April 26, 2018

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

By McKenzie Lewis, Loren Lindler, Shelby Mumma, & Sarah Spradlin

**STATE WINNERS IN THE FLORAL DESIGN CAREER DEVELOPMENT EVENT RECOGNIZED AT THE 90th GEORGIA FFA STATE CONVENTION**

MACON, Ga. – Winners of the Floral Design Career Development Event (CDE) were recognized at the 90th Georgia FFA State Convention held at the Macon Centreplex on April 26-28, 2018.

In the senior division, Justin Sandlin of Echols County placed first at the state competition, followed by Kaitlyn Hart of Colquitt County and Amber Autry of Dawson County finishing second and third, respectively.

In the junior division, Abbi Vaughn of Coffee Freshman/GWC placed first, followed by Dani Stodghill of Coffee County Middle and Ella Wright of Habersham 9th Grade finishing second and third, respectively.

CDE awards are granted to FFA members and teams who have exhibited premier leadership, personal growth, and career success in a variety of competitions. The Floral Design CDE tests students’ knowledge in floral plant identification, knowledge of the floral industry, and the ability to complete a specific floral design.

Both the junior and senior Floral Design Career Development Event divisions were sponsored by Yesterday's and Tomorrow's Florist, in Memory of Mrs. Penny Hamann, and the Georgia State Florist Association.

The National FFA Organization, formerly known as the Future Farmers of America, changed its name in 1988 to reflect the growth and diversity of agriculture. There are more than 600,000 FFA members nationwide. The Georgia Association has more than 40,000 members, making it the third largest Association in the nation. The FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success, through agricultural education.

###

**Media Contact:** Ben Lastly, 706-552-4456, blastly@uga.edu