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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Agriculture Future of America Recognizes Leaders

Ambassador Kenneth Quinn and Kip Tom to be Honored at Dinner

Kansas City, MO, — Sept. 9, 2015 — Feeding the world is a global endeavor requiring innovative, compassionate leaders. On Nov. 6, Agriculture Future of America will honor two men who have demonstrated this spirit throughout their careers and have given back to benefit the future of agriculture.

“We are pleased to announce the 2015 AFA Leader in Agriculture Award recipients are Kip Tom, managing member of Tom Farms LLC, and Ambassador Kenneth Quinn, president of the World Food Prize,” said Russ Weathers, CEO of AFA. “Both these men have made a lasting impact on agriculture on a global level. We look forward to welcoming them to our AFA Leaders Conference to share their vision with our students.”

A native of Indiana, Tom is the Managing Member of Tom Farms, LLC and the President of CereServ Inc. Tom has been active in agribusiness in Indiana for the past 40 years, serving on the boards of many economic and agriculture organizations. Additionally, Tom has also worked as a crop production consultant with various companies in Argentina, Brazil and Chile. Currently, Tom leads finance, strategy and production operations for Tom Farms and CereServ in the U.S. and Argentina. He studied agriculture management at Texas A&M, and pursued continuing education opportunities through Harvard, Texas A&M and Purdue.

Originally from Iowa, Quinn, former U.S. Ambassador to the Kingdom of Cambodia spent 32 years with the United States Foreign Service before returning home to become the president of the World Food Prize Foundation. During his diplomatic career, Quinn was a rural development advisor in the Mekong Delta; on the National Security Council staff at the White House; a narcotics counselor at the U.S. mission to the United Nations in Vienna; and chairman of the U.S. Inter-agency Task Force on POW/MIAs for four years. He has been formally recognized for the humanitarian roles he filled during his career. Quinn graduated from Loras College in Dubuque, Iowa, and later earned a master’s in political science from Marquette University and a Ph.D. in international relations from the University of Maryland.

Each year, AFA's student leaders recognize two leaders at the AFA Leader in Agriculture Award Dinner for their contributions to agriculture and youth development. This dinner is open to the public. For more information about the dinner or to register, please visit www.agfuture.org/leaderinag.

This dinner is a function of the larger AFA Leaders Conference and Alliance Forum, which will bring almost 700 collegiate and young professional leaders to Kansas City, Missouri, Nov. 5-8, for personal and professional development. To learn more about this year's Conference, visit www.agfuture.org/2015conference. To view details about the Forum program, visit www.agfuture.org/AllianceForum.

About AFA

AFA creates partnerships that identify, encourage and support outstanding collegiate and young professional men and women who are pursuing careers in the agriculture and food industry. With program participation increasing 94 percent in the last five years, AFA leader development programs have impacted 12,000 college leaders and young professionals from more than 200 colleges and universities throughout 43 states since 1997. AFA has awarded more than \$9 million in academic and leader development scholarships. For more information about AFA, visit www.agfuture.org or contact Megan Karlin at megan.karlin@agfuture.org.