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REQUEST FOR COVERAGE/MEDIA OPPORTUNITY
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SAN ANTONIO LIVESTOCK EXPOSITION PRESENTS FFA SCHOLARSHIPS AT CORPUS CHRISTI CONVENTION

San Antonio Livestock Exposition Volunteers and Staff traveled to the Texas bay city of Corpus Christi on Thursday, July 15th to present thirteen Texas FFA students with \$16,000 scholarships in ceremonies held at the State FFA Convention at the American Bank Center. This six-day conference began for FFA students on the 10th of July, and concluded on Friday the 16th.

After enjoying a private "meet and greet" luncheon with the recipients of their scholarships, SALE Assistant Vice Presidents, and President Fred Petmecky addressed the students with "words of wisdom" on the new, exciting journey they are about to embark upon.

These 13 students traveled to Corpus Christi from counties throughout Texas to join in the weeklong festivities and independent conferences and seminars held at the FFA convention. Among the many counties represented were Wilson, Motley, Lavaca, Callahan, Morris, and Grayson.

This State-wide organization is only part of a much larger National organization that will be converging in October of this year in Indianapolis, Indiana to elect new officers for 2011 and discuss new initiatives and goals. With over 7,200 schools across the United States represented, FFA strives to teach students individual growth, with a strong knowledge and perspective of agricultural progress and productivity. Texas represents, by far, the largest state within the National organization with over 74,000 student participants.

Each year, since the creation of the Rural Youth Award 53 years ago, SALE recognizes senior FFA members from across the State of Texas who have demonstrated exceptional leadership skills, extensive FFA involvement, community service and excellence in planning and executing their supervised agricultural experience program. Reinforcing its over-arching mission statement of being "a volunteer organization that emphasizes agriculture and education to develop the youth of Texas," the San Antonio Livestock Exposition Inc. presented \$208,000 for these recipients to use toward the college or university of their choice. Among the colleges and universities represented for this class of fall 2010 were Texas A&M, Texas Tech, Tarleton State, and Incarnate Word in San Antonio. The students present for the luncheon and ceremonies were all incredibly grateful for SALE's contribution to their future endeavors and college commitment to better their educational future.



As of 2010, the San Antonio Livestock Exhibition Inc. has committed \$105 million to education, with \$8.5 million committed this year in the form of scholarships, grants, endowments, auctions, a calf scramble program and show premiums paid to youth. Awards and scholarships for this year will add more than 300 new scholars to the program. With over 1,300 active scholarship recipients, SALE represents students in 67 colleges and universities throughout the state of Texas.