WELCOME

AFA SUSTAINABILITY INSTITUTE

PRESENTED BY VALENT/ SUMITOMO BIORATIONALS

PRELIMINARY ITINERARY

JANUARY 31- FEBRUARY 2, 2027

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IMPORTANT DATES

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Below you will find dates to keep in mind as we approach the Institute. These dates will (a) help remind you when to send our team important information and (b) give you a heads up when to expect important information to come from AFA.

19 November

REGISTRATION FORM AVAILABLE

AFA will be sending the company's main contact an email with more information on how to register your team.

11 January

REGISTRATION DUE

Only one registration is needed for your organization and all changes must be made before January 19th.

20 January

FINAL COMMUNICATION FROM AFA

AFA will send your team a final communication listing information around how to access the final schedule for your team, speaker resources, Resume Directory, and other helpful tools.

CANCELLATION POLICY

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As an engagement and funding partner of AFA, we value your support. For 31 years, partners have invested their dollars in our nonprofit programming to help guide the next generation of agriculture and food leaders. Because we are committed to being good stewards of those dollars, we are continuing our cancellation policy to help direct that funding toward growing the number of students we serve each year.

Our goal for this policy is to work with our partners in establishing deadlines when confirming/making changes regarding your teams' engagement. With the rise of costs associated with in the hospitality industry (AV, caterings, lodging, etc.) this policy will help mitigate the financial risks AFA is liable for regarding cancellations that fall outside the calendar parameters set by third party vendors.

As one of our main contacts for partnership, please help us in making sure this policy is communicated to your team members planning to attend the AFA Leader Institutes.

Adjustments or cancellations to your registration must be made through lexy.mullins@agfuture.org by January 19.

January 11:

- Deadline to register/confirm participation at the AFA Leader Institute – this includes speaker roles.

January 19:

- Meals: Last day to cancel team member and receive reimbursement on any meals purchased outside of the complimentary meals provided through the partnership. If a team member cancels after this date, partner will be liable for cost of the meal already purchased.
- Speakers: Last day to cancel team member and replace with another teammate. If a team member is unable to participate in the program following this date - no other team member from your company will be able to participate/replace that individual unless specified by an AFA team member.

AGENDA

Below you will find areas of engagement your team is invited to participate in. Reminder, your team must be registered for Sustainability Institute by January 11th. You have until January 19th. to make any changes (additions or subtractions) to your registration by sending an email to lexy.mullins@agfuture.org.

Please use the form below to keep track of which team members are registered for each activity.

PRE-INSTITUTE

Swag Items

As a partner benefit you will be allowed to send items to hand out to delegates during registration. Please reach out for shipping instructions.

Please ensure swag items are no larger or heavier than a standard water bottle. We also encourage sending snacks to be included in the handouts!

Commercial Video

You also have the opportunity to submit a 30-60 second video about your company (YouTube link or mp4) to be showed during the Institute breaks and transitions.

Hotel Location:
Hampton Inn & Suites
2061 Shell Dr Libertyville, IL 60048

We ask that you reserve your own hotel room through the hotel's website. We do not have a rooming block available. Thank you!

Event Location:
Valent Sustainability Center
1910 Innovation Way
Ste 100
Libertyville, IL 60048



AGENDA

ALL TIMES BELOW ARE IN CST

SUNDAY, JANUARY 31, 2027

Attire: Business Casual/Logo Apparel

4:30-6:00 PM
Dinner & Networking with Alumni and Industry Guests - 2-4 team members invited
Any career path in sustainability field recommended
Get to know students and share your knowledge!

6:00-7:00 PM
Alliance Sweet + Social - 2-4 team members invited
Any career path in sustainability field recommended, alumni encouraged to attend.
Non- alums welcome as well!
Network with students and AFA alumni to hear their stories!

ALL TIMES BELOW ARE IN CST

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2027

Attire: Business Casual/Logo Apparel

8:00 AM-3:00 PM (Three Time Options)
Tours
Your team has the option to host a tour at your facility, so students can obtain hands on experience!

5:30-6:30 PM
Careers in Sustainability - Roundtable Discussion - 1 team member invited- early to mid-career wanted.
Careers focus recommended with sustainability focus: Animal agriculture, general ag sustainability, regenerative ag, conservation agronomists, soil scientists, greenhouse gasses, ecology, government relations, producers, wildlife/natural resources.
Discuss career paths and opportunities with students and share your insight and advice. Students will rotate every 12 minutes for four rotations to speak to industry professionals about their careers.

AGENDA

6:30-8:00 PM
Dinner & Networking with Industry Guests - 2-4 team members invited
Any career path in sustainability field recommended
Enjoy great food and get to know the students at your table!

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2026

Attire: Business Professional/Logo Apparel

8:00-9:00 AM
Partner Breakfast - 2-4 team members invited
Recomended to bring TedX speaker + anybody with a career path in sustainability field or talent/HR.
Speak with students regarding career opportunities and innovative products and solutions you are bringing to the industry.

9:15-10:30 AM
Ted X Executive Session - 1 team member invited
Executive level career path recommended. Focus on one of the following is recommended, but not limited to: Regenerative ag, AI&Sustainability, Water, soil, & natural resources, livestock sustainability, the future of sustainable ag, biodiversity.
This session features a short, story-driven talk from industry leaders that explore bold ideas and personal leadership insights, followed by an engaging audience Q&A to inspire action and connection.