

#### PRESS RELEASE

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### MADISON ALLMAN NAMED 2022 DISTINGUISHED SENIOR AT THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLUMBUS, Ohio—Maddie Allman of Chillicothe, Ohio, has been named a 2022 Distinguished Senior at The Ohio State University College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES).

"The Distinguished Senior Award is the most prestigious undergraduate award in CFAES, recognizing the top graduating seniors from each of the academic units on the Columbus campus," said Steven Neal, CFAES professor and associate dean and director of academic programs.

Allman, a community leadership major, was nominated by college faculty and staff who felt that she personified the award's attributes of academic, disciplinary, and professional excellence.

"One of the hallmarks of our college is an emphasis on student success, and it is heartwarming to see it exemplified through the accomplishments of our students," Neal said. "Recipients are our future innovators and leaders who have already made an impact within the academic environment at this university and beyond."

Allman, who describes herself as "a proud, first-generation college student from Appalachian Ohio," did her undergraduate thesis on the impact of COVID-19 and the federal COVID-19 relief packages on poverty in Vinton County, Ohio, her home county. She said she hoped pointing to needs in Vinton County would help provide resources to community leaders in the wider Appalachian region.

Also while at Ohio State, Allman developed and implemented new programming for Collegiate 4-H's annual Carving New Ideas workshop and helped establish the Buckeyes First Student Organization, providing support to first-generation college students. She also served on the 2021 Homecoming Court.

Allman expects to graduate magna cum laude with distinctions in the spring as the first in her family to graduate with a bachelor's degree. She plans to pursue a master's degree in agricultural communication, education, and leadership with a specialization in community and extension education.

"I hope to continue my research on Appalachian community development and hope to expand upon my current findings from my undergraduate research project," Allman said. "I'm also hoping to travel to as many U.S. National Parks while I have the time, post-graduation, and continue pursuing big dreams and high-reaching goals."

Due to persisting impacts of the pandemic, celebration of this year's CFAES Distinguished Seniors took place during a by invitation reception at the Nationwide and Ohio Farm Bureau 4-H Center on The Ohio



State University's Columbus campus on Wednesday, March 23, 2022. At the recognition celebration hosted by CFAES dean and vice president for agricultural administration Cathann A. Kress and associate dean and director of academic programs Steven Neal, recipients were presented with special award packages. A YouTube video recognizing the award recipients on the Ohio State—College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences YouTube channel was also released on that same day. View the recognition video at go.osu.edu/ CFAES2022DSA.

While this year's recognition took on a varied format from previous years for the 2022 recipients, Neal said, "We were pleased to be able to acknowledge their commitment to their education and dedication to their time as a student in CFAES by recognizing them with the YouTube video, and via social media and professional networking platforms."

In autumn 2021, there were 2,859 undergraduate students in CFAES pursuing 22 majors and 34 minors. Learn more about CFAES academic programs at go.osu.edu/B4V2.



# MADISON B. ALLMAN CHILLICOTHE, OH

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP - COMMUNITY AND EXTENSION EDUCATION

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION, AND LEADERSHIP

Photo available by sending a request to flood.13@osu.edu

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