



# FFA

Santiam Christian FFA



My fellow Oregon FFA members,

We all have that certain song in our minds. When it comes on the radio, we crank it up. When we're lying in bed, it plays incessantly in our minds. No matter how many times we hear it, we never grow tired of it. It may be a song that we relate to, or maybe the music just allows us to relax and forget all of our worries. In each song, many instruments and voices come together to make something incredibly, breathtakingly beautiful.

Music has always been a big part of my life. My father used to be in a band, so my growing-up years were full of music. When I began to sing, my family would sit in our living room after dinner, playing the guitar and allowing the harmony we made together to bring us closer. It didn't matter what we sang, or if we made a few mistakes. The important thing was this: we did it together.

Life is sometimes crazy. When high school started for my brother and I, our family spent increasingly less time together. We had very little time to sit and sing with each other. There was always a wrestling meet, a cross-country practice, a choir practice, or an FFA meeting. I loved my extra-curricular activities, but my heart yearned to hear the beautiful music that my family made together more often. Occasionally we would try to sing together, but sometimes something was wrong between us. If my parents and I were fighting, or my brother and I did not want to get along, or the stress of life had just overwhelmed us, our music would clash. The harmony was off. Yet when we forgot about the things we held against each other and *decided* to work together, we made exquisite music.

When I joined FFA, I fell in love. The people are real. The stories are unforgettable. The hard work and discipline are evident. As a leadership organization, FFA has taught me so many things about how to work with others. I've worked with many different types of people on chapter officer teams, committees, and projects, ranging from one end of the spectrum to the other. As you can imagine, people do not always get along. There were many things that we disagreed upon. Everyone that is part of a team has a choice: they can hold disagreements and differences inside and become embittered by them, or they can be flexible and learn to work with others despite these things. I have learned through FFA that although people have different personalities and "play" their own individual instruments, and maybe one or two are "marching to the beat of their own drum," we can all come together and make a beautiful melody. Whether you're a Mozart fanatic or you're all about Tim McGraw, your harmony with others can be beautiful, just like the tunes in my living room.

Because I have learned so much from this organization, it is my goal to serve the FFA. It is my pleasure to announce my candidacy for the 2011-2012 State Officer Team.

Sincerely,

Bethany Reams  
Santiam Christian Chapter Reporter

"The greatest conflicts are not between two people, but between one person and himself."  
Garth Brooks

# Awards & Activities

## Sophomore

### FFA

- Soils Judging
- Sophomore Public Speaking
- Dairy Foods
- Food Science
- Farm Business Management
- Veteran's Day Parade
- FFA Week
- Chapter Dessert
- Greenhand Degree
- State Convention

### School

- A Cappella Choir
- Varsity Cross Country
- Varsity Track & Field
- Serve Day
- Honor Roll
- Scholar Athlete
- Pursuit

### Other

- 4-H
- Bridgeport Youth Group

## Junior

### FFA

- Farm Business Management
- Harvest Festival
- Food Science
- Dairy Foods
- Poultry Judging
- Parliamentary Procedure
- Chapter Dessert
- Veteran's Day Parade
- Soils Judging
- Chapter Degree
- State Convention
- Officer Retreat

### School

- A Cappella Choir
- Varsity Cross Country
- Drama Stage Crew

- Scholar Athlete
- Student Council
- Honor Roll
- National Honors Society
- Serve Day
- Mr. SC
- Pursuit
- Homecoming Princess

### Other

- 4-H
- Bridgeport Youth Group
- Outdoor School Camp Counselor

## Senior

### FFA

- Soils Judging
- Parliamentary Procedure
- National Convention
- Leadership Camp
- Farm Business Management
- State Degree
- Job Interview
- Leadership Camp
- Officer Retreat

### School

- National Honors Society
- Varsity Cross Country
- Varsity Track & Field
- A Cappella Choir
- Drama Stage Crew
- Pursuit Planning
- S.L.I.C.E.
- Court of Hearts Princess
- Honor Roll
- Scholar Athlete
- January Albany Chamber of Commerce Student of the Month
- Wrestling Manager

### Other

- Bridgeport Youth Group
- 4-H
- Ukraine Missions Trip