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For Immediate Release

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NDA ANNOUNCES SELECTION OF NEBRASKA AG YOUTH INSTITUTE DELEGATES

LINCOLN – The Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA) received a record-breaking number of applications from high school students wanting to attend this year’s Nebraska Agricultural Youth Institute (NAYI) with 252 students being selected to attend this year’s event.

Coordinated by the NDA and the Nebraska Agricultural Youth Council (NAYC), NAYI is a week-long summer program designed to bring students from across the state together to learn more about Nebraska agriculture, network with ag leaders and explore career opportunities. NDA selects students to attend NAYI based on their leadership skills, interests and involvement in agriculture. NAYI will be held July 6-10 at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln’s East Campus.

“It’s wonderful to see students that are passionate about agriculture. NAYI provides young people, who are about to begin the next chapter of their life, with the resources necessary to help build their futures,” said NAYC Advisor Christin Kamm. “Not only will they be making lifelong friendships and connections, but NAYI will give them insight into the many different career possibilities that a job in agriculture offers so they can follow their passion.”

NAYI is in its 55th year, making it the longest running ag youth program of its kind in the nation. This year’s theme “Passion Meets Purpose” represents the idea that students can turn what they care about into meaningful careers within agriculture. Through NAYI students gain the knowledge, skills and connections needed to take their passion and apply it in a way that makes a difference.

NAYI features motivational speakers, discussions on agricultural issues, career development, networking opportunities, leadership activities as well as several hands-on learning opportunities and workshops.

The NAYC, which is comprised of 21 college-aged students selected by NDA, helps plan and facilitate the event and provide valuable insight and advice about agriculture, college coursework and career-building to the NAYI delegates.

To learn more about NAYC or NAYI 2026, visit nda.nebraska.gov/navi/. Follow NAYI activities on Facebook by searching and liking the Nebraska Agricultural Youth Institute and on Instagram by following @the_nayc or #NAYI26.

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NOTE TO MEDIA: A list of the 2026 NAYI delegates and their hometowns is attached, along with a listing of the NAYC members. Photos of the delegates/NAYC can be requested by emailing agr.webmaster@nebraska.gov