



KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

NEWS RELEASE

No. 14-047

May 15, 2014

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KENTUCKY FEA STUDENTS EXCEL AT NATIONAL CONFERENCE

(Frankfort, KY.) – Students from Kentucky won top honors at the recent Future Educators Association (FEA) National Conference held last month in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The following students were among the top finishers in their respective category in the national competition:

- Technology Video, first place – Alan Dominguez and Tamara Hart, Holmes High School (Covington Independent)
- FEA Moment, third place – Nini Truong, Atherton High School (Jefferson Co.)
- Impromptu Speaking, first place – Austin Hazelwood, Mercer County High School (Mercer Co.)
- Lesson and Planning Delivery, first place – Raven Jackson, Southern High School (Jefferson Co.)

According to Jennifer Freeman, FEA advisor at Southern High School, the lesson plan and delivery competition requires students to develop a lesson plan, implement that plan in the classroom and then write a reflection concerning the development and implementation of the lesson.

“Raven wants to be a drama teacher and her lesson was delivered in a drama class, so she received real life experience for her future career,” Freeman said. “This first place win is extra sweet for Raven because several of the other students she competed against have an education pathway as part of their course of study in school. Southern does not have the education pathway, so Raven had to do all of her work after school hours, which shows hard work pays off.”

Miranda Goodlett, the FEA advisor at Mercer County High School said it was an outstanding achievement for that school’s first year chapter to have a national competitor and winner.

“Our organization strives in the well rounded development of future educators,” Goodlett said, “so we all were ecstatic when we received the news that Austin had won first place. This competition was just another way to allow a student to expand his/her ever increasing horizons,” she said.

(more)

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State FEA advisor Joe Morgan, a division director with the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE), said the organization is designed to support the development of students who want to become educators in the K-12 system.

“FEA is supported by Phi Delta Kappa International, a professional association of educators,” he said. “Over the years, the organization has operated somewhat like a club but is now recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as an official Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO).”

Morgan said while there are only a handful of states that have FEA chapters, the numbers are growing and students in the organization are focused on being the next generation of educators.

“Any time a student accomplishes something at a high level, they become more motivated. I believe all of these winners will likely enter a teacher preparation program at a university somewhere because of the experience they have had at the national conference,” Morgan said. “We congratulate them on a job well done.”

Kentucky Department of Education’s Office of Career and Technical Education administers the FEA program in the state. Its mission is to foster the recruitment and development of prospective educators worldwide through the dissemination of innovative programming and relevant research.

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