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### **Oregon Dairy Women Crown 2022-2023 Oregon Dairy Princess Ambassadors**

Grand Ronde, Ore. – May 21, 2022- The Oregon Dairy Women are proud to introduce the 2022-2023 Oregon Dairy Princess Ambassadors. Krisarah Nygren, representing Linn and Benton Counties was crowned the 2022-2023 Oregon Dairy Princess Ambassador and Mariana Llamas, representing Tillamook County was crowned Alternate Oregon Dairy Princess Ambassador during a ceremony Saturday night.

Nygren, 19, is a student at Linn Benton Community College and a 2021 graduate of Santiam Christian High School. She gained experience in the dairy industry as a member of FFA competing in Dairy Cattle Evaluation and Milk Quality and Products Career Development Events.

Llamas, 19, is a student at Oregon State University where she is studying Agricultural Sciences. She grew up in Tillamook with her father working as a veterinarian for a Tillamook dairy farm. She has raised and shown dairy cattle as a member of the Tillamook FFA Chapter and Tillamook County 4-H for many years.

Both young women look forward to a busy year informing and educating the public about the dairy industry. They will spend the next twelve months traveling statewide attending fairs, town meetings and public events as a representative of Oregon's dairy farmers. Much of their reign will be spent in Oregon schools delivering educational presentations about life on a dairy farm and the nutritional benefits of consuming dairy products.

Upon being crowned, both women received scholarships to continue their education. Outgoing Oregon Dairy Princess Ambassador Gracie Krahn received over \$15,000 for her year dedicated to the Oregon dairy industry, personally informing over 18,000 students of the benefits of dairy products and life on a dairy farm in schools and community events.

The other state finalists include Jess Hewitt, Clackamas County; Mia Berry, Washington County and Hanna VanDeWalle, Yamhill-Polk Counties. VanDeWalle received the peer-voted Congeniality Award.

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Oregon Dairy Women (ODW) is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization with the main objective to promote the dairy industry. The ODW mission is to promote greater use of all dairy products through outreach and educational programs.

Since 1959, the Oregon Dairy Women's Dairy Princess Ambassador Program has served as the premier advocate for the Oregon Dairy Industry in collaboration with the Oregon Dairy Farmers Association and the Oregon Dairy Nutrition Council. The ODW award scholarships, and provides financial support to 4-H and FFA programs, Oregon Agriculture in the Classroom, Oregon Ag Fest, Summer Ag Institute, Adopt-a-Farmer and judging teams.



Krisarah Nygren, 2022-2023 Oregon Dairy Princess Ambassador and Mariana Llamas, 2022-2023 Alternate Oregon Dairy Princess Ambassador. Photo Credit: Katelyn Nicole Photography