

# YOUNG FARMER LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

JANUARY 30-31, 2026



LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

**Friday, January 30**

Marriott Louisville Downtown

12:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

**Registration**

Kentucky Ballroom Foyer

3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

**Pre-Conference Event at the Kentucky Science Center**

727 W Main St, Louisville, KY 40202

Join fellow young farmers at the Kentucky Science Center! Explore interactive exhibits, hands on experiences, and innovative science displays that make learning fun and engaging. This event is a great opportunity to spark curiosity, creativity, and a passion for science for everyone who attends.

*Transportation not included. Pick up tickets at the Science Center.*

3:30 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.

**Collegiate Discussion Meet Round 1**

Bluegrass 1 and 2

Farm Bureau's strength depends on its members' ability to analyze agricultural issues and decide on solutions that best meet their needs. The Collegiate Discussion Meet is designed to simulate a committee meeting where discussion and active participation are expected from each committee member. Attendees are welcome to join the audience.

4:30 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.

**Collegiate Discussion Meet Round 2**

Bluegrass 1 and 2

5:45 p.m. – 6:15 p.m.

**First-Time Attendees Session**

Kentucky Ballroom EFG

First-time attendees are invited to this brief session to meet with Young Farmer Advisory Committee members while learning the ins and outs of the conference opportunities.

6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

**Opening Dinner and General Session**

Kentucky Ballroom EFG

Join us as we kick off the conference! Hear from our keynote speaker, Dr. Temple Grandin, Farm Bureau leaders, and our 2026 Young Farmer Scholarship Live Auction.



**Session Keynote**  
Dr. Temple Grandin

7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

**Children's Activities**

Place and Show Rooms

*Join in activities for children during the general session. This is a great place for*

*kids to have fun in a space that allows them to exercise their energy and spend time with friends.*

8:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

### **Family Game Night and Bingo**

*Kentucky Ballroom ABCD and Foyer*

It's "Game Night!" This family-oriented event caters to folks of all ages. Join us for games, activities, and ice cream. Network with other conference participants in a casual, fun setting.

## **Saturday, January 31**

Marriott Louisville Downtown

8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

### **Breakfast and General Session**

*Kentucky Ballroom EFG*

Enjoy a buffet breakfast and get the most current agricultural updates from Frankfort and Washington, DC.



#### **Session Keynote**

**Dr. John Newton**

Vice President of Public Policy and Economic Analysis  
American Farm Bureau

9:45 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

### **District Breakout Sessions**

*Kentucky Ballroom ABCDEFG and Foyer*

Discover young farmer opportunities in your district and have your voice heard on upcoming events and goals for the district.

District 1/2	Ballroom EFG
District 3	Place/Show
District 4	Ballroom EFG
District 5	Ballroom EFG
District 6	Ballroom A
District 7	Ballroom B
District 8	Ballroom C
District 9	Ballroom D
District 10/11	Prefunction Space

10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

### **Workshop Session 1**

Workshops are hands-on sessions focused on special interest topics.

#### **Deep Dive into Tax Credits**

*Kentucky Ballroom B*

*This session will be an interactive, discussion based session walking through the Kentucky Selling Farmer Tax Credit. Participants will be educated on terminology as well as how to have the conversation with a landowner about the credit opportunity.*

#### **Understanding Emotional Intelligence (EQ)**

*Kentucky Ballroom C*

*Unlock the power of your emotions to lead, connect, and thrive. This interactive workshop provides a deep dive into the four core pillars of Emotional Intelligence, giving you the tools to navigate professional and personal challenges with composure and clarity.*

### **Leading a County Young Farmer Program**

*Kentucky Ballroom D*

*What opportunities are there for county YF programs? Join this session to learn how you can lead or create your county YF program through thoughtful*

programming and recognition.

**Children's Session - Rodeo Ready: Learn to Rope and Tie  
Place and Show Rooms**

11:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

**Lunch and General Session**

*Kentucky Ballroom EFG*

Enjoy lunch as we hear from leaders, sponsors, and our Young Farmer Showcase presenters.

1:15 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.

**Workshop Session 2**

**Farmer Panel Q&A**

*Kentucky Ballroom B*

*The panel is made up of producers right outside of the young farmer age range who can speak to the challenges and successes seen over the years farming in Kentucky. They each raise different commodities ranging from beef cattle to row crop and horticulture to direct sales.*

**Beyond the Title: Unleashing the Leader in Everyone**

*Kentucky Ballroom C*

*Explore leadership as an action, not a position. Learn to identify and cultivate your unique leadership strengths and influence to drive impact in any role.*

**Engaging Local Young Farmers**

*Kentucky Ballroom D*

*With leadership comes challenges. This session will explore the challenges we face as county YF leaders and provide solutions to use in your county. Come with ideas, questions, and limitations to explore.*

**Children's Session - Listen, Move & Play**

*Place and Show Rooms*

2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

**Workshop Session 3**

**Farmer Panel Q&A**

*Kentucky Ballroom B*

*The panel is made up of producers right outside of the young farmer age range who can speak to the challenges and successes seen over the years farming in Kentucky. They each raise different commodities ranging from beef cattle to row crop and horticulture to direct sales.*

**Diversification Basics: How to Expand Inside and Outside Your Current Commodity**

*Kentucky Ballroom C*

*Come and engage in an interactive session where we will share resources, consider questions, and discuss a few examples of diversification.*

**Ag Tours: Let's Talk About Them!**

*Kentucky Ballroom D*

*Discover creative ways to showcase your farm/agribusiness, engage visitors, and make agriculture come alive during an ag tour. Leave inspired and ready to create an unforgettable ag experience for Ag Ed Week and beyond.*

**Children's Session - Movie Magic & Game Time**

*Place and Show Rooms*

3:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	<b>Networking Break</b> <i>Kentucky Ballroom Foyer</i> Grab a snack and mingle as you get ready for the Collegiate Discussion Meet Finals.
4:00 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.	<b>Collegiate Discussion Meet Finals</b> <i>Kentucky Ballroom EFG</i>
5:45 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.	<b>Topgolf and Dinner</b> Close out the conference with us at a private event at Topgolf. The evening includes dinner, games, and a one of a kind golf experience. Games are set up for all ages, and no golf experience is needed. This night is about fun and fellowship. The evening will include coaching assistance from a PGA player.

**Bus Information for Topgolf**  
**Departing Hotel** – 5:45 p.m., 5:55 p.m., 6:05 p.m., and 6:15 p.m.  
*Bus will depart from the hotel doors on 2<sup>nd</sup> street (near breakout rooms)*

**Departing Topgolf** – 8:00 p.m., 8:15 p.m., 8:30 p.m., and 9:00 p.m.  
*Bus will depart from the entrance of Topgolf*

## Thank you to our Conference Sponsors:

