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For Immediate Release

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## AG BROADCASTER STEVE WHITE RECEIVES AWARD OF MERIT, NAYC'S HIGHEST HONOR

LINCOLN – Steve White, farm director for KRVN and longtime voice for the agriculture community, was recently selected by the members of the Nebraska Agricultural Youth Council (NAYC) to receive the Council's highest honor. White received the Nebraska Agricultural Youth Institute's (NAYI) Award of Merit during a special awards luncheon at UNL's East Campus Union in Lincoln. The Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA) oversees NAYC and NAYI.

"He is an instantly recognizable and positive voice in the community," said NAYC Advisor Christin Kamm. "Throughout his career, Steve White has encouraged and inspired his listeners to learn about agriculture and support youth ag-related events. We are grateful that Steve has used his voice and position to promote and support agriculture."

White earned his bachelor's degree in communications from South Dakota State University in 1998 and went on to serve as the Bureau Chief with KHGI-TV until joining the Rural Radio team in May of this year. His voice stands out in the community, connecting rural audiences to stories, markets and people that shape the world of ag. He has earned recognition for his dedication to the agriculture industry from the Nebraska Broadcasters Association, Nebraska Sorghum Board, Nebraska Corn Board, Nebraska FFA and most recently the Nebraska State Fair 1868 Foundation.

White has dedicated his time to the rural communities of Nebraska through his role in broadcast as well as educating youth across the state as a panelist and presenter for Nebraska FFA. It is for his work with Nebraska FFA that he received their VIP award in 2024. The NAYI Award of Merit recognizes his work with youth in the community and his continued work to uplift the ag industry.

"Steve is the voice of rural Nebraska, keeping families and farmers connected to what is going on around the state," said Kamm. "We want to congratulate Steve on receiving this award and thank him for his dedication to the youth of Nebraska and the ag industry."

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## SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED TO DELEGATES

Scholarships in the amount of \$600 each were awarded to two recent graduates who participated in NAYI this year as returning delegates. Returning delegates have additional responsibilities during NAYI, designed to enhance leadership abilities and organizational skills.

The two 2025 scholarship recipients are Baylor Behrens and Will Vyhnalek both of Friend. These two students are planning to attend the University of Nebraska-Lincon this fall and be a part of the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources (CASNR).

NAYI is a week-long event for high school juniors and seniors interested in agriculture. NAYI includes motivational speakers, ag education, networking with peers and industry leaders, leadership experience and information on ag careers. In its 54<sup>th</sup> year, NAYI is the longest running program of its kind in the nation.

NAYI is made possible through generous donations from agricultural businesses, commodity groups, and industry organizations. To learn more about NAYC or NAYI, visit <a href="https://nda.nebraska.gov/nayi/">https://nda.nebraska.gov/nayi/</a>

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**NOTE TO MEDIA:** Photos of award recipients are available by emailing NDA's webmaster at agr.webmaster@nebraska.gov.