



Josie Wilkins
Arkansas FFA State
Officer Candidate

Arkansas FFA,

I am thankful for all of the moments we have shared together the last several years and am proud to introduce myself, Josie Wilkins, as a candidate for the- 2024-2025 Arkansas State Officer Team. Growing up, I was fortunate to see the value of FFA many years before I became a member. My first opportunity to be involved in Arkansas FFA came at the end of my kindergarten year when I was able to meet a state officer and recite the FFA Creed to them. It was that moment, at only six years old, that I began to dream about becoming a state officer one day.

It seems like just yesterday that I was anxiously waiting to walk into my Survey of Ag class on the first day of school during my freshman year. It was the class that I was most excited about, and I was looking forward to reciting the creed to Mr. Bacchus and was beyond ready to order my FFA jacket. I wanted Mr. Bacchus and all of my classmates to know from day one that I WAS INVESTED! COVID came along and completely changed everything. However, it didn't keep me from competing in creed speaking, conduct of chapter meetings, and being elected Vice President of my chapter. In the years to follow I was elected President of my chapter, attended ALC, CPC, Impact Conference, served on the nominating committee where I was able to make recommendations regarding our association's leadership, and served as a national delegate for Arkansas at the 96th National FFA Convention. I have actively participated in prepared public speaking, livestock evaluation, have won a state proficiency in vegetable production, and have shown livestock competitively across the nation since I was nine years old.

FFA has made an enormous impact on me as a person, and as a leader. FFA is simply who I am. This association has provided unlimited opportunities for me to grow and evolve to better understand myself and others, which has enabled me to become an outstanding leader in my chapter and community. I have found an exceptional group of people who share the same values, strong work ethic, and who are passionate about serving other like I am. I am blessed beyond measure to call this same group of people my closest friends. Many of my most cherished memories have been made at Camp Couchdale or at some event in the state of Arkansas surrounded by fellow FFA members and industry leaders. FFA has without a doubt positively impacted my life on a personal and professional level.

The thing that I love most about FFA is that there is a place here for everyone! To be given the opportunity to serve and encourage fellow FFA members, and help them grow and evolve like I have would be an honor and a privilege. Arkansas FFA has given so much to me and I would love the opportunity to give that back to all of you! I am ready to work tirelessly for you and could not be more excited for the future!

With So Much Love,

Josie Wilkins

Arkansas FFA State Officer Candidate
Lamar FFA Chapter

