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*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

By Sarah Spradlin and Jordan DeWitt

**STATE WINNERS IN FFA TALENT COMPETITION RECOGNIZED AT THE 89th GEORGIA FFA STATE CONVENTION**

MACON, Ga. – Winners of the FFA Talent competition were recognized at the 89th Georgia FFA State Convention held at the Macon Centreplex on April 27-29, 2017.

The winner of the 2017 FFA Talent competition was Emma Long of Pickens County Middle. Other finalists included Skylar Loyd of Harris County, Grace Thomas of Houston County High, and Mikayla Crenshaw of Cambridge.

To compete in the State FFA Convention Talent Competition, students must first submit a video recording of their talent to the State FFA Association. Twenty-five students are then selected to perform during convention sessions or during the career show. Four finalists, chosen by a panel of judges during their rehearsals, perform for a second time during another convention session. The winners are chosen by FFA students at the convention by poll on the state convention app.

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.

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