oklahoma Farmers Union. AFR provides educational, legislative and cooperative programs across the state and serves as a watchdog for Oklahoma's family farmers and ranchers and rural communities. The organization is actively supportive of the state's agricultural industry and rural population with membership consisting of farmers actively involved in production agriculture and non-farmers adding their voice in support of AFR principles.

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