

LYLA JADE BENT

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📘 Lyla Jade

Dear FFA Members and Advisors,

Howdy y'all! My name is Lyla Bent, and I have the immense honor to serve as one of your 2025-2026 Florida FFA Area V State Vice Presidential Candidates. I am truly overjoyed to have the opportunity to potentially represent my district and area that has helped shape me into the person I am today.

Unlike many FFA members I did not grow up in an "agricultural family." Serving as a First generation FFA member and agriculturalist is a dream that I would've never thought that I could achieve. It was people like our State FFA officers who made me believe that it was possible to set goals and achieve them, it was these influential FFA members that inspired me to take up leadership roles in the FFA. Through my years in the blue corduroy jacket I have learned three main lessons, to be Authentic, choose JOY and shine your light. Sometimes us as individuals may feel discouraged when we see our competition or when we find out how much work is truly needed to get the job done. Yet when we are our authentic selves, anything is possible.

Growing up I have always been inspired by the dedication and perseverance of my older brother. You see when he was just 3 years old he was diagnosed with Autism, the doctor said that he would never be able to speak or live the life of an everyday person. He not only proved them wrong but showed everyone that through hardwork and never giving up anything is possible. When my brother was in middle school he showed his market swine at our local county fair, he not only showed his pig but he talked to potential buyers, worked daily with his project and showed me that this organization represents inclusion, hard work, and dedication. From that moment on I knew that I wanted to join FFA. You see, my theme for the year is "The Missing Piece," as when others may doubt you or tell you that you are "missing a few pieces," I believe that you are what is missing and needed. We need your authentic ideas, we need your light in this organization. Each of us makes up a beautiful piece to our FFA puzzle, and in moments when we feel like we don't belong, I want to remind you that you are "This Missing Piece," to Florida FFA, your chapter, your family and this world.

As the FFA vision states "FFA provides the next generation of leaders who will change the world." As a firm believer in not only this vision but the organization as a whole, FFA has helped shape me into the person I am today, and I believe that our world changers are all over this organization, if they know it or not. I hope to connect with you and your chapter to create those personable connections, by attending banquets, chapter events, zoom meetings, and help in any way that you may need! Thank you for taking the time to read my cover letter and resume and I am looking forward to meeting each and every one of you this June at State Convention.

Forever Blue,

Lyla Bent

"THE MISSING PIECE"

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CAREER OBJECTIVE

I plan to attend the University of Georgia, majoring in Agriculture Communications with a minor in Political Science, and pursue a Career in Agriculture Law, in hopes to one day work in Government and advocate for the agricultural industry.

EDUCATION

Weighted GPA: 5.2603 Unweighted GPA: 3.6603

DURANT HIGH SCHOOL

DUAL ENROLLED AT HILLSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE

INDUSTRY CERTIFIED IN AGRITECHNOLOGY, AG ASSOCIATES, AGRICULTURE SYSTEMS AND IN ESB ENTREPRENEURSHIP SMALL BUSINESS

SAE/WORK EXPERIENCE

SWINE SAE

Hillsborough County Swine Show
Florida Strawberry Festival Swine Show
2018-2024

BEEF SAE

Florida Strawberry Festival Steer Show
2022-2024

HORTICULTURE SAE

Florida Strawberry Festival Plant Show
2019-2025

THE BLUE AND GOLD RADIO

Hosting this podcast with a fellow FFA member, we strive to bridge the gap between consumer and producer by educating our listeners on all things FFA, SAE and agriculture adventures
2023-2025

THE GEORGIA LANE BOUTIQUE

Serving as Co-Owner and operator of my family boutique with my little sister, we aim to help women feel beautiful and confident through our products while also sharing our faith and love for the agricultural industry.
2022-2025

FFA EXPERIENCES

LEADERSHIP:

2024-2025 District IX FFA Secretary
2024-2025 Durant FFA Reporter
2023-2024 District IX Sub-District II FFA Chair
2023-2024 District IX FFA President
2023-2024 Hillsborough County Federation Student Advisor
2023-2024 Durant FFA Treasurer
2022-2023 Durant FFA Reporter
2021-2022 JF St. Martin FFA Secretary
2020-2021 Turkey Creek FFA Treasurer
2019-2020 Turkey Creek FFA Chaplin
2019-2024 Chapter Officer Leadership Training Conference
2019-2024 State FFA Convention
2022-2024 National FFA Convention
2022-2023 High School Leadership Conference
2023 Chapter Presidents Conference

AWARDS AND HONORS

2023-2024 Ryan Rimmer Outstanding District Officer Award
2023 3rd in the Nation for Parliamentary Procedure
2023 State Winner Parliamentary Procedure
2023 3rd in State for Discussion Meet
2023-2024 Reserve Champion Citrus Evaluation
2022 Reserve Champion Conduct of Chapters meeting team
2020-2024 Meats Evaluation- 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

2024-2024 President of National Honors Society
2024-2025 Senior Council
2024 Durant FFA Sweetheart First Maid
2023-2024 Plant City Youth Leadership Commission
2022-2023 Sophomore Council Community Relations
2022 Durant FFA Sweetheart Court Member
2021-2022 Buddies Club

COMMUNITY SERVICE

United Food Bank of Plant City Volunteer
Durant FFA Christmas Bike Drop Volunteer
School Supplies Drive
Baldomero Lopez Veterans Nursing Home Volunteer
Samaritans Shoe Box Drive
Ag in the Classroom
Florida Strawberry Festival Concert Volunteer
Buddies Club

“THE MISSING PIECE”