

Quiz:

Blue Jackets to Big Stages

- By Jessica Mozo

FFA members tend to reach for the stars, and sometimes they land among them. See if you can match descriptions of these former members who are now professionals excelling in their respective fields.

1. This Grammy Award-winning singer spent her childhood on her family's Christmas tree farm in Pennsylvania. She started writing songs professionally when she was 14 – about the same time she was a Hendersonville FFA member in Tennessee.
2. Before this quarterback was selected in the 2018 National Football League draft, he worked on his family's farm in California. As a Firebaugh FFA member, he was a national proficiency finalist and American FFA Degree recipient. His FFA jacket was displayed during the 95th National FFA Convention & Expo.
3. This country music singer was an FFA member in Start, La., before he became one of the best-selling musical artists of all time, selling more than 90 million records.
4. This former U.S. president was an FFA member in Plains, Ga., in the 1930s, where he was raised on a peanut farm.
5. Before becoming a singer and songwriter, this FFA alumnus was once a professional bull rider and worked in a Texas prison. His boss, the prison warden, encouraged him to quit and pursue a career in country music.
6. Throughout his 60-year career as a radio broadcaster, this journalist helped millions of listeners understand the importance of agriculture. He grew up milking cows in Wisconsin, and later became the best-known broadcaster in the U.S.

Famous FFA Alums

Here's a full list of former FFA members who became prominent figures in agriculture, entertainment, government, sports and other industries.



Answers: 1. Taylor Swift 2. Josh Allen 3. Tim McGraw 4. Jimmy Carter 5. Cody Johnson 6. Orion Samuelson

Try Something New With Your SAE

Don't be afraid to go against the grain and explore your unique agricultural interests.

- By Courtney Leeper Girgis

Many of Kaitlyn Baker's friends in the Frederick FFA Chapter in Frederick, Md., raise livestock as part of their supervised agricultural experiences (SAEs). While Baker enjoys animals, she wanted to do something different.

Reflecting on her freshman experiences in FFA, the sophomore decided she wanted to be a guiding voice to members trying to find their place in the organization. So Baker started an agricultural communications SAE.

FFA With Kay began with a Google document of ideas, an Instagram account and the encouragement of her FFA advisor, Richard Stonebraker. Baker began making videos in which she talked to the camera.

"But it didn't feel right," she says. "So I tried something new."

Noticing her mom had recently started listening to podcasts, Baker decided to try an audio format. She created a podcast on Spotify that can be found by searching "FFA.With.Kay." Baker uses the same username on Instagram.

Through "FFA With Kay," Baker answers questions she had as a first year FFA member, such as:

- **What's the organization all about?**
- **What's a Program of Activities?**
- **How do you wear official dress, and in what order do the pins go on your FFA jacket?**

For members who are thinking about trying a different kind of SAE, Baker's advice is to do your research and stay optimistic. Four months into her project, she is full of ideas for future podcast episodes and working to ramp up production while balancing school and other FFA-related responsibilities.



Frederick FFA member Kaitlyn Baker's SAE includes producing a podcast called FFA With Kay.

TAKE THE NEXT STEP

Are you ready to dive deeper into learning about a different aspect of agriculture? You can find more information and inspiration for starting a new SAE or diversifying the one you have already built by visiting FFA.org/FFA-Video-Center/SAE-For-All.

