



**“It is a far, far better thing that I do, than I have ever done...”**

**-Charles Dickens, *A Tale of Two Cities***



### **Santiam Christian FFA**

7220 NE Arnold Ave  
Corvallis, OR 97330

Oregon FFA:

For me, before there were blue jackets and gold standards, there were three Hereford cows in a pasture behind a portable classroom. I would spend every break in my school day talking to and feeding these animals who, unbeknownst to me at the time, were igniting a burning passion for something so immense that would change me for the rest of my life. My last school day before moving hours away from the town and school I grew up in, everyone knew that if you couldn't find me in class, you would know I'd be sitting on "my side" of that back pasture fence. Not long after my last shared moments with these cows is where my journey in FFA began. I walked inside the classroom to talk to my teacher and he said to me this: "You have a passion for animals that is undeniable. Take that and go as far as you can with it."

This led me to join into a blue and gold organization filled to the brim with other passionate youth like me. If I'm being honest with you, I at first believed what every person without ties to this organization believed: FFA is about farming and animals. I hope you all have realized the same thing I have over the years, and that is that FFA is a lot more than that. Looking back on the last four and a half years of my membership, the things I remember the most about my experiences aren't the contests, but my interactions with other members. What is FFA without the numerous, varying faces and personalities who come together, dressed in an attire of blue and gold, which the meaning of transcends common knowledge?

With this all in mind, FFA members I strongly encourage you to look beyond the pen and paper facts of this organization. Take pride in that blue corduroy jacket and make sure you share that feeling with others around you. You are a part of something much bigger than yourself. Take advantage of the opportunity you have before you, and give back by sharing it with others. I strive to give back to you and this organization, and to accomplish that and take my passion for FFA and agriculture "as far as I can", I would like to announce with honor and pride my candidacy for the 2021-2022 Oregon FFA State Officer Team. I hope to give back to you-the members, advisors, and all involved in this organization-to the absolute best of my ability.

Sincerely,

**Keilana Oxenrider**

2020-2021 SC FFA Chapter Vice President

*“As we mingle with others, let us be diligent in labor, just in our dealings, courteous to everyone and, above all, honest and fair in the game of life”*