2016 Young Leaders in Agriculture Scholarship Program

The South Dakota Agri-Business Association (SDABA) is pleased to sponsor the Young Leaders in Agriculture Scholarship Program beginning in 2016. The program is designed to expose future agriculturalists to the crop protection, fertilizer, and seed industries, along with future career opportunities. Recipients will benefit from the financial compensation and exposure to and networking with the SDABA Board of Directors and its members.

Candidates
Candidates for 2016 will be top-potential collegiate sophomore with an educational focus on agriculture. Candidates must be enrolled at South Dakota State University (SDSU) and have secured a summer internship (2016) within agriculture, preferably within the crop protection, fertilizer or seed industries. Additionally, the selected recipient is expected to attend the SDABA Board of Directors meeting in Brookings during the month of November 2016 and 2017, Ag Expo in Sioux Falls in January of 2017 and 2018 and participate in a Washington, D.C. Fly-in during July of 2018. All expenses for these events will be provided by SDABA.

Selection Process
SDABA will notify SDSU via the AgBio Academics Programs Office via email announcing the program and explaining the goals. Then a SDABA representative will work with that office to encourage participation and to raise awareness for the program. Once the applications are submitted to SDABA, the Board of Directors will review the applications and select one recipient for a $2,000 scholarship. The decisions by SDABA are final. Winners will be notified in April 2016.

Scholarship Application
Scholarship candidates will be required to submit the following:
- Brief Cover Letter stating what and where their summer Internship will be.
- Application Letter/Essay - 500 words or less stating why they believe they are worthy of this opportunity.
- Resume Included
- “Unofficial” Transcript included as well
- Application deadline is March 1, 2016.

Scholarship
The scholarship will consist of:
- $2,000 cash scholarship to be provided to the SDSU for the scholarship recipient selected for the 2016-2017 school year;

Questions
You may contact Kathy Zander, SDABA Executive Director, with questions at 605/224-2445 or email kathy@sdaba.org.
Application
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Specific Requirements:
• Must be a sophomore (45 hours completed by December 2015) with an educational focus on agriculture.
• Must have secured a summer internship (2016) within agriculture, preferably within the crop protection, fertilizer or seed industries.

General Program Requirements:
• GPA - Must have a 3.5 minimum GPA while enrolled in college.
• Supply a completed application, updated resume and unofficial transcript by 5:00 PM on March 1, 2016 to SDABA to kathy@sdaba.org. (Submit via email as a Word or PDF document.)
• Ag Expo 2017 and 2018 - Scholarship recipient must be available to attend at least one day of Ag Expo during January in Sioux Falls, SD. (Travel and lodging expenses provided by SDABA.)
• Washington D.C. Fly-in - Scholarship recipient must be available to attend a three-four day trip to Washington, D.C. to attend meetings, participate in sight-seeing events and visit South Dakota Congressional offices. (Travel and lodging expenses provided by SDABA.)
• Presentations - Make one presentation on campus to be completed once they have attended Ag Expo and the Washington, D.C. Fly-in and before graduation. The presentations are meant to get more exposure of SDABA, the Young Leaders in Agriculture Scholarship Program, and the overall Agricultural Industry.

Name: (Last, First MI) ________________________________ Sex: ___ Male ___ Female
Student Number: __________ Campus e-mail address: __________________________

Local Address:
Street: ________________________________ City: __________________________
State: ________ Zip Code: __________ Phone Number: __________

Permanent Address:
Street: ________________________________ City: __________________________
State: ________ Zip Code: __________ Phone Number: __________

Number college credit hours completed by December 31, 2015: __________
Major: ________________________________
Minor: ________________________________ Expected graduation date___________
Who is your 2016 summer internship program with? (Be specific - company name, location for work, and details of what you will be doing.)
Why do you wish to participate in the SDABA Agriculture Young Leader Scholarship Program (AYLSP)? (500 words or less.)
What are your top three unique qualifications you have for this program? (Be specific and provide examples)

Please indicate your immediate career goals following graduation. How do you expect Agriculture Young Leader Scholarship Program participation to impact your goals?

Is there anything else you would like to share regarding your interest and/or experiences in the SDABA Agriculture Young Leader Scholarship Program?

Please include your resume and “Unofficial” Transcript with your application.

I agree, if selected, to participate fully and to attend the meetings as outlined above. Also, I will provide a photo as a jpeg file and agree that my name and information in the application may be used in news releases for distribution.

Student Signature_________________________ Date_________________

Supply a completed application, updated resume and unofficial transcript by 5:00 PM on March 1, 2016 to SDABA to kathy@sdaba.org. (Submit via email as a Word or PDF document.)