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To Whom It May Concern,

Laymon Hicks has a unique ability to inspire and empower audiences. His energy and excitement are contagious and make him a great motivator for people of all ages.

As the Leadership Program Specialist of the Georgia FFA Association, I had the opportunity to hire Laymon as the guest speaker for the 2009 FFA Day at the Georgia National Fair. This event is for students in grades 6-9 and is designed to make them aware of the opportunities in the FFA and encourage them to get involved. **Over 1100 students attended the program, and Laymon did a tremendous job as the guest speaker.** His message of “Get Up, Get Out, and Go Get It” was exactly what we were looking for to motivate our students to begin their careers in the FFA.

From the beginning, Laymon connected with the audience through involving the students in his message. His ability to capture their attention allowed him to spark their interest and kept them on the edge of their seats. Laymon encouraged the students to get involved, be the best that they can be, and to overcome any obstacles they might face. Through sharing his personal experiences, **Laymon was able to relate to the students and talk to them about many issues that young people face.** He is very talented in his speaking abilities and has a genuine desire to make a positive impact on the lives of those he encounters.

Laymon’s message has made a difference in the lives of our students. When asked about Laymon, one student wrote, “He has helped me with telling others about my passion and purpose not only for the FFA but for other community service projects, pageants, and TONS of other things! I would love more copies of his books, they are definitely amazing!” Another student said, “Mr. Hicks was a great speaker, one of the best I've heard. You don't often find many speakers that can relate to teens and Mr. Hicks did just that.” I have heard numerous compliments on Laymon’s performance and hope to find other ways to involve him in Georgia FFA.

Not only is Laymon an excellent speaker, but he is also a joy to work with. He made sure he was aware of the details of our program and stayed within the time frame we allotted him. He went above and beyond what was asked of him by arriving early and staying late to interact with students and teachers and distribute leadership materials to them. Working with Laymon was a true pleasure and made my job as the event coordinator much easier.

Laymon’s commitment to his message and passion for people are evident as soon as you meet him. I would recommend him to anyone who needs a guest speaker for an event. Please feel free to contact me if you would like more information about what Laymon did for our program.

Sincerely,

Hope Hatcher