

# 97<sup>th</sup> New Jersey State FFA Convention At-A-Glance

---

## ***WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, 2026***

- 1:00 – Registration**  
**3:00 pm** *Residence Halls*
- 1:00 – Convention Practice**  
**3:00 pm** *Pollak Theatre, Auditorium*
- 1:00 – Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Education Advisory Council Meeting**  
**2:45 pm** *Bey Hall, Room 201 (Turrell Board Room)*
- 1:00 pm Nominating Committee Orientation**  
*Pollak Theatre 139*  
Ms. Abigail Goodenough, Adult Coordinator & Mr. Tyler Murnaghan, Nominating Committee Assistant
- 2:00 – Recreation – Optional for Early Arrivals**  
**4:00 pm** *Elmwood Dorms*  
*Volleyball*
- 3:00 pm Day of Service Activity**  
*Rebecca Stafford Student Center, Anacon Hall*  
*(Pre-registration Required)*
- 3:00 pm Talent Meeting/Practice**  
*Pollak Theatre, Auditorium*  
*(Mandatory for all talent)*
- 3:00 pm Conduct of Chapter Meetings LDE**  
*Bey Hall, Room 231*  
Mr. Dustin Zukus, Coordinator
- 3:00 pm Parliamentary Procedure LDE**  
*Bey Hall, Room 228*  
Mr. Dan Wunderlich, Coordinator
- 3:00 pm Creed Speaking LDE Finals**  
*Bey Hall, Room 225*  
Ms. Yvette Bogert, Coordinator
- 3:00 pm Spanish Creed Speaking LDE**  
*Bey Hall, Rooms 222*  
Ms. Amarilys Olivo Mockabee, Coordinator
- 3:00 pm Teach Agriculture Event**  
*Bey Hall, Room 129*  
Mrs. Sharon Kinsey, Coordinator

- 3:00 pm Portable Exhibit Set-Up**  
*Edison Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor*
- 3:00 pm Application & Event Drop-Off**  
*Bey Hall, Room 134*  
Scrapbook, Secretary's Book and Treasurer's Book
- 3:30 pm State Officer Candidates and Nominating Committee Meeting**  
*Pollak Theatre, Room 139*
- 3:30 pm Leadership Workshop**  
"Life Beyond the Blue Jacket"  
*Bey Hall, Auditorium*  
Mrs. Allie Tucek, National FFA Alumni & Supporters Director
- 4:00 pm Art Competition Set-Up**  
*Bey Hall, Room 132*
- 4:00 pm Courtesy Corps Meeting**  
*Pollak Theatre, Auditorium*  
Ms. Kylie Byrne, Coordinator
- 5:00 – 5:45 pm Dinner – Magill Commons**
- 5:30 pm Star in Agricultural Placement & Star Farmer Interviews**  
*Bey Hall, Room 129*  
Mr. David Specca, Coordinator
- 5:45 pm Agricultural Education Teachers/Chaperones Meeting & NJAAE Meeting**  
*Bey Hall, Auditorium*  
Mrs. Erin Noble, Ms. Debra McCluskey, and Mrs. Patricia Smith
- 6:00 pm Marketing Plan CDE**  
*Bey Hall, Room 230*  
Ms. Yvette Bogert, Coordinator
- 6:00 pm Agricultural Issues Forum**  
*Bey Hall, Room 223*  
Ms. Tara Smith, Coordinator
- 6:00 pm Landscape Design Event**  
*Bey Hall, Room 228*  
Mr. David DeFrange, II, Coordinator
- 6:00 pm Judging of Scrapbooks**  
*Bey Hall, Room 133*  
Mrs. Jessica Wilke, Coordinator
- 6:00 pm Judging of Secretary and Treasurer of the Year Applications**  
*Bey Hall, Room 130*  
Ms. Scarlett Sampino, Coordinator
- 6:00 pm Judging of Portable Exhibits**  
*Edison Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor*  
Mr. Ryan Kotch, Coordinator
- 6:00 pm Judging of Art Competition**  
*Bey Hall, Room 132*  
Ms. Loriann De Sousa Rego, Coordinator

**6:00 pm Leadership Workshop**

“Success that Matters”

*Rebecca Stafford Student Center, Anacon Hall*

Ms. Jael Cruikshank, National FFA Western Region Vice President

**6:00 pm Delegate Workshop**

*Pollak Theatre, Auditorium*

Ms. Kathryn Giovanelli, State President & Ms. Breanna Rosmarin, State Vice President

**7:15 pm Delegates Seated**

**7:15 pm Courtesy Corps Meeting**

**7:30 pm SESSION I**

**“PURPOSE STARTS HERE”**

**Pollak Theatre Auditorium**

**Presiding: Ms. Kathryn Giovanelli, State President**



**Opening Ceremony**

**Greetings from National FFA**

Scott Stump, National FFA CEO

**Blue Jackets. Bright Futures.**

FFA Jacket Presentation

**Introduction of State Officer**

**Candidates and Nominating Committee**

**“The Greatest Gift of All”**

*Retiring Address*

Mr. Peter DelCollo, State Sentinel

Special Recognition

**New Jersey FFA Foundation Report**

Mr. Jeremy Posluszny, President

**2026 New Jersey FFA Scholarship Presentations**

Sponsored through New Jersey FFA Foundation through Special Projects

- William G. Smith Memorial Scholarship
- Taylor Jelliffe Memorial Scholarship
- David Seeley Memorial Scholarship
- Bilinski Senior Award Scholarship
- Washington Grange #117 Scholarship
- Warren & Irene Cook Memorial Scholarship
- Ronald Emley Sr. Memorial Scholarship
- New Jersey FFA Alumni & Supporters Association Scholarship
- John Cummings Memorial Scholarship
- Anthony Juestrich Memorial Scholarship
- Ed Evaul Memorial Scholarship
- Devon Yurga Memorial Scholarship
- William Hilgendorff III Memorial Scholarship
- Robert Goff Memorial Scholarship
- Roszel Scholarship
- Woodstown Alumni Association/Arthur Jarman Memorial Scholarship
- Growing America's Farmers Scholarship
- Phillips Alampi Memorial Scholarship
- Harry Schnieber Memorial Scholarship
- Clarence and Stanley Garrison Memorial Scholarship

- C. Fred Lorenzo Memorial Scholarship
- Jay P. Zukus Memorial Scholarship
- May L. Gerlack Memorial Scholarship
- Norman J. Schnetzer Memorial Scholarship
- Joshua Geary Memorial Scholarships

### **National FFA Scholarship Recognition**

### **National FFA Convention & Expo Scholarship**

#### **Keynote Address**

“Worth the Discomfort”

Miss Jael Cruikshank, National FFA Western Region Vice President

#### **Introduction of Courtesy Corps**

Ms. Kylie Byrne, Coordinator

#### **State Convention Rules**

#### **Closing Ceremony**

**9:30 – Recreation & FFA Social**

**10:30 pm** *Residence Hall Quad (weather permitting)*

**11:00 pm** **Lights Out**

## ***THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2026***

**5:30 am** **Trivette Fun Run – Maplewood Hall**

**7:00 – Breakfast – Magill Commons**

**8:00 am**

**8:15 am** **Delegates Seated**

**8:15 am** **Courtesy Corps Meeting**

**8:30 am** **SESSION II**

***“ACTION THROUGH CONNECTION”***

**Pollak Theatre Auditorium**

***Presiding: Ms. Kayla Romero, State Secretary***



#### **Opening Ceremony**

#### **State Convention T-Shirt Design Recognition**

Sponsored by NJ FFA Association

#### **Art Competition Awards**

Sponsored by NJ FFA Association

#### **“BeReal”**

*Retiring Address*

Ms. Ivanelisse Pena Rivera, State Reporter

Special Recognition

#### **Conduct of Chapter Meetings Awards**

Sponsored by NJ FFA Association

**Charles C. Drawbaugh Parliamentary Procedure Awards**

Sponsored by NJ FFA Association

**Excellence in Community Service Recognition**

**Statewide Community Service Project Recognition**

**Agriscience Fair Awards**

Sponsored by NJ FFA Foundation

**“The Moment that Made Me!”**

*Retiring Address*

Mr. Aaron Foote, State Parliamentarian

Special Recognition

**Closing Ceremony**

**9:30 am Extemporaneous Speaking Competitors Please Arrive to Bey Hall, Room 230**

**10:00 am PUBLIC SPEAKING CAREER DEVELOPMENT EVENTS**

*Members and guests should select and attend one of the three public speaking events:*

**3-5 Minute Public Speaking LDE**

*Pollak Theatre, Auditorium*

Ms. Kylie Byrne & Ms. Lilly Haines, Coordinator

**6-8 Minute Public Speaking LDE**

*Bey Hall, Room 201 (Turrell Board Room)*

Mr. Chad Ripberger, Coordinator

**Extemporaneous Speaking LDE**

*Bey Hall, Rooms 231*

Ms. Alison Stout, Coordinator

**FFA Quiz Bowl Exam**

*Bey Hall, Rooms 113*

Ms. Amanda Wengryn, Coordinator

**10:00 am Committee Meetings**

**Constitution, Bylaws, Program of Activities**

*Rebecca Stafford Student Center,*

*Anacon Hall*

State Officer: Kayla Romero

**Membership and Chapter Relations**

*Bey Hall, Room 227*

State Officer: Abigale DiGiamberardino

**State Leadership Activities**

*Bey Hall, Room 223*

State Officer: Ivanelisse Pena Rivera

**State Applications**

*Bey Hall, Room 222*

State Officer: Peter DelCollo

**CDE/LDE Review and Evaluation**

*Bey Hall, Room 225*

State Officer: Aaron Foote

**Horticultural Exposition Review and Evaluation**

*Bey Hall, Room 228*

State Officer: Kathryn Giovanelli

**State Convention Review and Evaluation**

*Rebecca Stafford Student Center,*

*Anacon Hall*

State Officer: Breanna Rosmarin

**10:00am Preliminary Team Demonstration Events**

**Team Demonstration Preliminary #1**

*Bey Hall Room 133*

Mr. Justin Noble, Coordinator

**Team Demonstration Preliminary #2**

*Bey Hall Room 129*

Ms. Talia Priore, Coordinator

**Team Demonstration Preliminary #3**

*Bey Hall Room 126*

Ms. Stephanie Tarlowe, Coordinator

**11:15 am Teach Ag Signing Event & Lunch**

(by invitation only)

*Parson Café, Great Hall*

**11:45 am Lunch – Magill Commons**

**12:30 – Recreation –**

**2:00 pm** *Residence Hall Quad & in front of Elmwood (sand volleyball pit)*

**1:00 pm Leadership Workshop**

*“Agriculture: Careers That Feed the Future”*

*Rebecca Stafford Student Center, Anacon Hall*

Ms. Loriann De Sousa Rego

**1:00 pm Employment Skills Event**

*Bey Hall, Room 227*

Ms. Heather Knox, Coordinator

**1:00 pm FFA Quiz Bowl**

*Bey Hall Rooms 126 & 130*

Mrs. Amanda Wengryn, Coordinator

**1:00 pm Individual Demonstration Event**

*Bey Hall, Room 223*

Ms. Maisie Shimko, Coordinator

**1:00 pm Team Demonstration Event**

*Bey Hall Room 133*

Mr. Justin Noble, Coordinator

**1:00 pm Delegate Business Session\***

*Pollak Theatre, Auditorium*

*Presiding:*

Ms. Kathryn Giovanelli, State President

*Roll Call:*

Ms. Kayla Romero, State Secretary

*Approval of the 97<sup>th</sup> State FFA Convention Agenda*

*Approval of the 97<sup>th</sup> State Convention Proceedings*

*State Program Affiliation Fee Proposal*

Ms. Abigale DiGiamberardino, State Treasurer

*Career/Leadership Development Event Fee Proposal*

Ms. Abigale DiGiamberardino, State Treasurer

*Standing Committee Reports*

- Constitution, Bylaws, and Program of Activities
- Membership and Chapter Relations
- State Leadership Activities
- State Applications
- CDE/LDE Review and Evaluation
- Hort Expo Review and Evaluation
- State Convention Evaluation

*Business Session Concludes*

***\*Delegate business session will continue after Session IV if needed***

**2:15 pm Delegates Seated**

**2:15 pm Courtesy Corps Meeting**

**2:30 pm SESSION III**

***“EVERY VOICE CONNECTED”***

**Pollak Theatre Auditorium**

***Presiding: Ms. Ivanelisse Pena Rivera, State Reporter***



**Opening Ceremony**

**Public Speaking Awards**

**Creed Speaking**

Sponsored by Ms. Debra McCluskey and National FFA Foundation

**Spanish Creed Speaking**

Sponsored by Ms. Debra McCluskey

**3-5 Minute Public Speaking**

Sponsored by New Jersey Agricultural Society

**6-8 Minute Public Speaking**

Sponsored by New Jersey Agricultural Society and National FFA Foundation

**Extemporaneous Speaking**

Sponsored by New Jersey FFA  
Foundation and National FFA Foundation

**Agricultural Issues Forum Awards**

Sponsored by NJ Farm Bureau and National FFA Foundation

**Marketing Plan Awards**

Sponsored by the NJ FFA Foundation and National FFA Foundation

**“Redirected by the Current”**

*Retiring Address*

Ms. Kayla Romero, State Secretary  
Special Recognition

**NJ FFA Advisor of the Year Award**

Sponsored by NJ FFA Association

**Teach Agriculture Event Awards**

Sponsored by New Jersey Association of Agricultural Educators

**Love What You Do. Do What You Love. Teach Ag! Presentation**

**Greetings from New Jersey Association of Agricultural Educators**

Mrs. Patricia Smith, NJAAE President

**Chapter Scrapbook Awards**

Sponsored by NJ FFA Foundation

**Portable Exhibit Event Awards**

Sponsored by NJ FFA Association

**Landscape Design Event Awards**

Sponsored by NJ FFA Foundation

**Harry Schnieber Treasurer of the Year Award**

Sponsored by NJ FFA Foundation

**New Jersey FFA Secretary of the Year Award**

Sponsored by NJ FFA Foundation

**“Life is Bigger than You”**

*Retiring Address*

Ms. Abigale DiGiamberardino, State Treasurer  
Special Recognition

**Closing Ceremony**

**4:30 pm** *Members and guests should select and attend one of the following events:*

- *CDE Awards Ceremony/Talent*
- *Student Leadership Workshop*

**4:30 pm** **CDE AWARDS/TALENT**

**“LIVE YOUR PURPOSE”**

**Pollak Theatre Auditorium**

***Presiding: Mr. Aaron Foote, State Parliamentarian***



**Opening Ceremony**

Presented by 1st Place Team  
Conduct of Chapter Meetings

**Career Development Event Awards**

***(Recipients, please sit in designated areas)***

*The NJ FFA Association and NJ FFA Foundation fund banners and medals for all first-place teams and individuals. The National FFA Foundation sponsors plaques.*

**Talent Performance**

**Fall CDEs**

*Forestry*  
*Fruits & Vegetables*  
*Land Judging*  
*Milk Quality & Products*  
*Turf Management*

**Talent Performance**

**Winter CDEs**

*Agricultural Communications*  
*Farm & Agribusiness Management*  
*Food Science & Technology*  
*Meat Evaluation & Technology*

**FFA Video**

**Miscellaneous CDEs**

*Dairy Cattle Evaluation*  
*Floriculture*  
*Horse Evaluation*  
*Livestock Evaluation*  
*Nursery/Landscape*

**Talent Performance**

**Spring CDEs**

*Agricultural Sales*  
*Ag Technology & Mechanical Systems*  
*Agronomy*  
*Environmental & Natural Resources*  
*Poultry Evaluation*  
*Veterinary Science*

**National Sweepstakes Recognition**

- Chapter
- Individual

**Closing Ceremony**

**4:30 pm Student Leadership Workshop**  
*Rebecca Stafford Student Center, Anacon Hall*  
“Roadmap to Time Management”  
Ms. Jael Cruikshank, National FFA Western Region Vice President

**5:45 – 6:45 pm Dinner – Magill Commons**

**7:15 pm Delegates Seated**

**7:15 pm Courtesy Corps Meeting**

**7:30 pm SESSION IV**  
**“EXCELLENCE THROUGH CONNECTION”**

**Pollak Theatre Auditorium**  
***Presiding: Ms. Abigale DiGiamberardino State Treasurer***

**Opening Ceremony**



**Greetings from the New Jersey Department of Agriculture**

Secretary Ed Wengryn  
New Jersey Secretary of Agriculture

**NJ FFA Member of the Month & Member of the Year Awards** Sponsored by NJ FFA  
Foundation

**Employment Skills LDE Awards**  
Sponsored by NJ FFA Foundation

**Demonstration Event Awards**  
Sponsored by NJ FFA Foundation

**Essay Event Awards**  
Sponsored by NJ FFA Association

**“Resilience in Motion**  
*Retiring Address*  
Ms. Breanna Rosmarin, State Vice President  
Special Recognition

**Greetings from the New Jersey Department of Education**  
Ms. Kathleen Paquette, Director, Office of Career Readiness

**Honorary Garden State FFA Degree Ceremony**

**American FFA Degree Candidate Recognition**

**Keynote Address**  
“The Shortcut to the Life of Your Dreams”  
Ms. Artha Jonassaint, Past National Officer

**Annual Report of the New Jersey FFA Association**

**Closing Ceremony**

**9:30 pm Delegate Business Session**  
*(if needed)*

**9:30 – FFA Dance**  
**11:30 pm** *Rebecca Stafford Student Center, Anacon Hall*  
*(All Members Must Attend)*

**12:00 am Lights Out**

***FRIDAY, MAY 22, 2026***

**7:00 – Breakfast – Magill Commons**  
**8:00 am**

**8:15 am Delegates Seated**

**8:15 am Courtesy Corps Meeting**

**8:30 am SESSION V**

**“CONNECTED WITH PURPOSE”**

**Pollak Theatre Auditorium**

***Presiding: Ms. Breanna Rosmarin, State Vice President & Mr. Peter DelCollo, State Sentinel***

**Opening Ceremony**



**Reflections – “Connected with Purpose”**

**State Star Chapter Awards**

Sponsored by NJ FFA Foundation

**State Star Greenhand Award**

Sponsored by NJ FFA Foundation

**Chapter Evaluation Awards**

- Superior Chapter Recognition
- National Emblem Chapters  
Sponsored by NJ FFA Foundation
- State Premier Chapter Awards  
Sponsored by NJ FFA Foundation

**Proficiency Awards**

Sponsored by National FFA Foundation

**HO Sampson Award Program Recognition**

**New Jersey FFA Alumni Report**

- FFA Quiz Bowl Awards
  - Lifetime Membership Ceremony
- Mr. Chuck Wojtaszek, President NJ FFA Alumni & Supporters Association

**Greetings from National FFA Alumni & Supporters Association**

Allie Tucek, Director, National FFA Alumni & Supporters Association

**Distinguished Service Awards**

**Greetings from the New Jersey Department of Agriculture**

Mr. Frank Minch, Director, Division of Agricultural & Natural Resources

**Convention Recognition**

- Convention Assistants
- Stage Decorations
- Courtesy Corps

**State FFA Executive Board Recognition**

**Garden State FFA Degree Ceremony**

Sponsored by NJ FFA Association

**Talent Performance**

**Star State Farmer & Star State in Agricultural Placement Awards**

Sponsored by National FFA Foundation

**“Confidence Over Comparison”**

*Retiring Address*

Ms. Kathryn Giovanelli, State President  
Special Recognition

**Nominating Committee Report**

**Election of 2026 - 2027**

**New Jersey FFA State Officers**

**“A Tradition of Excellence”**

Past New Jersey FFA State Officer Presentation

**Installation of 2026 - 2027  
New Jersey FFA State Officers**

**97th State FFA Convention in Review**

**Remarks by 2026 - 2027  
State FFA President**

**Closing Ceremony**

**11:15 am 2026 - 2027 Officer Team Photo**  
*Pollak Theatre, Auditorium*

**11:30 am Check Out** – Garden Apartments, Redwood, Mullaney, Oakwood, & Laurel Residence Halls

**12:15 – 2025 - 2026 and 2026-2027  
1:00 pm State Officer & Convention Staff Luncheon**  
*Pollak Theatre*

**1:00 – 2026-2027 State FFA  
3:00 pm Officer Meeting**  
*Pollak Theatre, Room 135*