

2018 Farm-City State Multimedia Contest

The Alabama Farm-City Committee is excited once again to offer a Multimedia Contest for high school students in the 9th through 12th grades. The contest is sponsored by Alabama Farmers Cooperative and complements the Farm-City poster and essay contests by providing students another channel to express their creativity. The 2018 theme for all three contests is **“200 Years of Alabama Agriculture.”**

Since 2017, the Alabama Bicentennial Commission has hosted numerous celebrations leading up to the state’s 200th birthday. This year’s Farm-City theme — “200 Years of Alabama Agriculture” — joins in the bicentennial commemoration and will be a fitting subject for the State Farm-City Awards Luncheon next April.

The Alabama Territory was carved out of the Mississippi Territory in 1817, and Alabama was admitted to the Union as the 22nd state Dec. 14, 1819.

In those days, farming was the way of life for, the majority, of Alabamians, but the interdependence between urban and rural communities was already evident. Cities sprang up along major waterways, which farmers relied on to ship goods from land-locked areas to worldwide markets via the Port of Mobile.

In the past 200 years, technology has transformed Alabama’s agricultural footprint and its cityscapes. The old mule and plow have been replaced by GPS-enabled tractors and cover crops. Farmers have embraced the importance of crop rotation and agricultural diversification to conserve soil nutrients and protect against market fluctuations. The former “Cotton State” now produces a vast array of agricultural products — from timber, beef, pork and poultry to fruits, vegetables, tree nuts, corn and soybeans.

The once bustling riverfronts teeming with farmers, merchants and traders have grown into densely populated city centers with towering skyscrapers. Today, numerous city-dwellers never drive past or walk by a working farm. Regardless of a person’s chosen career — be it lawyer, doctor, mechanic, banker, teacher or scientist — everyone relies on agriculture for food, clothing, shelter and much more.

Alabama’s Bicentennial is a time for all Alabamians to celebrate the rich history and tradition that make us happy to call this state home. The Alabama Farm-City Committee is proud to join in the commemoration as we celebrate the contributions of our state’s farmers over the past 200 years.

As we celebrate National Ag Day and Farm-City Week, let's include celebrating our state's rich history with "200 Years of Alabama Agriculture." To create an entry, consider consulting these resources:

- Alabama Farmers Federation (AlfaFarmers.org)
- National Ag Day (agday.org)
- Farm Bureau (FB.org)
- Natural Resources Conservation Service (nracs.usda.gov)
- Alabama Cooperative Extension System (aces.edu)

The contest is sponsored by the Farm-City Committee of Alabama, P.O. Box 11000, Montgomery, AL 36191-0001, in cooperation with Alabama Ag in the Classroom and Alabama Farmers Cooperative. More information for teachers and students is available online at www.AlfaFarmers.org, www.AlabamaAITC.org and www.AgEducate.org or by contacting your local Alabama Cooperative Extension System office.

State winners in the poster, essay and multimedia contests will be featured in the Alabama Farm-City Committee's 2020 Farm-City Calendar.

Eligibility and Rules

Entry is open to ninth through twelfth graders. A \$300 cash prize will be awarded to the first-place winner at the state level, and his or her school will receive a matching award. The second-place state winner will receive \$200, as will his or her school.

The presentation may be created in PowerPoint, Keynote or any video editing software and relate to theme. Video, audio and narration may be included, but all components must be packaged with the presentation.

The presentation must be uploaded to YouTube.com and a link to the video included on the online application form that can be found at www.AlabamaFarmCity.org.

Each student must complete the information form and submit it with their entry link. The presentation should be 3-5 minutes in length and should not require live narration (by the viewer).

Students are responsible for ensuring their project is copyright compliant and for obtaining any necessary usage or reproduction rights for music, images, videos or voice content. Photos and videos do not have to be original to the student, but a majority of imagery should be reflective of Alabama agriculture. Royalty free

images are available on the Alabama Farmers Federation's Flickr page: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/alabamafarmers> and the Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries Flickr page: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/144363278@N06/>.

The presentations will be judged on: content, adherence to topic, accuracy of information, appearance, originality, audience appeal, mechanics, timing, graphics, organization, clarity, flow of material and conclusion.

All entries will be judged first at the county level with the first place winner in each county being submitted to the Alabama Farm-City Committee. **One entry per county may be submitted for judging at the state level.**

Deadline for entry at the state level is February 8, 2019. Winners will be notified by mail no later than March 8, 2019. Award winners will be announced at the Farm-City Awards Luncheon and Program in Birmingham on April 4, 2019. All entries may be used at the discretion of the Alabama Farm-City Committee without further permission or monetary consideration.