

National 4-H Hall of Fame 2018

Louisiana



Fran Castille
Louisiana 4-H Volunteer Leader

Home: Greensburg, LA

Nominated by: Louisiana 4-H

Major 4-H Accomplishments:

Charter member of the Louisiana 4-H Volunteer Leader Association; served as president, vice-president, and past-president. Serves on St. Helena and Tangipahoa Parishes Advisory communities. Serves on the Volunteer Program Committee on the LA 4-H Volunteer Initiative Task Force and the LA4H Volunteer Leaders Mentoring Program Committee. Honors: Received the LA 4-H Adult Good Provider Award and the LA4H Alumni Award. Obtained Emerald Level status as a LA 4-H Master Volunteer. Selected to represent LA 4-H at the National 4-H Centennial Celebration. Attended National 4-H Congress and National Dairy Judging Contest. 2015 LA 4-H Hall of Fame Inductee.

Biography:

Fran Castille began 4-H as a St. Helena Parish member, where she was raised on a dairy farm and showed Guernsey cows. She continued to be involved throughout high school. Thirty-two years ago, she stepped in to help lead her niece's community club and has never looked back. Over the years, Mrs. Fran has raised and donated countless dollars for scholarships, meetings, donations and prizes. She has given approximately 160 hours of service annually to 4-H and has logged millions of miles helping with 4-H programs in 50 of the 64 parishes in Louisiana. For the past eight years, she has served as a board sponsor to the Louisiana 4-H State Executive Board and says it is, "the best job any volunteer can have working with some of the most amazing teens."

Fran is so beloved because of the vital role she has played in the lives of 4-H'ers as they grow up and go on to become successful adults. Hundreds of 4-H alumni continue to check in with "Aunt Fran" when they are home, invite her to their weddings, and even make her a part of their own children's lives. According to Dr. Janet Fox, "Fran is always giving unselfishly of herself, her time and her resources. She is the epitome of what it means to be a 4-H volunteer always making the best better. She is truly one in a million."

Quote:

For the past 33 years, I have been a cheerleader, guidance counselor, sounding board, and shoulder to cry on. Spent sweltering summer days at camp with the younger youth and loud, lively nights at 4-H University with high-schoolers and hope to continue for many more years.



Fran showing her Guernsey cow at the 1970 LSU AgCenter Livestock Show.



Fran is conquering her fear of snakes at the 2017 Southern Conference of Volunteer Leaders.



Fran has made many connections with 4-H members across the state serving as a sponsor to the Louisiana 4-H State Executive Board.