

San Joaquin County

Office of the Agricultural Commissioner 2101 E Earhart Ave., Suite 100 Stockton, CA 95206



September 2021

Dear Potential Sponsor:

Last school year, to fulfill our commitment to the agriculture industry, and our youth, the AgVenture committee hosted <u>Virtual AgVenture</u>! We worked diligently to create a meaningful, engaging and educational experience. AgVenture is in it's 15th year and the goal hasn't changed teach youth about agriculture and the nutritional benefits of local commodities, as well as elicit a deeper appreciation for the industry. After all, *Ag is Essential*!

We strive to bring back in-person activities while supplementing with virtual opportunities to offer an array of experiences, which allow us to reach an even larger audience. A large portion of these students has limited or no experience with agriculture. The program provides students the chance to engage in experiential learning, which makes a huge difference in retention and application.

A portion of the program's funding is county-sponsored, covering the coordinator salary. Grants and independent sponsorships are needed to fund the remainder of the program. That said, AgVenture was <u>not</u> awarded the 2021 specialty crop block grant, which helped fund a portion of the program in recent years. As such, private sponsorships are more imperative than ever. To meet this year's unique challenges, additional recourses will be necessary. Without continued support, AgVenture will cease to exist.

Understanding this past year and a half has been straining, in more ways than one, I hope you maintain your *tax-deductible* sponsorship of AgVenture, giving thousands of students an "Adventure in Agriculture."

Sincerely,

Krista McCoon

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SJC AgVenture Coordinator

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