



— W Y O M I N G — AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM

FALL 2020



Recognizing our finalists at the Party in the Park!

Wyoming Agriculture in the Classroom celebrated student finalists from the bookmark contest and the GIS Mapping program at a party in the park on July 13th. Governor Gordon and the First Lady joined us to recognize these thirteen students from around the state. We are so grateful to all who were able to join us! Thank you to the sponsors, teachers, and participants who make this program possible every year. Information for the 2020-2021 program will be available on our website soon.





Congratulations Marissa!

Wyoming Agriculture in the Classroom (WAIC) would like to congratulate Marissa Cornelison, the 2020 Educator of the Year. Mrs. Cornelison currently teaches 5th Grade at Mountain View Elementary in Uinta County.

Cornelison is active in her school, community, and WAIC programs. She has been involved with writing, revising, and teaching the Wyoming Stewardship Project over the past three years. Cornelison commented, "I am so pleased to have had the opportunity to be a part of the Stewardship Project in many aspects. I am constantly telling the people I meet about this wonderful project I am a part of and sharing why I think it is so exceptional."

Over the last two years, Cornelison has taught the Wyoming Stewardship Project to every 5th Grade student at Mountain View Elementary. Cornelison appreciates the unbiased way information is presented, and the sense of stewardship and state pride the lessons inspire in her students. In support of Cornelison's award, Toni Martin wrote, "Marissa is a skilled teacher... Peers, parents, and community members recognize her work ethic and dedication to her students."

Kim Dolezal, Assistant Superintendent of Uinta County School District #4, commented, "Marissa is a true ambassador for Wyoming Agriculture in the Classroom." WAIC is grateful for Cornelison's continued enthusiasm and support of our educational programs.

As the 2020 Educator of the Year, Cornelison will be awarded a cash prize of \$1,000 through Wyoming Agriculture in the Classroom. The award is funded by Mantha Phillips and the Wyoming Livestock Roundup.

Thank You, Garrett

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to Garrett Horton, who has served as the President of the Wyoming Agriculture in the Classroom Board of Directors since 2016. In the past four years, Garrett has invested countless hours into this program and has always led by example. We could not be more grateful for his time and leadership. Though term limits prevent him from continuing to serve as President, Garrett plans to remain on the Board.

Thanks again, Garrett for truly making a difference!



A Summer of Virtual Workshops

Educators from across Wyoming spent two weeks exploring the Wyoming Stewardship Project through virtual workshops. Participants worked independently and with the support of Regional Advocates to complete course modules. The modules followed the outline used during in-person workshops to showcase features found in the curriculum. Virtual meetings at the end of the workshop allowed for group discussion and collaborative work. Each workshop participant received a hard-copy binder containing one complete unit from the Wyoming Stewardship Project as a gift for participating in a virtual workshop.

Despite moving to a new, virtual format, participants completed the workshop excited to introduce their students to the Wyoming Stewardship Project!

What We're Hearing from Participants:

Lessons focusing on stewardship of Wyoming's resources are extremely important for our students, so they learn the value of the resources in our state and understand how to make critical decisions in helping to improve our economy.

~Christina

The instructors were extremely helpful and effective. As a teacher, I appreciated the amount of time and work that went into creating the units. These units were made by teachers, for teachers and it shows!

~ Janel

As Wyoming citizens, we are all responsible for being stewards of our state's resources. So, the younger students are when they realize this, the better!

~ Erin

I love all the connections these lessons make; I also like how this course introduced so many online tools for learning.

~ Katie

The technology aspects of this course were fantastic, and I thought they showed great ways to have cross cutting ideas to better serve and enhance all subject areas.

~ Cameron

Our students need to be familiar with and understand the wonderful areas our state has to offer. By learning about our state and experiencing some of the places and areas they will have more reason to take good care of our beautiful land.

~ Joyce





Wyoming Agriculture in the Classroom
PO Box 347
Cheyenne, WY 82003

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Director's Notes

Wyoming Agriculture in the Classroom has experienced some curveballs in the last few months, just as everyone has. We were so hopeful to host in-person workshops this summer. However, as challenges seemed to rise, we knew we had only one option, rise to meet them. Our team worked tirelessly to create online modules that were rigorous and engaging. We did not want our online format to be a mindless formality, but a true tool and support for teachers as the landscape of learning is ever-changing. I was so proud of our team. The way they created an exceptional learning experience and supported teachers through the process was powerful. The feedback we received from participants helped make all the long hours feel worthwhile.

We also pressed on to recognize our Bookmark student artists and GIS finalist, even though the event itself looked different. It was encouraging to see the students' faces as they were awarded and celebrated. Looking forward to the new school year, Wyoming Agriculture in the Classroom is committed to providing our programming and teacher support no matter what this year brings. Our team has already created an exhaustive list of challenges that could keep us from meeting our goals and an action plan for how we will tackle these trials head-on. Thank you for your continued support. We are working hard to make a difference in the classroom! Whether we will be supporting virtually or in person, know we will be there.

All my best,

Jessie Dafoe



Contact Us:

phone: 307.369.1749 | email: info@wyaitc.org | website: www.wyaitc.org | mail: PO Box 347, Cheyenne, WY 82003