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*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

By Sarah Spradlin and Jordan DeWitt

**STATE WINNERS IN THE FLORAL DESIGN CAREER DEVELOPMENT EVENT RECOGNIZED AT THE 89th GEORGIA FFA STATE CONVENTION**

MACON, Ga. – Winners of the Floral Design Career Development Event (CDE) were recognized at the 89th Georgia FFA State Convention held at the Macon Centreplex on April 27-29, 2017.

In the senior division, Hadden Powell of Bleckley County placed first at the state competition, followed by Karen Torres of North Murray and Shelby Martin of Eastside finishing second and third, respectively.

In the junior division, Leana Atkinson of Coffee County Freshman placed first, followed by Rose Coleman of Echols County and 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 & Tomorrow’s Florist in memory of Mrs. Penny Hamann.

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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