

Nebraska FFA Association PO Box 95067 Lincoln, NE 68509-5067 Neaged.org

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Clarkson Student Wins State FFA Creed Speaking Contest

Lincoln, Neb. -

By Josephine Moyer: Nebraska FFA Media Intern

From seeing her father's influence as a Creed Speaker to making her own impact, Claire Holoubek, a freshman at Clarkson Public School, recognizes the importance of the National FFA Creed. Holoubek competed in the Creed Speaking finals at the 96th Nebraska FFA Convention on April 4, and was announced as the winner at the final session on April 5.

"My father has always been a big inspiration for me, and when he mentioned he was a Creed speaker, it sparked an imagination for me," Holoubek says. "I decided to try it out and see if I liked it."

The FFA Leadership Development Event of Creed Speaking features individuals competing to present the 5 paragraph FFA Creed and answer questions that are related to it, as professionally and accurately as they can. Under the instruction of advisor Sid Ready, Holoubek successfully memorized the Creed and practiced questions for three months before her district event in December.

"It is just amazing," Holoubek says, "I was really happy to make it to finals and it has been really fun and exciting for me."

This achievement of making the top 6 at state, and ultimately winning the contest, is a highlight of Holoubek's freshman year in FFA. She believes her hard work has paid off. In the next years, she hopes to compete in Junior Public Speaking and continue advancing her public speaking skills. Holoubek shares the importance of these skills.

"We as agriculturalists have more power in bargaining by practicing our public speaking skills," she relates to the line of the FFA Creed written by E.M. Tiffany almost 100 years ago, "I believe in less dependence on begging and more power in bargaining."

Holoubek's performance embodied the 96th Nebraska State Convention's theme perfectly. This year's theme is "Unwritten."



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"We as FFA members can write in those blank pages," Holoubek says. "Through these unwritten pages, we take the opportunity to make our change in the world and achieve our dreams. FFA inspires me to write my own page."

Holoubek will represent Nebraska in Creed Speaking at the National FFA Convention held in Indianapolis, October 23-26.

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The Nebraska FFA Association is a school-based youth leadership development organization, with over 11,000 members statewide, and is a part of the National FFA Organization. Our mission is to make a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education. Visit neaged.org to find more information on Nebraska FFA.

