WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT NAYI?

For more information, contact:

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NAYI has helped me deepen my knowledge about the diversity that agriculture offers. I have made countless connections and relationships with different people and businesses. I’ve met many passionate agriculturalists at NAYI that are now in the same classes as I am.

Ben Kamrath, Hastings  
2020 & 2021 NAYI Delegate

NAYI sparked my interest to advocate more for the agriculture industry. I got to learn about different parts of the industry that I do not know as much about. NAYI is the best conference I have attended, where I have met some great friends.

Allison Carpenter, Scottsbluff  
2020 & 2021 NAYI Delegate

Being a part of NAYC has given me the opportunity to connect with my fellow students and create relationships with the youth and producers of agriculture. Thanks to NAYC, I have developed greater leadership skills, and higher respect and understanding of the difference our industry makes on our society as a whole. I am so excited to serve Nebraska Agriculture and look forward to working with producers, consumers, and agriculturalists across the state.

Payton Schiller, West Point  
Current NAYC member

Nebraska Agricultural Youth Institute  
nda.nebraska.gov/nayi

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Applications due April 15
For 51 years, the **Nebraska Agricultural Youth Council's (NAYC)** main goal has been the promotion of agriculture to Nebraska’s youth. The NAYC consists of 21 college-age men and women who have dedicated their time and energy to educating youth about agriculture. The Council is selected annually to serve a one-year term. Membership is limited to three years.

Throughout their year, the NAYC participates in an array of agricultural programs including the Governor’s Ag Conference, Elementary Classroom Visits, National Ag Week, Urban Youth Farm Tour, the Nebraska State FFA Convention, as well as their premier event, the Nebraska Agricultural Youth Institute (NAYI). All of these events give Council members a chance to learn more about agricultural opportunities available right here in Nebraska, as well as share their knowledge with the youth of this great state. The Council also holds an annual Industry Tour, which gives members the opportunity to learn more about Nebraska’s diverse agricultural industry.

Fifty-one years ago, the Nebraska Department of Agriculture realized it had to do something about the ever-increasing problem of young people leaving the farms and ranches of Nebraska.

The idea of an Institute to expose young people to the opportunities available in agriculture was tried for the first time in 1972. The original **Nebraska Agricultural Youth Institute** program was developed through cooperation between the Nebraska Department of Agriculture and 18 college-age young men and women who formed the Nebraska Agricultural Youth Council which now carries on the NAYC tradition of passion for the agricultural industry.

The delegates are what make NAYI what it is. Their enthusiasm and genuine interest make the week an unforgettable experience. Delegates are chosen through an application process highlighting their interest, involvement, leadership and achievement in agriculture. These delegates have the opportunities to share their ideas with local, state and national speakers, along with young people from all across Nebraska.

Funding for NAYC activities comes from the former Rural Rehabilitation Corporation. These funds have been invested and the interest drawn from them is released to programs.

Agricultural businesses and commodity organizations graciously sponsor the vast majority of the expenses for NAYI.

Just as agriculture is an ever-changing industry, NAYI is an ever-changing program, keeping pace with today’s agriculture. Even though the program is constantly being developed, the original goal will remain the same – to keep Nebraskans involved and interested in agriculture.

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*My time in the NAYC was a great experience that really allowed my passion for agriculture to grow. Industry tours were valuable in learning about different careers in agriculture, as well as learning about several segments of the industry I otherwise would not have seen. It was rewarding to watch the delegates grow during NAYI and see where the conference propels them as young professionals in agriculture. The skills I developed by being a counselor at NAYI and heading up the sponsorship committee have put me ahead in my career.*

Isaac Stallbaumer, Oconto
Former NAYC member