

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Ag foundation has opportunities for teachers, students

The Kansas Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom (KFAC) has prepared for the new school year by offering opportunities for teachers and students.

For teachers: KFAC will award the **Janet Sims Memorial Teacher of the Year (TOY)**, which recognizes a Kansas teacher for his or her efforts to incorporate agriculture into the classroom. Any K-12 teacher who is teaching in a Kansas certified school in a non-vocational classroom setting and who is integrating agricultural concepts into non-agricultural curricula is encouraged to apply.

The 2010 Janet Sims Memorial TOY recipient will be recognized in March during the Ag Day festivities at the State Capital Building in Topeka. The TOY recipient will have the opportunity to choose between an all-expense paid voucher to attend the National Agriculture in the Classroom Conference in Baltimore, Md., June 24-26, 2010; and a \$250 gift certificate to purchase agricultural education supplies for their classroom.

Interested teachers are encouraged to apply, and additional information and applications are available on the KFAC website: *www.ksagclassroom.org*. Applications, along with a letter of recommendation, must be postmarked by December 4, 2009.

For students: Grab your crayons or colored pencils and show us your creativity! The **2010 Post Card Art Contest**, sponsored by KFAC and the Kansas Department of Agriculture, is underway. The theme for this year is "Seeds of Understanding: Kansas Crops," and its focus is Kansas grains and specialty crops.

One winner from each grade level (K-6) and one grand prize winner will be selected, and each winner will receive a U.S. Savings Bond. Each winner, teacher and parent/guardian will also be invited to the Awards Program during the State Ag Day celebration. Entries will be judged on relevance to theme, creativity, originality, use of space and color, and clarity of idea and image.

Official entry forms and additional information are also available the KFAC website. Entries must be postmarked by February 1, 2010.

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