

Allaman Named an Illinois FFA Top 10 Section President



Allaman is the daughter of Craig and Heidi Allaman. Her future plans include attending Western Illinois University to receive a degree in Ag Business. She and her two brothers, Drew and Ian, are the 7th generation of their family's Angus cattle and row crop farm, established in Little York, IL in 1835. Her family raises purebred Angus cattle, corn, soybeans, hay, and has horses.

Allaman is a member of the United FFA Chapter. She has held numerous officer positions with the latest being Chapter President, Section 4 President, and District 1 Secretary. In the past she has held the roles of Junior Chapter Reporter, Chapter Secretary, and Section 4 Reporter.

She has been a very active FFA member involved in numerous activities and receiving several awards throughout her high school years. A few of Elaina's FFA accomplishments over the past years have included: Chapter STAR Greenhand (2019), State Agronomy CDE – Top Individual, Top Team (2020), Section 4 Ag Sales – Top Team (2020), Chapter STAR Farmer (2020), State Degree Recipient (2021), State Land Use – 4th Place Team (2021), Section 4 Diversified Livestock Production Winner and Equine science Winner (2022), District 1 Equine Science Winner (2022), and State Livestock Judging Top Team (2022).

Outside of FFA, Elaina was also involved in Volleyball, Basketball, ICTM (Illinois Council of Teachers of Mathematics), Student Council, National Honors Society, and was a Connections Leader. She was also her Freshman Class President, Sophomore Class Secretary, and Senior Class Vice-President.

Volunteer activities Elaina has been involved with include the United High School Hog Roast and work with the STROM Center, Prime Beef Festival, Ag in the Classroom, and Connections. Outside of school, Elaina most recently served on the local Ag Round Table and the 71st District State Representative Forum. She is a part-time secretary at the Kirkwood-Stronghurst Vet Clinic and a farm hand for her family.

As a Top Section President, Allaman was invited to attend the 2022 Illinois Farm Bureau and Affiliates Premier 20 Leadership Conference. Through this experience, exemplary youth in agriculture from 4-H and FFA unite to dive deeper into leadership and professional development topics.

“Being selected as one of the Top 10 Section Presidents in the state is already a tremendous honor but to be able to go one more step forward and attend a conference with the top 10 section presidents and the top 10 4-H leaders is extraordinary. It was an extremely valuable experience and one that will help prepare me for my future. We were able to learn a lot of valuable skills that are helping to set us up for success in our futures, for example, interview prep, resume writing, communication skills, etiquette, community service, advocating agriculture to all audiences, networking, and SO much more. We were even given the opportunity to attend a dinner and eat with the Illinois Farm Bureau Board! That was an absolutely amazing experience. We not only grew as leaders and gained workforce skills, but we were given the opportunity to learn more about all the opportunities Farm Bureau and the family of companies provides. We received a tour of Farm Bureau headquarters, we got to ask questions to a panel of young leaders and then we were able to attend a networking lunch with employees from different businesses within the family of companies. It was a lot of fun to learn from and about this organization that does so much for our rural communities like mine.”

Illinois Farm Bureau and Affiliates Youth Education in Agriculture Committee seeks to cultivate the next generation of leaders in Illinois and is the proud sponsor of both the award and conference. Affiliated companies of Illinois Farm Bureau include: COUNTRY Financial, GROWMARK, Inc., IAA Credit Union, and Prairie Farms Dairy. With questions about the Premier 20 Conference of the IL FFA Top 10

Section President Award, contact Youth & Collegiate Coordinator for Illinois Farm Bureau Mary Klopfenstein at 309-557-2834.



Elaina Allaman, United High School FFA Chapter