



Molalla FFA Chapter

357 Frances Street
Molalla, Oregon 97038

Dear Oregon FFA Association,

I remember being terrified and excited waiting in line to give my sophomore public speaking speech. Three people were ahead of me and I thought, "Is this a mistake?" Two people ahead of me, "Are they going to hate it?" One person ahead of me, "Should I just walk away?" Then it was my turn proceeding into the room full of judges and with my head a little fuzzy and my stomach a little nauseous, I took a deep breath and went for it. After I had finished my speech, I felt empowered. I loved speaking up about something that I cared about, but at the same time, I was scared that the judges would not view it as significant. When the awards ceremony began, my hands began to sweat and my heart began to pound. First, they announced 3rd place and it wasn't me, then 2nd place and it still wasn't me; at this point, I had given up hope of placing. Lastly, they announced 1st place and to my surprise it was my name, shocked yet happy I accepted the banner. After districts had ended, reflecting on what 1st place meant I realized that it wasn't the placing that made me happy, it was the fact that the judges actually cared about my speech topic, "Diversity in the FFA."

Through my experience, I learned that if I am passionate about a specific issue I should speak out, even if I think I may stand alone. FFA has made me confident and proud of who I am and where I come from. In my four years, I have realized that FFA has many opportunities for everyone. Whenever I tell someone I am in FFA, they usually give me a weird look and proceed to say "YOU'RE in FFA?" as if it's weird and unusual. It has made me realize that FFA has a lot of misconceptions and stereotypes. FFA offers opportunities to people of different races, backgrounds, and talents. There is not a single picture of what an FFA member looks like. We are all different. We come from different backgrounds, with different beliefs, but at the end of the day, we all love this organization.

The future of agriculture is in our hands and future generations to come. It is important that our organization works together to change the misconceptions and stereotypes around FFA. Agriculture education and leadership are important for humanity to thrive. From leadership opportunities to a large variety of competitions; FFA celebrates diversity. With great humility, I am proud to announce my candidacy for the 2020-2021 State Officer Team and my promise is to teach people that regardless of who they are, there is a home for them in FFA and within the agriculture industry. I cannot wait to see you all at the 92nd state convention!

Sincerely,

Emilie Mendoza
Molalla Chapter President 2018-2020
Mt Hood District President 2019-2020

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate, only love can do that." ~ Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.



Emilie Mendoza

Molalla FFA Chapter

FFA Involvement

FFA Offices Held

Chapter President	2019-2020
District President	2019-2020
Chapter President	2018-2019
Chapter Reporter	2017-2018

CDE & LDE Involvement

Advanced Parli Pro	2020
5 th State Ag Sales Team	2019
1 st District Ag Sales Team	2019
5 th District Job Interview	2019
National Ag Issues Team	2019
1 st State Ag Issues Team	2019
District Adv. Public Speaking	2019
District Job Interview	2018
3 rd State Food Science	2018
3 rd District Ag Sales Team	2018
State Soph. Public Speaking	2018
1 st Section Soph. Public Speaking	2018
1 st District Soph. Public Speaking	2018
State Vet Science Team	2017
State Food Science Team	2017
3 rd State Creed Speaking	2017
State Information Test	2017
3 rd Section Beginning Parli Pro	2017
1 st Section Creed Speaking	2017
1 st District Beginning Parli Pro	2016
1 st District Creed Speaking	2016

Other FFA Involvement

State Executive Meetings	2020
Greenhand Conference Presenter	2019
Oregon Food Bank Volunteer	2019
District Officer Meetings	2019
National FFA Convention	2019
Oregon Ag Fest	2019
State Executive Meetings	2019
Alumni Auction	2019
District Leadership Camp	2019
Chapter Plant Sales	2019
Staff Breakfast	2019
Oregon FFA Convention	2019
Alumni Meetings	2019
State District Officer Training	2019
Washington Leadership Conference	2019

Officer Meetings	2018
Alumni Auction	2018
Staff Breakfast	2018
Oregon FFA Convention	2018
Alumni Meetings	2018
District Leadership Camp	2018
Chapter Plant Sales	2018
Officer Meetings	2017
Alumni Auction	2017
Staff Breakfast	2017
Ag in the Classroom	2017
Chapter Plant Sales	2017
Oregon FFA Convention	2017
State Fair Work Crew	2016
Alumni Auction	2016
Staff Breakfast	2016
National FFA Convention	2016
Denim and Diamonds	2016

School/ Community Involvement

Associated Student Body (Four years)

ASB Vice President	2019-2020
Student Senate Executive	2019-2020
Link Coordinator	2019-2020
Court Voting Chair	2019-2020
ASB Secretary	2018-2019
Student Senate Executive	2018-2019
Site Council Student Rep	2018-2019
Cancer Week Coordinator	2018-2019
ASB Club Coordinator	2017-2018
Link Leader	2017-2018
Freshman Class Officer	2016-2017

Share the Love Chairman- Integral leader to community wide fundraiser, which has raised over \$250,000 in the last four years.

National Honor Society (One Year)

Volunteered over 25 hours of community service w/club during high school

Choir (One Year)

Performed at the annual Singing Christmas Tree and Spring Concert

MHS Royalty Court

Homecoming Royalty 2019