



2024

**NATIONAL GRANGE YOUTH
AND YOUNG ADULTS
PROGRAM BOOK**



nationalgrangeyouth2@gmail.com



www.nationalgrangeyouth.org

Revised August 2024

This version of the Grange Youth Program Guide replaces all prior versions and will go into effect beginning June 2024.

For any additional updates or for more information, visit the National Grange Youth Website at www.nationalgrangeyouth.org

National Grange Youth Team Members

Jennie Gentry ~ North Carolina

Samantha Hanson ~ Iowa

Matthew and Lynn Clark ~ New Hampshire

Ken and Jennifer Danko ~ Pennsylvania

Questions or comments should be directed to:

National Grange Youth Team

Nationalgrangeyouth2@gmail.com

TABLE OF CONTENTS AND SUBMISSION DEADLINES

PROGRAM	PAGE NUMBER	DEADLINE (IF APPLICABLE)
Future Events, Age Requirements, Deadlines	4	
State Legislative Experience	5	
Grassroots Activism Scholarship	6-7	February 1st
John Trimble Legislative Experience	8-9	September 1st
National Grange Youth Officer Team	10-12	September 1st
Youth and Young Adult Ambassador Program	13-14	September 1st
G.R.O.W. Club	15	
National Grange Youth T-Shirt Design Contest	16	September 1st
Wib & Justi Community Service Award	17-18	September 1st
Junior Mentor Award	19-20	September 1st
State Grange Distinguished Youth Program	21-23	
National Public Speaking Contest	24	November 1st
National Sign A Song Contest	25	November 1st
Background Checks	26	
National Grange Child Protection Policy	27	

EVENTS In 2024

National Convention

Bettendorf, Iowa

November 12-16, 2024

Isle Casino Hotel Bettendorf

1777 Isle Parkway

Bettendorf, Iowa

Regional Conferences

Great Plains Regional Conference – June 7-9, Oklahoma

Eastern Regional Conference – July 26-28, Pennsylvania

Midwest Regional Conference – June 21-23, Ohio

Northeast Regional Conference – July 19-21, New York

Western Regional Conference – April 25-27, Washington

NATIONAL GRANGE YOUTH – AGE REQUIREMENTS

Grange Youth/Young Adult Ages have recently changed.

Grange Youth – Age 14-20

Grange Young Adult – Age 21-30

Although the National Grange Programming ages are changing the State Granges are still encouraged to continue their own Young Adults programs to a later age. Members older than 25 should now be stepping into the role of a Grange mentor and encouraging the younger generation to become involved members as they make the transitions into full adulthood.

FINANCIAL DISCLAIMER

NATIONAL GRANGE AND GRANGE FOUNDATION CHECK POLICY: All checks written on bank accounts for the National Grange and The Grange Foundation are valid for six (6) months from the date of issue. Checks not cashed by the recipient within six (6) months will be credited back to the organization as a donation.

DATES & DEADLINES:

All contest/application entries will be due September 1.



Legislative Experience

State Legislative Experience 2025

Since 2020, Your National Youth, National Junior Grange, and National Grange Legislative Departments have worked together to develop a legislative experience to teach our young members about the legislative process of our grassroots organization and worked to develop relationships with representatives and departments from around the country.

During past legislative experiences, we have taught attendees the basics of government and Grange policies. We are now working to encourage our states to provide their own legislative experience for their young members.

We want and encourage Youth, Young Adults, and Juniors to join together at their state capitol and participate in a state legislative day. The purpose of this Legislative Experience is for Junior and Youth/Young Adult age aged Grangers from across their state to come together and learn about how the Grange functions on the legislative side. Youth and Juniors should be educated in the many ways in which Grangers and citizens alike can advocate on issues they feel are important to shape public policy and communities in which they live.

We encourage states to take their members behind the scenes and look at what government is and how it operates in their own state. Junior and Youth members, along with their leaders/parents, should be invited to attend the State Legislative Experience that can be planned by the State Grange or assigned departments. Junior and Youth Leaders accompanying must adhere to the State and/or National Grange Child Protection Policy.

Grangers should make plans to attend briefings with important information pertaining to the Grange Legislative Department. Plans should also include meetings with governmental departments (such as the Department of Agriculture and Department of Education), meetings with Congressmen and Senators from your state and a tour of the State Capitol.

Just as our Grange Declaration of Purposes suggests, we will ensure that our Grange Youth, Young Adults, and Juniors “take a proper interest in the politics of one’s country” so they might become the informed and involved citizens required to move America forward and to guarantee a better society for future generations.

The purpose of getting Youth and Young Adult Grangers involved in this Legislative experience is for young members from across the state to develop an understanding about how the Grange functions on the legislative side.

Should your State make plans for a legislative day, we ask that you keep the National Grange updated on your event.

Grange Grassroots Activism Scholarship

Deadline: February 1st – Sponsored by Potomac Grange #1, Washington, DC

Any Youth, Young Adult, or Junior that has applied to attend a State or National Legislative Experience event is eligible to apply for the Grange Grassroots Activism Scholarship. The scholarship application with supplemental materials will be submitted to the National Grange Youth/Young Adult Team and will be passed along to the National Grange Legislative Director and Potomac Grange #1 for selection. Two travel/lodging scholarships, not to exceed \$500 each, will be awarded.

Applicants must submit ALL of the following:

1. The completed application forms.
2. Youth and Young Adult Members:
 - a. Submit an OP-ed you wrote advocating on behalf of the Grange for a specific policy issue, OR a copy of a resolution you have written and presented to your Community/Subordinate, Pomona, or State Grange, including information, the date of presentation, and outcome.
3. An essay about what you want to gain by attending the Legislative Experience.
4. Two letters of reference:
 - a. One from your State Master/President, State, Subordinate/Community, or Pomona Legislative Director or State Youth Director, or from a National Grange Officer demonstrating your character, ability for engagement, and activism, and interest in Grange policy.
 - b. The second letter can be from anyone outside of the family unit.
5. If selected as a winner of the scholarship, the awardee will be required to submit travel expenses and a written or verbal report of their experience of why it was a valuable experience to them as a Granger and a young person. “Zoom teleconferencing will be available” These submissions must be given to Potomac Grange #1.

Grange Grassroots Activism Scholarship Application

Deadline: February 1st

State: _____ Subordinate/Junior Grange & No.: _____

Applicant Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Circle One: Junior (5-13) Youth (14-20) Young Adult (21-25)

General Biographical Information: (education, years in the Grange, etc.), and other information of relevance.

Have you held any Grange offices or served on any committees, etc.? If so, please indicate these below.

Have you worked or volunteered for any local, state, or national political campaigns or offices? If so, please indicate these below.

I certify that the above information is correct.

Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature (if under 18)

Date

Please indicate the name of your references whose letter you have attached to this application.

Name: _____

Position: _____

Name: _____

Position: _____

John Trimble Legislative Experience

Application Deadline: September 1

The John Trimble Legislative Experience (JTLE) provides youth and/or young adults interested in the legislative aspect of the National Grange the opportunity to see the innerworkings of committees and the grassroots legislative policy development efforts that are held at the National Grange Convention.

Up to two members will be selected to take part in the John Trimble Legislative Experience.

- Each youth will serve on one of the National Grange Legislative Committees, where they will become a voting member of that committee. They will review and discuss resolutions given to said committee and they will help the committee with research and discussion to guide the committee in their decision-making efforts.
- The JTLE Participant will take part in delegate training and can speak on the resolutions presented to the delegate body during the National Grange Session.
- The JTLE Participant will also serve as a staff assistant to the National Grange Legislative Director and other National Grange staff as directed. As an assistant the participant may be given additional logistical duties and can see the inside work process of the National Grange. The participants' additional work should not conflict with the opportunities to see the National Delegates work on the floor.

Rules/Requirements

- JTLE Participants may only participate in the program one (1) time.
- Participants must be between 16 -25 years of age.
- Complete applications must be sent to the National Grange Youth Director by September 1st of the year in which you are applying
- Transportation to and from the convention as well as housing is at the expense of the participant.
- Any participant who fails to comply with the guidelines set up will be expected to pay their own expenses.

Include the following:

___ Biography about yourself. Within your biography, please include information about your family, Grange experience, any leadership experience you have had inside and outside of the Grange (civic and service clubs, professional organizations, school, church etc.), List any awards you may have received, and any legislative experience you have had (resolution writing, state convention delegate or participant, local government interactions etc.)

___ One page document on why you want to participate in the JTLE and how you plan to use this experience in your future Grange story.

___ A 4x6 headshot photo

___ Letter of Recommendation from State President or State Youth Director

John Trimble Legislative Experience Application

Name:	Age:
Grange Name:	Grange Number:
Address:	Phone:
Email:	Date Joined Grange:
What do you find most meaningful with the legislative aspect of the Grange?	Select top 3 Committees you are interested in serving on: <input type="checkbox"/> Citizenship & Taxation <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation <input type="checkbox"/> Labor, Judiciary & Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> Education and Health <input type="checkbox"/> Grange Law <input type="checkbox"/> Grange Growth

<p>Participation Waiver: By agreeing to participate in the John Trimble Legislative Experience I will be able to attend the National Grange Convention for the entire week and will be able to cover any costs associated with attending the convention. I understand that if I am unable to comply with rules set forth by the National Grange Youth Director and Legislative Director, I will be held liable to repay any expenses associated with my attendance. By signing below, I also give my permission to be photographed and appear in any publications produced by the National Grange.</p> <p>Printed Name: _____</p> <p>Signature: _____</p> <p>Date: _____</p> <p>If under the age of 18 Parent Consent:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>(Printed Name)</p> <p>_____</p> <p>(Signature)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">SUBORDINATE OR STATE GRANGE CERTIFICATION</p> <p>This will certify that the above-named person is an active member in good standing of our Grange and is eligible to participate in this program, and that the information contained in this report is correct to the best of your knowledge:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SUBORDINATE OR STATE PRESIDENT OR YOUTH DIRECTOR</p> <p>Printed Name: _____</p> <p>Signature: _____</p> <p>Date: _____</p>
---	--

National Grange Youth Officer Team

Application Deadline: September 1

Applicants will be informed by September 15 if they are selected as a member of the Youth Officer Team.

The National Grange Youth Officer Team is a group of youth and young adults (ages 14-30) from across the nation that have the opportunity to represent not only their State Grange but also the National Grange, as a National Youth Officer representative for the National Grange Convention.

The purpose of the Youth Officer Team (YOT) is to allow youth and young adults of our organization the opportunity to learn from the Officers of the National Grange and to gain an inside perspective of the duties those officers hold. This is an opportunity for the YOT to meet with leaders from each of the Grange States and learn what it means to be in such a leadership position. The YOT will have the opportunity to step up and represent youth across the country by participating in the opening of the Grange on the declared 'Youth & Junior' day of our National Convention. They will partake in an opening drill, opening ceremonies, introduction of special guests, quick orders of business, and closing drills. This is a great opportunity for the youth officers to shine and take center stage as a representative of all youth and the future of our organization.

The Youth Officer Team will be responsible for attending all youth related activities at the National Grange Convention from Wednesday to Saturday. This will include workshops, rehearsals for opening, meet and greet with National Officers, Youth Tour and Celebration Banquet, as well as anything else that may be asked of you.

Each officer must attend the youth tour and celebration banquet. Youth Officers are responsible for funding their own transportation, rooming, as well as any costs associated with attending the National Convention. A small stipend may be awarded to youth officers who show exemplary participation.

Officer Duties:

- President, Vice President, Steward, Assistant Steward, Lady Assistant Steward, Gate Keeper, and Chaplain will all have speaking parts that must be memorized.
- The lecturer will need to choose the opening song.
- Chaplain will be required to attend the GROW Club banquet to give the blessing.
- The secretary will need to be prepared to call the roll of Youth Officers-and will be responsible for taking minutes during the youth opening, if necessary, business arises.
- Ceres, Assistant Steward, and Lady Assistant Steward will need to know how to present the flag properly according to the Official Flag presentation Ceremony offered by the National Grange.
- Assistant Steward and Lady Assistant Steward will be responsible for creating an opening and retiring drill. Opening drill is limited to 6 minutes and retiring drill is limited to 3 minutes.
- Musician applicants must submit a musical demonstration tape/video or recommendation letter about their musical abilities.
- There are 18 offices to be filled: President, Vice President, Lecturer, Steward, Assistant Steward, Lady Assistant Steward, Chaplain, Treasurer, Secretary, Gatekeeper, Ceres, Pomona, Flora, four executive committee members, and Musician.
- Officer members may not serve more than one term in the same office. (Executive Committee member 1- 4 will serve as the same office)
- Officer members may not serve more than one term in the same office. (Executive Committee member 1- 4 will serve as the same office)

Submit the following by September 1.

- Application
- Letter of Recommendation from State President or State Youth Director
- Ambassador Resume – two-page maximum document to include:
 - Grange involvement with current and past leadership positions, awards, and events
 - Non-Grange related community involvement and extracurricular activities with leadership positions, and awards
- A 4x6 headshot photo

National Grange Youth Officer Team

Name:	Age and Gender:
Grange Name:	Grange Number:
Address:	Phone:
Email:	Date Joined Grange:
How has the Grange impacted you? (4-5 sentences)	Officer Choice: 1st _____ 2nd _____ 3rd _____

<p>Disclaimer: I hereby apply to be considered for the National Grange Youth Officer Team. I understand that as a member of the team, I will be expected to attend all youth activities/workshops outlined in my orientation guide that I will receive at the beginning of convention. I will be expected to be on my best behavior as a representative of my State Grange, my family, and as a member of the and representative of the National Grange Youth team. I understand that I will be attending this event at my own cost and am responsible for any fees and expenses incurred. By signing below, I also give my permission to be photographed and appear in any publications produced by the National Grange.</p> <p>Printed Name: _____</p> <p>Signature: _____</p> <p>Date: _____</p> <p>If under the age of 18 Parent Consent:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>(Printed Name)</p> <p>_____</p> <p>(Signature)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">SUBORDINATE OR STATE GRANGE CERTIFICATION</p> <p>This will certify that the above-named person is an active member in good standing of our Grange and is eligible to participate in this program, and that the information contained in this report is correct to the best of your knowledge:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SUBORDINATE OR STATE PRESIDENT OR YOUTH DIRECTOR</p> <p>Printed Name: _____</p> <p>Signature: _____</p> <p>Date: _____</p>
--	--

Youth & Young Adult Ambassador Program

Application Deadline: September 1

The purpose of the Ambassador program is to provide the opportunity for Youth and Young Adults to become a representative of their state Grange and a mentor to their peers across the country.

State Ambassadors will have the opportunity to attend the National Grange Convention as a representative of their state. During the Convention they will have the opportunity to build onto their leadership skills, broaden their view of the Grange from a National perspective, receive educational training to be utilized in their own states, and build relationships with Grangers across the nation.

Each State Ambassador will have the opportunity, if they choose, to run for the National Grange Ambassador team. This team will be composed of leaders from the Youth and Junior Grange departments. The individual(s) selected for the National Ambassador team will have the opportunity to be the voice and face of the National Grange youth department for a one-year term. It is at the discretion of the National Grange Directors/President and Interview board how many members are selected to become a member of this team.

Each state may send up to four (4) representatives from their state that meet the following criteria:

- Youth Ambassadors must be between the ages of 16 and 20 and cannot turn 21 before the end of the National Session that they intend to represent their state. If under the age of 18 they must have their parents' consent to participate.
- Young Adult Ambassador must be between the ages of 21-35 (2024 ONLY). Starting in 2025, the age requirement will be 21-30 years of age, and will not turn 31 before the end of the National Session that they intend to represent their state.
- Ambassadors must have been a Grange member in good standing for a minimum of one year at the time they attend the National Grange Convention.
- Ambassadors may only run for the National Grange Ambassador Team one time as a youth participant and one time as a young adult participant.
- Participants will be required to attend the National Grange Convention beginning Wednesday evening -Saturday evening.
- All Ambassador participants who have yet to be inducted into the G.R.O.W. Club will be invited to become a member of this elite alumni association of the Grange Youth Department.
- A small stipend may be awarded to each candidate based on their participation

Submit the following by September 1.

- Application
- Letter of Recommendation from State President or State Youth Director
- Ambassador Resume – two-page maximum document to include:
 - Grange involvement with current and past leadership positions, awards, and events
 - Non-Grange related community involvement and extracurricular activities with leadership positions, and awards
- A 4x6 headshot photo

National Grange Youth Ambassador Application

Name:	Age & Gender:
Grange Name:	Grange Number:
Address:	Phone:
Email:	Date Joined Grange:
How has the Grange impacted you? (4 – 5 sentences)	Are you interested in being a member of the National Youth Mentor Team: Yes: _____ No: _____

Participation Waiver: By agreeing to participate in the Ambassador program, I will be able to attend the National Grange Convention Wednesday – Saturday and will be able to cover any costs associated with attending the convention. I understand that if I am unable to comply with rules set forth by the National Grange Youth Team, I will be held liable to repay any expenses associated with my attendance. By signing below, I also give my permission to be photographed and appear in any publication produced by the National Grange.

Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

If under the age of 18 Parent Consent:

(Printed Name)

(Signature)

SUBORDINATE OR STATE GRANGE CERTIFICATION

This will certify that the above-named person is an active member in good standing of our Grange and is eligible to participate in this program, and that the information contained in this report is correct to the best of your knowledge:

SUBORDINATE OR STATE PRESIDENT OR YOUTH DIRECTOR

Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

G.R.O.W. Club: “Go Right On Working”

The G.R.O.W. Club is an elite club that is made up of Grange members who have participated in the National Grange Prince, Princess, Young Couple, Young Patron, Ambassador, or Horizon Leadership programs or have served as Youth team members or as a National Grange Youth Director.

- A. All G.R.O.W. Club members uphold the theme of the Club by assisting in developing and promoting local, state, and national youth programs.
- B. All G.R.O.W. Club members are encouraged to wear their G.R.O.W. Club pin.
- C. An annual reunion/meeting will be held at the National Convention with the possibility of introducing the newest members of the Club.
- D. G.R.O.W. Club members are expected to encourage their local Grangers, Grangers, Pomona Granges, and State Granges to support the Foundation Leadership Fund.
- E. An address and email address database will be continually updated with current members' information.
- F. G.R.O.W. Club members have benefited from the Youth Leadership Fund; therefore, they realize the value of the Fund. G.R.O.W. Club members will act as a 'Booster Club' for the Youth Leadership Fund. G.R.O.W. Club members are encouraged to submit fundraising ideas. G.R.O.W. Club members may be utilized in fundraising efforts.
- G. G.R.O.W. Club members will elect a board, which will consist of six elected members and two ex-officio members. One (1) representative from each of the following regions shall be elected by a majority vote at the annual meeting: Mid-Atlantic, Great Plains, Midwest, Northeast, Southeast, and Western. A rotating board has been established, therefore allowing each member to serve for three years. The board shall elect their own officers. The National Grange President and the National Youth Development Team Chair will serve as ex-officio members.
- H. G.R.O.W. Club board will be instrumental in planning the yearly activities for the G.R.O.W. Club.

Find the current G.R.O.W. Club representatives under the G.R.O.W. Club tab on the National Grange Youth Website.

National G.R.O.W. Club Travel Scholarship

Application deadline: October 20th

The G.R.O.W. Club has established a scholarship to assist the National Youth/Young Adult Ambassadors and National Youth Officer Team participants cover some of their costs to attend the national session. Applications are due October 20th. Winners will be announced at the National Session during the G.R.O.W. Club reception. Applications are available online.

National G.R.O.W. Washington, DC Experience Travel Scholarship

Application Deadline: TBA

The G.R.O.W. Club has established a scholarship to assist the Grange Youth and Young Adults to attend the Washington, DC Experience. Applications will be online at a later date.

National Grange Youth T-Shirt Design Contest

The National Grange Youth Team is offering a Youth T-shirt Design Contest in which the winning shirt will be used as a fundraiser for the Grange Foundation across the nation. Any Grange member may submit a design to be placed on the t-shirt that will be worn by Grangers across the United States. All submissions will be uploaded to the National Grange/Grange Youth social media accounts for a 10-day online voting competition.

1. Designs must be no more than two (2) colors.
2. Designs must be original artwork created by the applicant and non-copyrighted work.
3. Designs must be submitted as a .PNG or .JPEG image via email to the National Grange Youth Team – nationalgrangeyouth2@gmail.com no later than September 1st.
4. Voting will take place in September at the close of submissions and will be open for ten (10) days. The winning design will be announced the date after voting closes.

ALL entries must be submitted with a waiver of release:

Waiver of Release

Name: _____

Grange Name and Number: _____

State: _____ T-shirt Size: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

I, the above-named participant, have voluntarily registered to participate in the National Grange Youth T-Shirt Design Contest. I do hereby give the National Grange Youth Department, an entity of the National Grange, the right to use the original artwork that I have submitted to the National Grange Youth T-shirt Design Contest. By signing below, I grant the right to the National Grange Youth Department to publish, display, or otherwise make the design available for viewing. These rights will not expire but will exist for as long as the company continues to use the design. Additionally, by signing this release, I acknowledge that I have read the contest guidelines, and that my submission includes original, non-copyrighted work.

Applicant Signature: _____

Date: _____

Wib & June Justi Youth Community Service Award

In partnership with the National Grange Community Service Department Community Service is and continues to be an integral part of the Grange that allows local members to interact and serve the communities where they reside. The National Grange Youth Department and the National Grange Community Service Department have partnered together to create the National Grange Wib and June Justi Youth Community Service Award. Wib Justi served as the very first National Grange Director of youth activities. He served in that role along with his wife June for 18 years. Through their service to the young members of our organizations they found their life's calling. The Justi's were known for always utilizing the saying "I'd Be Delighted" This phrase has carried on through generations of the Grange and continues to this day. When a member is called upon to participate in a Grange activity or help with something many times you will hear them say "I'd Be Delighted." Through the work that Wib & June Justi provided to the Grange and youth across the globe we couldn't think of a bigger honor than recognizing Grange youth and young adults in their name for their continued service to their Grange and communities. This award will be given to the youth that exemplify the life of the Justi's and their 'I'd Be Delighted' attitude. Subordinate and Pomona Granges may make a recommendation to their State Committees. Also State Presidents, State Youth Committees and/or State Community Service Committees can nominate a Grange Youth/Young Adult between the ages of 14 and 25, or a group of Grange Youth for this award. All recommendations will be reviewed by a panel of judges and one individual or group will be selected to receive the Wib and June Justi Community Service Award. All applicants will be recognized for their efforts and receive a certificate of appreciation, while the award recipient will also have their name placed upon a plaque housed at the National Grange Headquarters as well as a personal award of appreciation.

Nominations must be received by September 1.

Wib & June Justi Youth Community Service Nomination Form

Submissions Deadline: September 1

Nominee(s) Name:	Nominee(s) State: Nominee(s) Grange Name & Number:
Nominee(s) Phone Number:	Nominee(s) Email:
Name of Grange Submitting Nomination:	Chairperson's Name:
Chairperson Phone Number:	Chairperson's Email

Please explain how this young Granger embodies the "I'd Be Delighted" attitude of the Justi's:

Describe a specific project that this individual has taken part in and tell who benefitted from the project?
Was this a new or ongoing project?

What kind of impact or results has the Grange and/or community seen as a result of this individual's service?

Feel free to add additional details about this individual's serving nature.

Feel free to use additional pages if necessary.

Junior Mentor Award

In conjunction with the National Junior Grange Department

Grange youth and young adults can have a powerful impact on the Grange experience with our youngest members. These youth invest into our Junior Grangers at multiple levels – at the community, Pomona, and state levels. This award is designed to recognize the Grange youth and young adults that go above and beyond to guide and mentor Junior Grangers.

State Masters, State Youth Committees, and/or State Junior Grange Committees can nominate a Grange youth/young adult, between the ages of 14 and 25. Application deadline is September 1st.

State winners will receive a certificate and be recognized at National Session. The Junior and Youth Departments will organize a committee to select one overall winner. The overall winner will receive a plaque in recognition of their achievements.

If you have questions, contact the National Grange Youth Team at nationalgrangeyouth2@gmail.com

Please email the applications to the above email address no later than September 1st.

Junior Mentor Award Nomination Form

Due September 1st

Nominee(s) Name: _____

Nominee(s) State and Subordinate Grange: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Please tell us why this person should be selected:

How has this youth/young adult impacted the lives of Junior Grangers?

Please list some specific tasks, projects or initiatives that this youth has led to inspire Juniors.

Feel free to use additional pages if necessary.

Name of Grange submitting nominee: _____

Chairperson's Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

STATE GRANGE DISTINGUISHED YOUTH PROGRAM

State Granges may qualify for this award by completing enough of the following requirements to earn 100 points. Requirements must be met during the qualifying period of July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024. Please submit by **September 1, 2024**, to nationalgrangeyouth2@gmail.com.

SUBMITTER INFORMATION:

State Grange Name: _____

Name of Submitter: _____

Current Grange Position Held: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

REQUIREMENTS:

Organize a state youth committee or youth team. (If your Grange had a youth committee organized prior to July 1 of the previous year please indicate when it was organized). (5 pts)

Committee Chair: _____ Date Organized _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Host a state committee organizational meeting or at least 2 committee meetings if your committee was previously organized. (5 pts.)

Meeting Date 1: _____ Meeting Date 2: _____

Have a state youth event, such as camp, lock-in, retreat, etc. (10 pts.)

Event Type: _____ Date: _____

Organize a youth activity at State Session. (5 pts.)

Event Type: _____ # of Participants: _____

Host state youth Speech, Sign-A-Song, and/or Grange Trivia contests. (20 pts.)_

of Speech Participants: _____ # of Sign-a-Song Participants: _____

of Trivia Participants: _____

Participate in an Advocacy / Legislative program as a State Grange. (Examples: host a trip for youth to visit your state Capitol; visit with legislator(s); sponsor a youth to attend the Washington DC Experience; work with youth to present a legislative program at the state level; teach youth to write resolutions; or other activities.) (20 pts.)

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:

Host a contest to select State Youth Ambassador(s) and / or Young Adult Patron(s). (10 pts.)

Youth Ambassador Name(s): _____

Young Adult Patron Name(s): _____

Have Youth Officer Team to open or close State Session. (5 pts.)

State President Initials: _____

Submit an article or column to your State Grange newsletter. (5 pts.)

Title and Date Published: _____

Create social media accounts and post regularly to promote youth activities in your state, as well as follow the National Grange and National Grange Youth Program. List account names below. (10 pts.)

Instagram: _____ FaceBook: _____

Other Accounts: _____

Submit an application nominating a youth or young adult for the Wib & June Justi Community Service Award or the National Grange Junior Mentor Award. (5 pts)

Community Service Award Nominee Name: _____

Junior Mentor Award Nominee Name: _____

Organize a youth community service project. (15 pts)

DESCRIBE.

Organize a youth membership drive or a recruitment activity / program, or have at least five youth from your state participate in a membership seminar. (20 pts)

DETAILS.

Work with your Lecturer or other state committee to have a new youth-oriented program or competition. (Have committee chair or Lecturer certify with signature.) (20 pts)
DETAILS.

Lecturer or Other Committee Chair Signature: _____

Donate at least \$200 from your State Grange to the National Grange Foundation Youth Fund. (This donation will also count for your State Grange Distinguished Grange application.) (15 pts.)

Donation Date: _____ Amount: \$ _____

TOTAL POINTS OVERALL _____

CERTIFICATION:

I certify to the best of my knowledge that the above information is correct.

Signature of Submitter: _____ Date: _____

Signature of State President: _____ Date: _____

National Public Speaking Competition

Notification of participation due November 1

States will be responsible for hosting a public speaking competition. Each state is to declare one best of show winner for their state contests. State winners will then qualify to participate in the National Grange Public Speaking Contest which will be held during the National Grange Convention.

Age Categories:

Youth: 14-20

Young Adult: 21-25

Alumni: 26+

There will only be one category for public speaking and that will be a prepared speech category. State are encouraged to host an impromptu speech contest as a way to encourage the development of public speaking skills within their state. Only Prepared Speech winners will be allowed to move on to the National competition. 1st – 3rd place winners will receive a cash prize.

Prepared Speech:

Topic: Open category – contestants may choose to present a prepared speech over any topic of their choosing.

Time: Speeches must meet the minimum requirement of 3 minutes and a maximum of 5 minutes.

Presentation: The contestant may use a slide show presentation with their speech. However, if the contestant plans to use this presentation at the National Competition, they must share the presentation in advance (By Nov 1) to present at the National Convention.

Outline: A paper outline must be provided for the judges. Please prepare at least 3 copies.

Question: The contestant will be asked an impromptu question at the conclusion of their speech. This question will relate to the speech topic. The contestant will have one minute to answer.

Rules:

- The contestant must be the Best of Show winner from their state contest.
- In order to qualify for the National Contest, the contestant must notify the National Youth Team no later than November 1 of the year in which they are competing.
- The contestant must be a Grange member in good standing.
- Speeches must meet time requirements: minimum 3 minutes and maximum of 5 minutes.
- Outlines must be given to the National Youth Team, prior to presentation. 3 copies.
- Contestants will be judged on:
 - Text – Content, Composition, and Topic
 - Delivery – Voice, Command of Audience, Stage Presence, Expression, Mannerisms & Gestures
 - Impromptu Answer – Response
 - Other – Time limit, Speech Outline

National Sign-A-Song Competition

Notification of participation due November 1

States will be responsible for hosting a sign-a-song competition. Each state is to declare one best of show winner for their state contests. State winners will then qualify to participate in the National Grange Sign-A-Song Contest which will be held during the National Grange Convention. 1st – 3rd place winners will receive a cash prize.

Categories:

Novice – one who is beginning to learn sign, has had no more than three sign language classes, and has entered the sign-a-song contest no more than two times.

Hobbyist – one who signs on an occasional basis and strictly for fun. One who has entered the sign-a-song contest more than two times.

Group – Two or more people signing the song.

Rules:

1. The contestant must be the best of show winner from their state.
2. Contestant must provide music to the National Youth Team by November 1 along with their notification of entry.
3. Day of competition contestant must provide 3 copies of their lyrics for the judges.
4. Signers will be judged on:
 - a. Communication Skills – Utilization of total communication skills, sign language ability, sign clarity.
 - b. Expression – Body expression/display of emotion, expression of key thoughts through body movement, mouthing words for lip reading.
 - c. Overall Presentation – Dressed appropriately, Confidence, Timing/Uniformity
5. Props and Costumes are permitted.
6. Contestants must sign their own name and song title before beginning.
7. The contestant must inform the audience and judge what type of sign language they will be using (Pidgin, ASL, ESL, etc.)
8. Anyone who is a professional instructor or receives money for signing may not enter and will be deemed ineligible for the National Contest – they are encouraged to participate in the state level as a demonstration only.

BACKGROUND CHECKS



The National Grange and National Junior Grange and Youth Departments encourage you to follow the National Grange Child Protection Policy and obtain a background check through the company “Safe Gatherings” www.safegatherings.com as an alternative for having to obtain and find your own background check company. It is highly encouraged to have every person in our organization that is working in a supervisory position with our Juniors and Youth under 18 years of age to undergo this background check through Safe Gatherings as it is a National Background Check program that covers many levels of security checks as well as providing a training on working with vulnerable youth and adults.

The benefits of utilizing Safe Gatherings for the Grange is:

- A No Hassle System: State Masters, Directors, and Leaders now have the pressure taken off of them to make sure these critical steps are taken appropriately in accordance of their state laws.
- Everything is handled from the National Grange office and your information is kept 100% safe and secure through the Safe Gatherings Network. (No personal information is held with the National Grange)
- Safe Gatherings provides 4 levels of background checks: Local, State, National, and Sex Offender.
- Safe Gatherings provides Professional Reference Checks.
- Safe Gatherings provides training for abuse prevention and ideas on how to appropriately work with minors who are at their most vulnerable time in life.
- LOW COST – the breakdown cost for the 2-year clearance through Safe Gatherings is less than \$2.00 a month.

BEGIN YOUR BACKGROUND CHECK TODAY:

www.safegatherings.com

Seach “Grange” to register under our organization.

Our vision is for a world in which all children, youth, and vulnerable adults are protected and feel safe. Unfortunately, that’s not the world we live in, which is why Safe Gatherings has created a comprehensive system that screens and educates staff and volunteers – to help prevent abuse and make the world a safer place for those among us who are most vulnerable.



For more information: Please contact the National Youth Team at nationalgrangeyouth2@gmail.com

National Grange Child Protection Policy

The National Grange is committed to providing an environment that is safe for Juniors and Youth during National Grange activities. This policy is designed to protect our young people, instill confidence in those entrusting us with their children, and protect adult volunteers and staff from allegations that may be unwarranted.

Any individual 18 and above, in a leadership position working directly with Juniors and Youth under 18, must obtain a clean and clear **national background check** through a company approved by the National Grange Executive Committee. It is highly recommended that the online service Safegatherings.com be used. All reports are kept confidential by Safe Gatherings and are not in possession of the National Grange., and are valid for two years.

Any individual age 18 and above, in a leadership position working directly with Juniors and Youth under 18 must obtain a clean and clear background check before their participation in any National Grange sponsored event. These events include but are not limited to: National Grange Session, Regional Conferences, Camps (i.e. Revival), and any other National Grange sponsored events.

The costs to obtain these background checks will be borne by the individual unless they are National Grange Staff, Directors, or members of the National Grange Youth Team, when the cost will be paid from their National Grange budget.

If an individual fails the background check, they will not be permitted to work with Junior Grangers and/or Youth age Grange members.

Guidelines

Two deep leadership – there should always be at least two leaders age 21 or older at all Junior or Youth functions

No one-on-one contact – One on one contact between adults and Juniors and Youth under 18 is not permitted. If the necessity for one-on-one interactions between adults and children arises, the interaction should occur in an unenclosed area and with the knowledge of another adult.

Adopted August 20, 2019



*American Values.
Hometown Roots.*