



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Agriculture Future of America Brings the Animal Industry to Students Across the Nation**

*College students will learn about and engage with companies in the animal industry through a virtual experiential learning opportunity*

**KANSAS CITY, Mo. (March 10, 2021)** — Providing 131 students opportunities to learn about careers in the animal industry, Agriculture Future of America (AFA) is hosting its annual Animal Institute April 11 – 13, 2021. Traditionally held in the heart of the [Animal Health Corridor](#), the experience has moved to an online environment this year.

This Institute is open to all college students pursuing agriculture related careers to promote understanding of the Animal Health Corridor and animal-related career opportunities, as well as to connect industry leaders with future talent.

“Although we would love to host students and industry professionals at an in-person event, we are closely monitoring COVID-19 and felt a virtual setting would provide participants the safest and best experience,” says Katie Gaebel, AFA director of programs. “AFA Animal Institute opens doors for students to dig deeper into in the animal industry, examining job pathways and gaining knowledge on industry insights and issues.”

The itinerary includes an executive panel on the state of the animal industry, career roundtables where students can engage with professionals from animal-related careers, keynotes from company executives, sessions on innovation in the industry and networking opportunities.

This program is made possible by AFA’s partners, including Cargill, Merck, Livestock Marketing Association, Missouri Department of Agriculture and Kansas Department of Agriculture. If you are interested in connecting with AFA to participate in Animal Institute or to learn more about connecting with students, contact Lillian Bowen, AFA development coordinator, at [Lillian.bowen@agfuture.org](mailto:Lillian.bowen@agfuture.org).

#### **About Agriculture Future of America**

AFA builds bridges for young leaders to foster engagement and innovation in food and agriculture. With program participation increasing 28% in the last five years, AFA has provided 21,000 leader development experiences to college leaders and young professionals from more than 200 colleges and universities throughout 43 states since its inception in 1996. AFA has awarded more than \$10 million in academic and leader development scholarships. For more information about AFA, visit [agfuture.org](http://agfuture.org).

**Agriculture Future of America**

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