



39th Annual Ceremonies

Honoring Florida's Great Agriculturalists



February 13, 2018

Special Events Center
The Florida State Fair



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Gary W. Black

Master of Ceremonies

Serving his second term, Commissioner Gary W. Black is the sixteenth Georgian to hold the office of Commissioner of Agriculture since the department's inception in 1874.



Black earned a degree in Agricultural Education from the University of Georgia College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences. Throughout his 35-year career in agriculture he has championed sound state and federal policies impacting food safety, science-based environmental stewardship and agricultural marketing.

He would rather be referred to as Lydia's husband and Ward and Caroline's dad. He and Lydia raise commercial beef cattle on the family farm in Commerce. Black serves in the Sunday school and music ministries of Maysville Baptist Church.



2018 Program

6:00 p.m. Reception

7:00 p.m. Welcome

Ray Hodge, President
Florida Agricultural
Hall of Fame Foundation

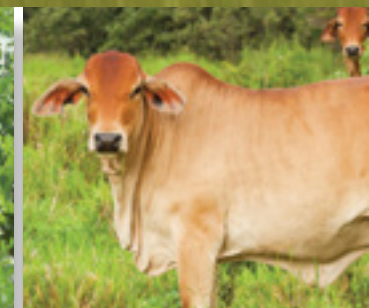
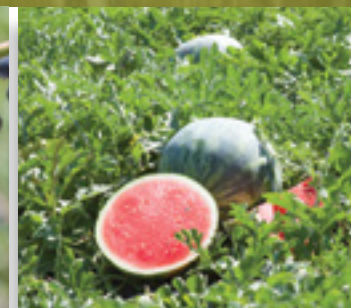
Dinner

Master of Ceremonies

The Honorable Gary W. Black
Georgia Commissioner
of Agriculture

Presentation of Inductees 2018

The Honorable Adam H. Putnam
Florida Commissioner
of Agriculture



2018 Inductees



**Alfonso Fanjul
and J. Pepe Fanjul**

Alfonso Fanjul and J. Pepe Fanjul have been an integral part of agriculture in Florida and their communities for more than 50 years. Their numerous contributions and the success of their business endeavors have contributed to the betterment of agriculture in the Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) and in the state of Florida.

The Fanjul family founded Florida Crystals Corporation in 1960 as a sugar cane farming and milling company in Palm Beach County. Alfonso Fanjul serves as chairman of the board and CEO of both Fanjul Corp. and Florida Crystals, which farms 190,000 acres in Palm Beach County. The company owns and operates two sugar mills, a sugar refinery, a rice mill, a packaging and distribution center and the largest biomass renewable power plant in North America. Pepe Fanjul is vice chairman, chief operating officer and president of the companies.

The two have been members of Sugar Cane Growers Cooperative of Florida almost from its inception. They and other Glades farmers formed an influential trade association, the Florida Sugar Cane League and the joint marketing cooperatives for the sales of raw sugar and molasses. In 1998, the Fanjul brothers partnered with the Cooperative to buy a sugar refinery in Yonkers, N.Y., to become a totally vertically integrated company. Today, that company, ASR Group, is the largest cane sugar refiner and marketer in the world.

In addition to the farming interests, Florida Crystals' land portfolio extends to residential and commercial real estate. The Fanjuls also pioneered the production of organic sugar cane and rice in South Florida – a major challenge in a subtropical climate. Presently, Florida Crystals continues to be the only producer of organic cane sugar products 100% made in the USA - grown, harvested and milled in Florida.

The Fanjul brothers are deeply committed to the communities in the EAA. The family founded and strongly supports New Hope Charities, which provides daycare, health and education services for Pahokee and surrounding areas.





Lowell Loadholtz

A Florida native who grew up in Union County on his family's farm, Lowell Loadholtz spent a distinguished 33-year career with the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences as an Extension service director and agent in Escambia, Brevard and Okeechobee counties. His leadership and commitment to Florida agriculture has benefited and helped improve the lives of farm and urban families.

Over the decades, Loadholtz held numerous leadership positions with the National Association of County Agricultural Agents and the Florida Association of County Agricultural Agents. He received the Hall of Fame Award from the national organization in 2006 and was inducted into the Florida 4-H Hall of Fame in 2010.

Loadholtz worked throughout his career to ensure that agriculture was top of mind with local residents as well as lawmakers in Tallahassee and Washington, D.C. He planned more than 100 agriculture informational legislative days, seminars, tours and field days for growers, policy makers and media to showcase agricultural production, water management issues and the environment. He wrote more than 1,500 newsletters and publications on farm and home life, and hosted an award-winning daily radio program that aired twice daily for 13 years.

Under his leadership, the Langley Bell 4-H Club Youth Building was built in Escambia County. Later, he led in the planning, funding and construction of the Brevard County Agricultural Center and 4-H Horse Arena. Throughout his career and even into retirement, he always believed in 4-H youth and has developed and cultivated many strong leaders.

In his retirement, he has served as a director in the Brevard County Cattlemen's Association and the Brevard County Farm Bureau until recently. Loadholtz remains active in agriculture and community service through farm, livestock, 4-H youth programs, the Rotary Club, church and other public service activities.



Harold Mikell

Harold Mikell has lived his entire life in service to agriculture. Now 91, he has retired from two successful careers: first in forestry, then as a congressional agricultural liaison.

Mikell's interest in forestry took root his senior year in high school when he planted trees on the family property in Trenton as an FFA project. By the time he retired from a four-decade career with the Florida Forest Service (FFS), he had been responsible for the planting of 5 billion more.

During his tenure as state forester and director of the FFS, Florida's forests grew exponentially. They also grew safer, thanks to Mikell's visionary efforts in wildfire control and prescribed burning. Every county in the state developed a wildfire protection program that included a strong emphasis on prescribed burning. The program was replicated by other forestry organizations across the country. The U.S. Forest Service honored him with its National Bronze Smokey Bear Award for his efforts.

After retiring from FFS, Mikell became a congressional liaison for the agriculture industry under Rep. Pete Peterson, a position he continued to hold under Rep. Allen Boyd. He worked with all sectors of agriculture on a wide variety of issues: citrus canker, dairy waste disposal, sugar cane research and more. For almost two decades he advised a multitude of agricultural associations on congressional issues, sat on numerous association advisory boards and carried their concerns to their representatives. He worked in that position until age 85.

Mikell's wife, Juanita, passed away after more than 50 years of marriage. He lives with their daughter, Patti Booth, in Tallahassee, remaining active in community service in both Tallahassee and Gilchrist County, where he owns a certified Tree Farm.

2018 Scholarship Winners

Ambria Llauger-Torres, Tampa

Ethan Church, Bronson

Taylynn Williamson, Dade City

Cameron Pasman, Tampa

Tyler Herrington, Bell

Justus Jones, Trenton

Natalie Martinez, Umatilla

Autumn Jackson, Lakeland

Cody Martin, Deltona

Jazsmin Taylor, Miami





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1980 Edwin Hall Finlayson
Thomas Gilbert Lee
Nathan Mayo
Henry Oscar Partin
Hoyle Pounds
Egbert Norman Reasoner

1981 Irlo Overstreet Bronson
Gilbert Andrew Tucker
J. Francis Cooper
Louis E. Larson
Pliny Ward Reasoner
Don A. Storms Sr.

1982 Willard M. Fifield
Robert G. Pitman Jr.
Dr. Herman J. Reitz
James N. Watson

1983 Dr. Raymond B. Becker
John M. Fox

1984 Alan James Norden

1985 John Duda
Andrew Duda Jr.
Ferdinand Duda
Clinton Huxley Coulter Sr.
Doyle E. Conner

1986 Louis G. MacDowell
Edwin L. Moore
Cedric D. Atkins
Lena Smithers Hughes
B. Edward David Jr.

1987 Ben Hill Griffin Jr.
Anthony T. Rossi
J.O. Pearce Jr.
James S. Wershow

1988 Paul Beary Dickman
John Buckner Boy Sr.
Ruth Springer Wedgworth

1989 Peter S. Harlee
Charles P. Lykes
Donald L. Wakeman

1990 Dr. Robert Henry Harms
Raymond P. Oglesby
Carl G. Rose
Dr. E.T. York Jr.

1991 Doyle E. Carlton Jr.
Dr. Tony J. Cunha
Julian B. Lane
Joseph M. O'Farrell Sr.

1992 Edward J. Campbell
N. Curtis Peterson
Edgar H. Price
Vance V. Vogel

1993 Karl Albritton
Wm. Travis Lofton
Dr. John Mortensen
Dr. Julia Morton
Dr. Marshall O. Watkins

1994 Elton L. Hinton
Dr. J. Wayne Reitz
Latimer H. Turner
George H. Wedgworth

1995 Leroy Baldwin
Dr. Clarence L. Campbell Jr.
Latimer "Latt" Maxcy
William H. Stuart Sr.

1996 Neal Palmer "Pal" Brooks
Henry Gatrell
Barnette E. Greene Jr.
Gov. Wayne Mixson
Snead Young Mathews
Davis

1997 William "Bill" H. Krome
J.R. "Jack" Spratt
Raymon F. Tucker
Stephen Monroe Yoder
Robert Billingsley
Whisenant

1998 Miles Edward Groover
Edna Pearce Lockett
Maxey D. Love Jr.
Elliott L. Maguire
Mabel M. Simmons

1999 Alto Lee Adams
Bert J. Harris Jr.
Kenneth F. Jorgansen
Copeland D. Newbern
John Powell Wallace

2000 Tom B. Adams
Jack Monteith Berry
William A. "Bill" Graham
Henry F. Swanson

2001 Al Bellotto
Copeland Griswold
Fountain H. May Sr.
Bert Edward Roper

2002 Bernard A. Egan
Carl B. Loop Jr.
J.R. "Rip" Graves
George F. Sorn

2003 Arlen Neil Jumper
Oma Richard Minton Sr.
Dr. Martha Rhodes Roberts
Dr. Kenneth Ray Tefertiller

2004 Thomas Richard Barber Jr.
Vick and Faye Blackstone
Donald Fariss May
Fred Y. Montsdeoca
Robert Nelson "Bob" Morris



2005 Dr. James M. Davidson
Paul J. DiMare
William D. "Billy" Long
Jo Ann Doke Smith
Frank "Sonny" Williamson Jr.

2006 Charles R. "Chuck" Smith
Dudley Adelbert Putnam
James Neville McAuthur
Lillie "Belle" Jeffords
Roy Gene Davis

2007 William R. Boardman
Albert Greenberg
Carroll Wayne Hawkins
Berryman "Buster" Longino Jr.
Ed and Imogene
Yarborough

2008 Otis Odell "Pete" Clemons
Hugh Malakowsky English
Fritz Stein Jr.
Alto Alfred Straughn

2009 Dr. James Griffiths
Richard Kelly
Kay Richardson
Mason Smoak

2010 Ben Hill Griffin, III
Rudy Hamrick
Dan McClure
Richard Alger

2011 Bill and Trudy Carey
Pat Cockrell
Paul Lyrene
Joseph Orsenigo

2012 Laurence Paul Cutts
Robert Fuchs
Gerald M. Mixon, Sr.
Sidney L. Sumner

2013 Daniel A. Botts
Charles H. Bronson
Paul L. Nicoletti
Eugene E. Trotter

2014 Scottie James Butler
Dr. Robert Bruce Christmas
Dr. Elver Myron Hodges
Dallas Barton Townsend

2015 Robert Blake Whisenant
Dr. Alvin C. Warnick
Pat Wilson
Edward, Ferdinand S.,
and Joseph Duda

2016 Thomas H. Braddock
Dr. Charles "Chip" F. Hinton
Dr. Joseph C. Joyce
Billy Kempfer

2017 Eugene Badger
William Cook
Joe Marlin Hilliard
Bernie Lester

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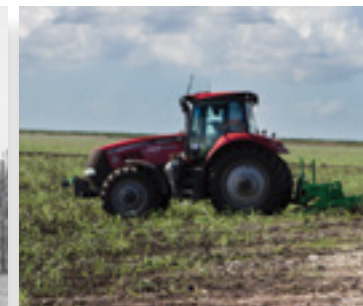
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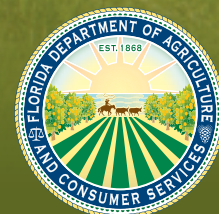
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