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The National FFA Convention Will Rotate Between Louisville, Indianapolis

INDIANAPOLIS - The National FFA Organization announced today that its annual convention will rotate between Louisville, Ky., and Indianapolis, Ind., for the foreseeable future.

Starting in 2013, Louisville will share hosting duties with Indianapolis on a three-year rotational basis. Louisville will host the convention 2013 through 2015. The convention will return to Indianapolis for the years 2016 through 2018. Louisville will then be given the first right of option for the years 2019-2021; Indianapolis will have the option for 2022-2024.

FFA CEO and National FFA Advisor Dr. Larry Case was appreciative of both cities' efforts. "Both cities have welcomed FFA with outstanding hospitality," said Case. "Indianapolis and Louisville have both proven their ability to put on a world-class event for our members, advisors and guests."

National FFA President Paul Moya said, "I'm confident that our members will look forward to experiencing both unique cities during their high school years."

"We welcome FFA back to Louisville with open arms," said Louisville Mayor Jerry Abramson. "Our city has so much to offer these young men and women from top notch hotel accommodations to entertainment and, soon, a new downtown arena. FFA's homecoming is great news for Louisville at a time when a sour economy has been grabbing headlines."

"It's great news to learn that Indianapolis has once again been selected to host the national FFA convention," said Indianapolis Mayor Greg Ballard. "The positive impact of this event and these outstanding young people on our city is undeniable."

The annual national FFA convention, which was previously held in Louisville from 1999 through 2005 and is currently under contract with Indianapolis through 2012, hosts more than 54,000 high school-aged FFA members from across the country. The return of this prestigious event-the nation's largest annual youth gathering-will bring both cities estimated annual revenue exceeding \$40 million.

At this morning's announcement, FFA representatives presented both cities with commemorative blue corduroy banners showcasing the FFA emblem and the years the cities will host the annual national FFA convention.

The National FFA Organization, formerly known as the Future Farmers of America, is a national youth organization of 507,763 student members - all preparing for leadership and careers in the science, business and technology of agriculture - as part of 7,439 local FFA chapters in all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. The National FFA Organization changed to its present name in 1988, in recognition of the growth and diversity of agriculture and agricultural education. The FFA mission is to make a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for **premier leadership, personal growth and career success** through agricultural education. Visit www.ffa.org for more information.