

Agriculture for Life
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For Immediate Release

Ag for Life Announces 12th Annual Harvest Gala to Support Youth Agriculture Education and Rural Safety Initiatives

Calgary, AB – Agriculture for Life (Ag for Life) is thrilled to announce its 12th annual Harvest Gala on October 24, 2025, at Heritage Park in Calgary. This special evening celebrates Alberta-grown food and the people who produce it, offering guests a locally inspired dinner alongside opportunities to connect with others passionate about food, farming, and education.

Proceeds from the gala directly support the development and delivery of Ag for Life's engaging, hands-on programs that give students real-world experience in agriculture, food production, and rural safety—empowering the next generation with the skills and knowledge to thrive and succeed.

One of the evening's highlights will be the presentation of the Outstanding Agriculture Teacher Award. This year's recipient is Melissa Walsh, a science, math, and foods teacher at Rocky View School, who incorporates food production into her curriculum using the school greenhouse and aeroponic towers. Her students cultivate fruits and vegetables while exploring how agriculture connects to science, nutrition, and sustainability.

Walsh says these experiences help students develop practical skills and a deeper understanding of where their food comes from. "They begin to see how food, science, and sustainability are all connected," she explains. "It's learning they can carry with them long after they leave the classroom."

Luree Williamson, CEO of Ag for Life, says Walsh's approach represents the type of education the organization is proud to support. "Melissa is creating the kind of experiences that stick with students. When they grow and harvest their own food, it changes how they think about what they eat, how it's produced, and the systems behind it. This knowledge is crucial for youth to truly understand the important role agriculture plays in our daily lives and the future of our food supply."

Also featured at this year's event is the return of the Culinary Youth Challenge, now in its third year. This initiative invites high school culinary arts students to develop original recipes using Alberta-grown ingredients. The winning creations have inspired dishes on this year's gala menu, giving guests a truly local dining experience shaped by the creativity of young Alberta chefs.

The Harvest Gala offers a unique opportunity to support education, celebrate Alberta agriculture, and enjoy an evening of community and connection.

 Tickets and event details available at:
www.agricultureforlife.ca/2025-harvest-gala

About Ag for Life Ag for Life (Agriculture for Life) has the mandate to deliver educational programming designed to improve rural and farm safety while building public understanding around the agricultural industry. Ag for Life is made possible through the funding and commitment of companies that employ almost 20,000 people in more than 350 Alberta communities. Founding Members include AdFarm, Glacier FarmMedia, Nutrien, Rocky Mountain Equipment and UFA Co-operative Limited.

Find out more at agricultureforlife.ca.

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