

February 9, 2015

Dear Oregon FFA Members,

What is your dream? Our dreams can vary in size and description, whether it's wanting to win a beautiful belt buckle at your local county fair or earning an athletic, full-ride scholarship to your favorite college. Dreams are something we have to work for. FFA is the passion towards the dream of students from across the country that wish to see leadership and agriculture thrive in our world. FFA teaches us that we have to work hard in order to make our dreams and goals come true. We never have a boring moment, and can always find a new dream or goal through the FFA.



Since I was a young girl I always dreamed of having a horse. I can remember my parents promising me, when we have the space, I could have that horse. Now, at age 18, I still have not quite gotten that horse for various circumstances wouldn't allow it, but I won't give up. When life pushes you and tries to hold up your dream you must work harder for what you believe in. I want to show you, Oregon FFA Members, that any dream is possible when you believe in yourself.

Take a look at what you consider your dream. Have you stayed on track in order to accomplish it? Do you need someone to help you and keep your spirits high? Dreams are something that you have to work for, some harder than others. We all need inspiration at times, and for me FFA and my fellow members of the FFA have definitely inspired me to push on and follow my dreams. Now it is my turn to inspire other member to follow their dreams.

My experience in the FFA has inspired me to see the importance of agriculture, dreams, work ethic, and so much more. From attending my first Eastern Oregon District Leadership Camp to competing in goat showmanship, all the way to amazing experiences at National FFA Convention, I have gained skills, met unforgettable friends, and made memories for a life time.

As my high school career in the FFA slowly draws to an end, I have a new dream-one I am willing to work hard for. My dream this next year is for you, it would be an honor to inspire you and encourage you to create memories for a life time. Oregon FFA, I am very excited to announce my candidacy for the 2015-2016 Oregon FFA State Officer Team. I can't wait to see you all at this year's Oregon State FFA Convention!

Respectfully,

Ellissa Durning  
Imbler FFA Chapter President  
Eastern Oregon District Treasurer

*"A Dream is a Wish Your Heart Makes."*

*-Cinderella*



## FFA & Community Involvement

### Freshman Year (2011-2012)

#### Degree Earned:

- Greenhand Degree

#### Office:

- Greenhand President

#### FFA Activities:

- Ag Youth Awareness Director
- Greenhand Rituals
- Eastern Oregon District Leadership Camp
- Community Leaf Raking
- Greenhand Dessert
- Christmas Caroling for Food Drive
- District Creed Speaking
- District Beginning Prepared Public Speaking
- Oregon FFA State Convention
- Chapter Banquet
- State Ag Youth Awareness-3<sup>rd</sup>
- Oregon CDE Days- Livestock Evaluation
- Eastern Oregon Livestock Show
- Union County Fair
- Oregon State Fair

#### Other Activities:

- Critters of Gold 4-H Club
- Union County 4-H Ambassador
- 4-H Junior Leader
- Imbler HS Volleyball

### Sophomore Year (2012-2013)

#### Degree Earned:

- Chapter Degree

#### FFA Activities:

- Ag Youth Awareness Director
- Community Leaf Raking
- Greenhand Dessert

- District Sophomore Public Speaking-5<sup>th</sup>
- FFA Week Committee
- District Goat Proficiency-1<sup>st</sup>
- Oregon FFA State Convention
- State Ag Youth Awareness-1<sup>st</sup>
- National FFA Convention
- Oregon CDE Days-Livestock Evaluation
- Eastern Oregon Livestock Show
- Union County Fair
- Oregon State Fair

#### Other Activities:

- Critters of Gold 4-H Club
- Union County 4-H Ambassador
- 4-H Junior Leader
- National 4-H Exchange Club

### Junior Year (2013-2014)

#### Degree Earned:

- State Degree

#### Office:

- Imbler FFA Chapter Treasurer

#### FFA Activities:

- Chapter Officer Retreat
- Ag Youth Awareness Director
- Chapter Rituals-1<sup>st</sup>
- Eastern Oregon District Leadership Camp
- Community Leaf Raking
- Greenhand Dessert
- District Extemporaneous Speaking
- District Agriculture Education Proficiency-1<sup>st</sup>
- Oregon FFA State Convention
- State Agriculture Education Proficiency-1<sup>st</sup>
- State Agriculture Youth Awareness-2<sup>nd</sup>

- Oregon CDE Days-Livestock Evaluation
- Eastern Oregon Livestock Show
- Union County Fair
- Oregon State Fair

#### Other Activities:

- Critters of Gold 4-H Club
- Union County 4-H Ambassador
- 4-H Junior Leader
- Imbler HS Volleyball
- Imbler HS National Honor Society

### Senior Year (2014-2015)

#### Offices:

- Imbler FFA Chapter President
- Eastern Oregon District Treasurer

#### FFA Activities:

- Chapter Officer Retreat
- Ag Youth Awareness Director
- Chapter Banquet Committee Mentor
- Oregon State District Officer Leadership Training
- Chapter Rituals-1<sup>st</sup>
- Outstanding President
- Eastern Oregon District Leadership Camp
- Adopt A Highway
- Greenhand Dessert
- Christmas Caroling
- District Extemporaneous Speaking
- District Ag Sales

#### Other Activities:

- Critters of Gold 4-H Club
- 4-H Junior Leader
- Imbler HS National Honor Society