



2026 National FCE Conference

July 20-23, 2026

Erlanger, Kentucky

“90 Years Strong...”

*Where the Pride of the Past
Meets the Promise of the Future”*

Awards and Recognition

2026 Heart of FCE Winners

Alaska – Jill Martinson



Jill Martinson has been a dedicated FCE member for 30 years and is a strong advocate for the organization, helping to acquire many new members. She has held leadership roles at the club, district, and state levels and regularly presents programs at club meetings and state conferences. Jill recently wrote and published *Mama Bear the Reader Teaches the Alphabet* for the Books for Newborns program, helping ensure this valuable effort can continue. She is also an active community volunteer, serving as hospitality team leader at her church, leading Bible study groups,

and teaching children.

Colorado – Arlis Bidwell



Arlis Bidwell is a dedicated volunteer who supports FCE meetings, projects, and community needs. She donates her own quilts and participates in club sewing days, making comfort quilts for the Elbert County Sheriff's Department and a local fire department to support people in distress. She has also secured business donations for FCE Conference bags and other community efforts. At the Elbert County Fair, Arlis volunteered as a clerk and arranged displays, recorded judges' comments, and completed paperwork for winners. Kind, caring, and service-minded, she brings a positive attitude, a warm smile, and a willingness to help wherever she is

needed.

Hawaii – Denise Smith



Denise Smith has been a dedicated member of the Hawaii FCE for 35 years. She has served as Hilo Council President, State Secretary, and State President, and was office manager for the 2007 National FCE Conference. She also served as the National FCE Pacific Region Program Coordinator (2007-2010) and National FCE Alumni Committee Chair (2023-2025). Since 2013 she has been the HAFCE Newsletter Chair. Denise is a true Heart of FCE, living its mission daily. She credits FCE with giving her the best education for life and, while caregiving for her husband, inspired others through her encouragement and compassion.

Kansas – Virginia Foley



Virginia Foley has made various meaningful contributions to the Kansas Northeast Area FCE. She has shared FCE lessons and resources with hundreds of community members, demonstrated healthy cooking at local events, and promoted Autism Awareness. She also organized a barn quilt painting workshop to raise scholarship funds. In addition, Virginia serves her community and church in numerous supportive roles, including vice president of St. Ann's Catholic Church and Altar Society, reflecting her strong commitment and dedication to civic and church service. Virginia

embodies the Heart of FCE!

Maryland – Helen DeRoo



Helen DeRoo has been a vital member of FCE, taking on additional responsibilities such as working with 4-H at the fair, on clothing embellishment projects and teaching the simple sewing of a pillowcase. She coordinates with FCE members, providing the “sandwiching” of batting and fabric to make quilts for hospitalized children and those receiving social services. Helen also chairs the Ranch Committee project, which benefits a rehab facility for men recovering from addiction. She generously gives her time and fuel to deliver the donated items (including magazines, games, movies and clothing) to the facility, located

45 minutes away.

Missouri - Nola R. McMillen



A 43-year FCE member, Nola McMillan has served as club president and vice president, Southwest District co-director, and a regular state conference attendee. She completes club reports, presents Hearth Fire lessons, organizes the Newton County Fair entry, and helps staff the Newtonia Fall Festival booth to promote FCE. Nola also supports her community by making quilts for Quilts of Valor and foster children, sewing backpacks and chairback covers for school, recycling medicine bottles, and repurposing upholstery samples into bags. She is a retired teacher of home economics science, biology, and GED courses. Nola exemplifies FCE values!

Nebraska – Audrey Wilson



Audrey Wilson has been a teacher and leader throughout her life, and a member of the Paradise Valley Club since 1973. Audrey designs and decorates fair booths and floats, often developing the themes herself—usually with a focus on learning. She has held numerous officer positions at both the club and county levels, and shares many of the current FCE program lessons with others. Audrey also contributes her talents to many other organizations, including DOES, American Legend Auxiliary, 4-H, the Art Guild, and her work as a teacher. She is an asset to FCE and truly worthy of this award.

Oregon – Alice Wicks



Alice Wicks has been an FCE member since 1972. She has supported her local club by hosting meetings, giving lessons, serving as treasurer, and promoting FCE. She has also contributed to fundraising efforts by selling baked goods, operating the Country Fair fishpond booth, and taking orders for Christmas wreaths. In addition, Alice has partnered with Amity Volunteer Firefighters to purchase gifts for the Tree of Giving, an annual holiday program to help local children in need. Outside of FCE, she assists neighbors by shopping for them, taking them to doctor's appointments, delivering meals, and visiting those who are homebound.

Tennessee – Joyce Ernst



Joyce Ernst has served on the TAFCE State Board, as Eastern Region President, Cumberland County FCE County Council, Lake Tansi Club President and numerous committees. She developed a CVU reporting method, resulting in increased reporting. As chair of the 250th Birthday America sponsored by several organizations, including Lake Tansi FCE Club, Joyce created a well-attended program on Colonial America. Joyce is a member/officer/chairman, developing and presenting training programs for National Society Daughters of America, Tennessee Society Daughters of Colonial Wars, National Society of New England Women, and the National Society Daughters of the Union. Joyce willingly shares her FCE knowledge.

2026 National FCE Program Book Awards

Education: First Place – Kansas

Leadership: First Place – Tennessee

Action: First place – Tennessee

Second Place – Kansas

2026 National FCE Open Brochure Contest

Marketing: First Place – Tennessee

Second Place – Oregon

Third Place – Maryland

Tools: First Place – Oregon

Second Place – Maryland

Other: First Place – Oregon

Second Place – Maryland

Third Place - Missouri

National FCL Certifications for 2026

60 Hour Training Certification

Pat Woods, TN

Pam McIntyre-Albaro, TN

Martha Crawford, SWFCE

Thank you for your hard work in FCL!!



Public Relations Report 2026

Keye Paha County - Nebraska

Scholarship Reports 2026

Alaska ~ Members \$4786 - Students \$1000

Nebraska ~ Members \$450 - Students \$3396

Tennessee ~ Students \$2000



2026 ESSAY and ARTWORK

Respect

4th Grade

National Winners

1st Place ~ Caroline Carney - Missouri

“Respect”

2nd Place ~ Parker Jean Hashimoto - Hawaii

“In What Ways Can We Show Respect?”

3rd Place ~ Crew Koehn - Kansas

“Respect the Community”



2026 ESSAY and Artwork

Respect

Highschool

National Winners

First Place~ Yuridia Cazarez -Oregon

“Respect”

Second Place~ Zainab Firdaus -California

“The Power Respect Holds”

Third Place ~ Ximena Lopez – SWFCE (Arizona)

“Respect and Its Impact All Around Us”

Fourth Place ~ Sarah Phelps – Mississippi

“Respect”

2025 – 2026 FCE RECOGNITION

These acknowledgements are for FCE clubs and FCE individuals whose involvement and learning in the focus areas of Education, Leadership, and Action have enabled them to see the possible options to make a difference in their communities.

<u>Clubs</u>	<u>Level</u>	<u>Category</u>
Carthage FCE – TN	Wheat	Leadership
Carthage FCE – TN	Wheat	Action
Spring Creek FCE – KS	Lamp	Leadership
Spring Creek FCE - KS	Lamp	Education
Spring Creek FCE – KS	Lamp	Action
Nite Lites FCE – NE	Wheat	Action

Individuals

Deborah Foster – TN	Wheat	Education
Deborah Foster – TN	Lamp	Action
Deborah Foster – TN	Lamp	Leadership
Kathy Shoptaw – TN	Lamp	Leadership
Kathy Shoptaw – TN	Lamp	Action
Marilyn Shumake – TN	Wheat	Leadership
Marilyn Shumake – TN	Wheat	Action
Myra Fisher – TN	Lamp	Leadership
Wendy Drumm – TN	Wheat	Action
Wendy Drumm -TN	Lamp	Leadership



Hearth Fire level 10 of 10
Oak Leaf level 9 of 10
Lamp level 7 of 10
Wheat Sheaf level 5 of 10

Community Service Awards

<u>State</u>	<u>Group</u>	<u>Community Service Project</u>
Kansas	Kansas FCE Members	"A Token of Love"
Missouri	Randolph County FCE/B. Mayo Pres	Scholarship High School Seniors
Tennessee	Warren County Midway FCE	Warren County Foodbank
Tennessee	Warren County Midway FCE	Children's Advocacy Center donation
Tennessee	Warren County Midway FCE	Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box
Tennessee	Williamson County FCE	Fuel Bag Drive for Grace Works
Tennessee	Kathy Hammond	Cardboard Recycling Project
Tennessee	Robertson County FCE Clubs`	Patchwork of Purpose
Tennessee	Clay County FCE	Celina Health and Rehabilitation
Tennessee	Clay County FCE	Helping Clay County's Homeless
Tennessee	TAFCE	Food Drive for Feed America First
Tennessee	Smith County FCE Clubs	Veterans Day Project
Tennessee	Tennessee Central Region	Central Region UTS Food Pantry
Tennessee	Tennessee Central Region	Kate Bagnell Scholarship
Tennessee	Smith County FCE Clubs	Smith County FCE and Friends Day
Tennessee	Smith County FCE Clubs	Smith County Courthouse Beautification
Tennessee	Smith County FCE Clubs	Chocolate Extravaganza
Tennessee	Bonner FCE Club	Assisted Living with Fannie B's
Tennessee	Erin FCE Club	Houston County Fair Volunteers
Tennessee	Irish Friends FCE Club	Houston County Fair Volunteers
Tennessee	Tennessee Ridge FCE Club	Houston County Fair Volunteers
Tennessee	Irish Friends FCE Club	Houston County Middle School Care Closet
Tennessee	Erin FCE Club	Little Dresses for Africa
Tennessee	Tennessee Ridge FCE Club	Little Dresses for Africa
Tennessee	Tuckers Crossroads FCE Club	Archer Care Group Home Project
Tennessee	Wilson County FCE Clubs	Girl Scout Camp Project
Tennessee	Bonner FCE Club	Warren County School Supply Project
Tennessee	Union County FCE	Heritage Festival Pie Baking Contest
Tennessee	Smith County FCE Clubs	Teacher Appreciation Day
Tennessee	Lewisburg FCE Club	Oakwood Hall Support
Tennessee	Erin FCE Club	Erin FCE Community Cookbook
Tennessee	Tennessee Ridge FCE Club	Houston County Family Resource Center Partnership
Tennessee	Houston County Council	FCE Scholarships for 4-H Camps
Tennessee	Erin FCE Club	FCE Scholarships for 4-H Camps
Tennessee	Irish Friends FCE Club	FCE Scholarships for 4-H Camps
Tennessee	Erin FCE Club	Bethesda Community Mission
Tennessee	Irish Friends FCE Club	Bethesda Community Mission
Tennessee	Houston County FCE	Hearts for Houston County Elementary Students
Tennessee	Erin FCE Club	Hearts for Houston County Elementary Students
Tennessee	Moore County FCE Clubs	Stitches of Love

Tennessee	Cheatham County FCE Clubs	Cheatham County Creative Day
Tennessee	Cheatham County FCE Clubs	Holiday Brunch with 4-H
Tennessee	Cheatham County FCE Clubs	Sewing Skills with 4-H
Tennessee	Tennessee Ridge FCE Club	Quilt Camp
Tennessee	Irish Friends FCE Club	Quilt Camp
Tennessee	Erin FCE Club	Tennessee State Fair Tourism Exhibit
Tennessee	Erin FCE Club	Houston County: Our Wish Special Ability Games
Tennessee	Erin FCE Club	Houston County Back to School Bash
Tennessee	Houston County FCE Council	Houston County Council Tour of Homes
Tennessee	Southwest Community FCE Club	Nursing Home Service Project
Tennessee	Oakland FCE Club	Lebanon Citizens Center Food Pantry Project
Tennessee	Erin FCE Club	Tennessee Ridge Elementary School Santa Shop
Tennessee	Irish Friends Club	Tennessee Ridge Elementary School Santa Shop
Tennessee	Tennessee Ridge Club	Tennessee Ridge Elementary School Santa Shop

