

GRACIE JAMES GRIMES

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EDUCATION:

University of Georgia
Masters of Science in Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communication
Bachelor of Science in Agriculture, Animal and Dairy Science
Minor in Agribusiness and Management

Athens, GA
Expected Graduation: May 2027
Graduation: May 2025

EXPERIENCE:

College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences (CAES) Ambassador
University of Georgia, Athens, GA

August 2023-Present

- Assisted in facilitating the UGA CAES AG Dawg Kick-off (2023, 2024)
 - Spoke to students about getting involved with CAES clubs and promoted the event on social media and around campus
- Created Social Media content to promote CAES events, giveaways, and majors
- Guest Speaker at First-Year UGA Class (20 students) – spoke about CAES and agricultural career paths
- Guest Speaker at the Athens/Clarke County Farm Bureau Annual Chapter Dinner – spoke about the importance of Georgia Farm Bureau's support and the current advances in research, education, and development within CAES
- Facilitated the UGA CAES booth at 2023 ShowCAES on the UGA Tifton Campus (about 20 rural high school students)
- Assisted with facilitating the 2023 and 2024 Georgia Agribusiness Council Harvest Celebrations
- Guest Speaker at the 2023 and 2024 Pacesetters Luncheon for Georgia 4-H and Georgia FFA State Officers (about 40 total students) – spoke about the impact 4-H had on my life and opportunities in CAES
- Represent and advocate for UGA CAES at various events such as UGA CAES Alumni Awards, Orientation 2.0, Georgia 4-H and FFA Days at the Georgia National Fair, 4-H District Project Achievements, and FFA Region Events

Leadership In Action Community Service Project Founder
Candler County Extension Office, Metter, GA

August 2018-Present

- Created an original coloring book and asked the community and surrounding counties to donate colored pencils
- Donated a total of **1,434** packs of colored pencils, **953** words of encouragement colored by kids, **550** coloring pages, and **1,184** coloring books were donated Hurricane Helene victims, Memorial Pediatric Unit, UGA Wesley Foundation, Safe Haven Shelter, The Sunshine House, and St Louis Children's Hospital, Veteran Association Hospital in Dublin, Shepard Center, Nursing Homes, and other state 4-H clubs such as VA, IA, IN, CO, and NC.

UGA Student Worker

January 2023-May 2025

College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences Office of Development & Alumni Relations, Athens, Georgia

- Assist Office of Development & Alumni Relations staff with projects as assigned.
- Serve as an information resource for campus visitors, faculty, staff, and students on all aspects of CAES
- Research and update within the GAIL database for the CAES Sciences information to keep resources current

American Royal "Royal Scholar"

October 2024-April 2025

The American Royal Association, Kansas City, MO

- Selected to be one of ten students (out of 140 applicants) to serve the American Royal and represent its mission to be a champion in food and agriculture
- Represented the American Royal during industry tours with the American Hereford Association, Dairy Farmers of America, Corbion, Seaboard Foods, and the new facility of the American Royal in Kansas
- Assisted with facilitating the 2024 American Royal Junior Premium Livestock Auction
 - Connected buyers with their livestock showmen, and presented them with buckles
- Assisted with setting up, cleaning up, and other various tasks during the American Royal Livestock Show

College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences Congressional Agricultural Fellow
Office of Congressman Sanford Bishop (GA-02), Washington, D.C.

May 2024-August 2024

- Assisted with daily tasks such as answering phone calls and responding to constituent letters focused on agricultural issues
- Attended House Committee on Agriculture Hearing "Financial Conditions in Farm Country"
 - Prepared briefing materials and crafted questions and remarks for the congressman to deliver during the hearing
- Assisted in preparing materials and writing remarks for the House Committee on Agricultural Appropriations Bill Markup
- Assisted with updating the congressman with remarks and information during the 2024 Farm Bill Markup
- Attended meetings with key agricultural organizations, stakeholder groups, and constituents
- Conducted research on various agricultural topics for the Congressman to refer to during meetings such as Southwest Georgia Flooding, Paraguay Beef, Black Vultures and Cattle, and Farm Bill topics as it related to each meeting

Georgia Farm Bureau Federation Ambassador

August 2022-December 2023

Georgia Farm Bureau, Macon, GA

- Created and shared social media posts promoting events and businesses sponsored by Georgia Farm Bureau
- Advocated for Georgia Farm Bureau and Georgia Agriculture at the 33rd and 34th Annual Georgia National Fairs (GNF)
 - Communicated about the organization and the benefits that come with membership to the public
- Assisted and Networked at the 2023 GFB Public Policy Department State Commodity Conference
 - Created and shared social media content to promote the event and keep members updated on conference topics
 - Observed and recorded meeting discussions during the Sheep and Goat Commodity Session
- Advocated for the passing of Referendum B on the 2022 November Election Ballot through social media and GNF visitors
- Guest Speaker at the 2022 Georgia Farm Bureau Women in Ag Summit
 - Networked with current female legislators that support the agricultural industry and Georgia Farm Bureau during a “Ladies and Legislators” Breakout Session
- Assisted in facilitating the 2022 and 2023 Georgia Farm Bureau Annual Convention
 - Created social media content to promote businesses and organizations in attendance and the overall convention itself
 - In Charge of the imPACT booth and educated members on GFB’s new imPACT fund for Georgia politicians
- Managed the Georgia Farm Bureau Booth at the 2023 Georgia Farm Bureau District 2 Steer and Cattle Show

University of Georgia Meat Judging Team

August 2022-November 2023

University of Georgia, Athens, GA

- Assisted in facilitating the 2022 and 2023 Georgia FFA State Meat Judging Career Development Event Competition
- Promoted joining the team to CAES tour groups and during events such as UGA CAES Ag Dawg Kick-Off and Orientation 2.0
- Competed at the 2023 Intercollegiate Meat Judging Contests: National Western, South Plains, Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, Beef Empire Days, American Royal, and High Plains National Contest

Georgia 4-H Summer Camp Counselor

May 2022-July 2023

Rock Eagle 4-H Center, Eatonton, Georgia

- Taught six archery classes and four herpetology classes each week for six weeks in 2022
- Facilitated the Adventure Course and Swing Shot High Rope Courses and Led Night Hikes each week for six weeks in 2023
- Received Training from Georgia 4-H State Staff and Certified in Archery Handling and Teaching, Reptile and Amphibian Handling, and High Ropes and Emergency Rope Situation Training
- Served as an Adult Leader at Wahsega 4-H Center 2022 and 2023 Operation Purple Camp (a camp for military children)

HONORS / AWARDS:

- Selected to be the 2025 University of Georgia College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences Outstanding Senior
- Selected to be the 2025 Student Speaker at UGA’s College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences Convocation Ceremony
- 2021- 2025 College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences Rural Scholar Scholarship Recipient – awarded to four UGA CAES freshman from rural communities with outstanding leadership and community service experience
 - Guest Speaker at UGA Foundation Board of Trustees Meeting, UGA Alumni and Relations Development Meeting, Georgia 4-H State Junior Conference (500 4-Hers), and at UGA Russell Foundation Annual Meeting (about 30 trustees)
 - Interviewed and Featured in various articles and both 2022 and 2023 promotional videos for the Scholarship Program
- Sixth Overall Individual at Intercollegiate Meat Judging High Plains National Contest (Sixth Highest Placing Individual in The United States in the National Division for the Total Contest)
- 2023 High National Individual in Lamb Judging at High Plains National Contest (Highest Placing Individual in The United States in the National Division in Lamb Judging)
- 2023 Georgia Farm Bureau “For the Love of Ag” Award – awarded to the Federation Ambassador with the strongest leadership skills and with a passion for advocacy and communicating about Georgia Farm Bureau and the agricultural industry
- Received FFA American Degree (2022) – Awarded to the Top 1% of National FFA Organization Members
- Received Master 4-H Status (Highest Placing in the State of Georgia) 4 Times (2019-2021) – Sheep & Meat Goats Project, Leadership in Action Project, James Harris Dean’s Award for Leadership, and Scholarship

CLUBS / ORGANIZATIONS:

- 2023-2024 UGA CAES Student Philanthropy Council – Promote alumni and student annual giving to CAES
- UGA Young Farmers and Ranchers – Serve on the 2024-2025 Executive Team, competed in YF&R Discussion Meet
- UGA Block and Bridle – Member of the Great Southland Stampede Rodeo Special Events, Hospitality, and Alumni Committees, assisted in the production of the largest student run rodeo in the nation (2022-2025)
- UGA Collegiate 4-H – Served as a Group Leader at the 2021 Weekend in the Classic City Senior 4-Her Conference (60 4-Hers)