

National Grange Contest Guide



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2023 edition

2023

National Grange Contest Guide

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National Grange Mission Statement

The Grange strengthens individuals, families and communities through grassroots action, service, education, advocacy and agriculture awareness.

2022 & 2023

National Grange Theme



**RAISED
RIGHT
HERE™**

2023

NATIONAL JUNIOR
GRANGE

Program Guide



www.nationaljuniorgrange.org



1ST EDITION June 2022

This version of the Junior Grange Program Guide replaces all prior versions and will go into effect beginning November 2022.

For any additional updates or for more information

visit the National Junior Grange Website at www.nationaljuniorgrange.org

Questions or comments should be directed to:

Samantha Wilkins - National Junior Grange Director

Junior@nationalgrange.org

Or to

National Grange

1616 H St. NW Washington DC 20006

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2023 Junior Grange Program Book Information

Welcome Junior Grange Enthusiasts,

When I started with the National Junior Grange department in 2016, I had no clue how many amazing people I would meet on this journey. I have learned so much from so many of you throughout the last few years. Together leaders from across the country have helped establish a program that is sure to excite Junior Grange members, engage Junior Grange members, and ignite a passion in them for years to come. Together we have created what I believe to be a fun and educational program that has the potential to develop strong leaders across the nation.

We have had the opportunity to listen to State Directors, Leaders, Junior Grange Alumni, and Junior Grangers themselves to develop and incorporate new ideas to the program. In order to continue creating a successful program we are always looking for and appreciate your feedback.

I know with the pandemic many of us had to take a step back and reevaluate a lot of the ways in which we do things and incorporate new ways of thinking. But it has been exciting to hear that Grange Halls are beginning to buzz again with little voices and activities.

Junior Grangers have always been such a delight, some of the things I have seen in the last few years is their willingness to learn and really make a difference within their community. So, after much careful consideration and input from many we have made a few changes to the program that I hope you all will enjoy.

This year we have broken everything down into a quarterly program. Of course, you are welcome to implement these things at anytime during the year, however, we hope that this layout will help our Junior leaders be able to incorporate more of the National Junior Grange programming into their regular state and local programming. With this new layout we will learn about some of the most important aspects of being a good Granger. Starting out with a different focus each quarter we will spend our year focusing on advocacy, agriculture, deaf awareness, and community service.

This year as we continue to focus on the National Grange theme RAISED RIGHT HERE, I can only think about how that truly affects us here beginning with the Junior Grange. When I was 5 years old and was finally old enough to join the Junior Grange I couldn't help but look up to the other members who stood near me when I took the Junior Degree and I strongly remember the words of the Chaplain as they said "Youth is the springtime of life; and habits formed in youth, like seed sown in the spring, will bear fruit, for good or ill, through all the years of life.' To me this was the foundation that was laid for the rest of my Grange journey. Our young members, starting with our Junior Grangers, are the youth in springtime, ready for planting, ready for us to raise them right here, in the Grange. I am excited to be a part of that journey with you and your Juniors and I encourage you to look deeper into the National Junior Program, see how you can include it as part of your own in your Grange Hall. Open your doors to new families, encourage the sounds of children's laughter or the pitter patter of their feet to flow throughout your Grange Halls. Begin investing the time to secure our future, for without those children, the willingness to seat new families, and a foundation being laid our next generation, will the children of the future be able to tell the story of how the Grange helped in Raising them Right Here.

Fraternally yours,

Samantha Wilkins

National Junior Grange Development Director

EVENTS IN 2023

National Convention

Niagara Falls New York

November 14-18, 2023

The Conference & Event Center

Niagara Falls

101 Old Falls Street

Niagara Falls, NY 14303

Regional Conferences

(All dates are tentative, check www.nationalgrange.org for updated information)

Great Plains Regional Conference- June 9-11, Nebraska

Eastern Regional Conference- June 16-18, TBD

Midwest Regional Conference- June 23-25, Wisconsin

Northeast Regional Conference- TBD, Massachusetts

Western Regional Conference- August 4-6, California

JUNIOR GRANGE PROGRAM - AGE REQUIREMENTS

Junior Grangers ages 5-14 are welcome to participate in all programs within the Junior Grange Program.

*With exceptions to participating in the Ambassador Program. However, they are still welcome to work on achieving those goals before they reach the appropriate age.

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/applications entries will be due **September 1**.

Advocacy for All Ages

Quarter 1 Focus Point January-March

In this section you will find information on the 'Local Advocacy Project', Public Speaking Contest, Washington DC Experience, and the Grassroots Activism Scholarship by Potomac Grange #1

Local Advocacy Project:

Do you have an issue that affects your community? What is it? How can you make a difference and create change within your community? With this project we are encouraging Junior Grangers to identify issues within their community and research the issue and be an advocate for change. Within this process the Junior Granger should learn the legislative process of the Grange and the community in which they are working with for a change. (i.e., local government, school board, HOA, etc.)

Junior Leaders are to help the Junior Granger Identify the following:

- **Community**
 - Identify what community type you are interested in helping
 - This can be within your Grange, town, school, subdivision, etc.
- **Issue**
 - Identify what do you want to be advocating for?
 - Is this a Grange, school, local, state, or national issue?
- **Reason**
 - Once you have identified the issue determine why this issue is relevant and why you should be advocating for a change.
- **Plan**
 - Come up with a solution to work on solving the issue. Is that writing a resolution for your local Grange, speaking to the school board or local government officials?
- **Presentation**
 - Schedule a meeting with the correct officials and present your plan for change and advocate for why you think these changes are important.

Example:

Community- School

Issue- Homework is given three nights a week and you believe it should only be given once a week and due at the end of the week.

Reason- You believe homework should only be given once a week because kids are busy in the evenings, and it would give them an entire week to work on the assignment.

Plan: You want to speak to the school board to make the entire school follow the same homework guidelines.

Presentation: You went to speak with the school board about the issues and presented your plan of action and encouraged the school board to vote for a change in the homework policy.

Junior Grange leaders are encouraged to post on social media and send their advocacy projects to the National Junior Grange Department. They are also encouraged to celebrate victories and defeats that the Juniors may have during this process. Advocating for something doesn't always mean you will win, but it does mean that you are learning to work with others and help find a solution to a problem. We as Grangers have a long and very strong history in advocating. Training our Juniors at a young age to advocate is substantial to obstacles they will face all throughout life.

NATIONAL JUNIOR GRANGE PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST

The National Junior Grange Public Speaking Contest will be held during the National Grange Convention held every November. This contest will be open to all State and Regional Junior Grange Public Speaking winners and will be judged during the contest time at National Session. Winners will be announced during the Grange Night of Honors and the Best of Show winner will present their speeches that evening.

Requirements:

-**Age:** 5- 14 years of age

- **Participants** must have achieved First Place in their State Junior Competition, or Best of Show at their Regional Competition. One participant in each category (Short Story/ Prepared) may represent their state at National Convention and the Best of Show winner may represent from their region.

Name, age, speech title, category and State name must be turned in by November 1st to the National Junior Grange Director at juniors@nationalgrange.org.

Categories

Impromptu-(only at Regional Conferences) The contestant will draw 2 topics from a mystery bag and select one of those topics to give their speech on. The contestant must meet a minimum of 1 minute with no more than 3 minutes for their speech.

Short Story- The contestant may present a published short story or poem of their choosing. The contestant must meet a minimum of 1 minute with no more than 3 minutes for their story.

Prepared- Deliver a prepared speech written by the contestant. The contestant must meet a minimum of 3 minutes with a maximum of 5 minutes for their prepared speech. This speech must be on one of the following topics: How I can be a difference in my community, what makes a good leader, or Why the Junior Grange is important to me.

Judging Criteria: The contestant will be judged in the following areas:

Text: Content: Information gathered and included in speech. Composition: the speech was compiled in a manner that was easy to understand. Topic: Topic was clearly researched, and personal connection was made.

Delivery: Voice: spoke clearly and was easy to understand. Command of Audience: speaker can engage and captivate the audience with the message of the speech. Stage Presence: speaker is dressed neatly and appropriately, poised, and reduced nervousness. Expression: speech delivered with enthusiasm and emotion. Mannerisms and Gestures: Does not have any distracting mannerisms or gestures that are not purposeful and effective.

Impromptu Question and Answer: Response thought out and delivered without much hesitation.

Time: 1 point deducted for every 30 seconds under/over the time limit.

Outline: A copy of speech or the outline was presented to the judges.

National Competition Winners:

1st-3rd place winners in each age category will receive cash prizes. A Best of Show winner will also be announced and given the opportunity to present their speech at the Grange Night of Honors.

Note no funding will be provided to attend the National Grange Session



WASHINGTON DC EXPERIENCE

Washington DC Experience: March 2023

Your National Youth, National Junior 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 develop relationships with representatives and departments from around the country.

Registrations Due by February 1

Registration available online www.nationaljuniorgrange.org.

Youth, Young Adults and Juniors are invited to join us in Washington, DC in March of 2023 for the Washington DC Experience. The purpose of the Washington DC Experience is for Junior and Youth/Young Adult aged Grangers from across the country to come together and learn about how the Grange functions on the legislative side. Youth and Juniors will be educated on the many ways in which Grangers and citizens alike can advocate on issues they feel important to shape public policy and communities in which they live.

During the Washington DC Experience, Grangers are invited to get an up-close and behind the scenes look at what government is and how it operates in Washington, DC. Junior and Youth members, along with their leaders/parents, are invited to attend the Washington DC Experience. Junior and Youth Leaders accompanying must adhere to the National Grange Child Protection Policy.

Grangers will attend briefings with important information pertaining to the Grange Legislative Department. Plans will also include meeting with governmental departments (such as Department of Agriculture and Department of Education) meeting with Congressmen and Senators from your state and a tour of DC.

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.

Make plans to join us now. Travel and lodging costs are the responsibility of the attendees with registration fee TBA to cover some meal costs and tours.

See application for the Grange Grassroots Activism Scholarship opportunity.



WASHINGTON DC EXPERIENCE cont.

The purpose of getting Junior Grangers involved in this Legislative experience is for Junior Grangers from across the country to come together to learn about how the Grange functions on the legislative side.

Junior Grangers will learn to Stand UP and SPEAK Out for the Junior Grange.

During the Washington DC Experience Junior Grangers and Youth alike are invited to come and get an up close and behind the scenes look at what Government is and how it operates in Washington DC.

Junior Grangers, their leaders, and parents are invited to attend.

WE will attend briefings with important information pertaining to the Grange Legislative departments. Plans will also include meeting with different legislative departments (such as the Department of Education, the Department of Agriculture, etc.), meeting with congressmen and senators from your state or their representatives, possibly take a tour of the capital, and visit a museum or two.

PLAN ON JOINING US TODAY!

CONTACT YOUR NATIONAL JUNIOR GRANGE DIRECTOR FOR MORE INFORMATION:

JUNIOR@NATIONALGRANGE.ORG

ONCE YOU CONTACT Samantha Wilkins a schedule of events and more information will be sent to you regarding the Washington DC Experience.

You may also contact National Grange Legislative Director, Burton Eller at BEller@nationalgrange.org

Dates for the WASHINGTON DC EXPERIENCE are set for March 2023

Tentative Schedule will include:

- Saturday: Meet and Greet at Grange HQ
- Sunday: Travel to National Grange Headquarters- Learn about the NG Legislative department and how it works in DC- Tour-
- Monday: Briefings at National Headquarters- Mock Interviews and Tour
- Tuesday: Meetings with Representatives

Grange Grassroots Activism Scholarship

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

Any Youth, Young Adult, or Junior that has applied to attend the Washington DC Experience is eligible to apply for the Grange Grassroots Activism Scholarship. The scholarship application with supplemental materials will be submitted to the National Grange Junior Director 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 form.
2. Junior Members:
 - a. Submit an Op-ed you wrote advocating on behalf of the Grange for a specific issue that is affecting your home, school, or community.
 1. Include the following in your statement
 - a. What the issue is
 - b. Use your words to give your opinion on the topic
 - c. Decide how the issue can be resolved with the Grange's help
 - d. Convince me to help you resolve the issue
3. An essay about what you want to gain by attending the Washington Experience
4. Two letters of reference; 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. 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 1

State _____ Subordinate/Junior Grange & No. _____

Applicant Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Circle One: Junior (5-13) Youth (14-21) Young Adult (22-35)

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 letters you have attached to this application.

Name: _____ Position _____

Name: _____ Position _____

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Agricultural Awareness

Quarter 2 Focus Point
April-June

In this section you will find information on the Ag Awareness Project and the Creative Writing Contest.

2023 AGRICULTURAL AWARENESS PROJECT

2023 AG Awareness Theme:

Reduce, Reuse, & Recycle

Complete the following tasks to receive your 2023 AG Awareness Award!

1. **RESEARCH:** Define each of the following words:
Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle.
2. **RESEARCH:** Visit your local library and find at least three books to help you better understand the three R's.
3. **RESEARCH:** Learn how reducing waste, reusing items, and recycling can help you, your community, and the environment around you.
4. **IDENTIFY:** 10 ways that you can increase reduce/reuse/recycle in your life.
5. **Pick at least two of the following:**
 - A. **ACTIVITY-** Create an art project using recycled items.
 - B. **BUILD-** Build a recycling station for your home or Grange Hall
 - C. **CHALLENGE-** Go 10 days or longer without creating waste
 - D. **BUILD-** Build a composting station at your home or Grange Hall
6. **SHOW WHAT YOU KNOW:** Create a poster to encourage other people to Reduce, Reuse, & Recycle.
7. **TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE:** Create an activity that can be used as a Lecturers program to test people's knowledge about what can be reduced, reused, or recycled.
8. **SHARE WHAT YOU KNOW:** Take all of the things you learned about Reduce, Reuse, & Recycle and make a plan on how you are going to inform your family, friends and community.

Submit the following information:

- A brief synopsis (no longer than 1 page) of your research
- Copy of your poster
- Pictures of your two activities
- Pictures of your efforts to bring awareness! (Talking to neighbors, at your Grange meeting, hanging flyers, etc...)

The Awareness Awards will be presented during the National Grange Convention. If you are unable to attend National Session, we will send your certificate home with your State President or another representative. Awards will be given to either Individuals or Junior Granges.

Individual Junior Submissions MUST HAVE

- Name
- Age
- Grange Name & Number
- State
- Mailing Address
- Email/ Phone Number

Junior Grange Submissions MUST HAVE:

- Junior Grange Name & Number
- Junior Leader's Name
- State
- Mailing Address
- Email/Phone Number

SUBMISSIONS FOR AWARD MUST

BE MADE BY September 1

CREATIVE WRITING CONTEST

Topic: Using the Agricultural Awareness theme of **Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle** tell us how doing those three things can make an impact in the community and world around you.

RULES:

- 1) Must be a Junior Grange Member
 - 2) Length- Each entry must be a minimum of 1 page long and a maximum of 4 pages. Double spaced, typed or handwritten.
 - 3) Each entry must be labeled on the back with an index card stating, in clear handwriting or typed, the following information
 - a. Name
 - b. Age (and birthdate)
 - c. State
 - d. Grange name and number
 - e. Mailing address
- Submissions may be sent via e-mail as PDF documents by September 1st.
 - Mailed submissions must be postmarked by September 1st of current year.

AGE: Will be broken down into 3 age categories:

Group 1: 5-7

Group 2: 8-10

Group 3: 11-14

Judging will be based on creativity, originality, and use of theme.

Awards:

Cash prizes for 1st-3rd place winners in each age category will be awarded during the National Grange Session. Winners not present will have their awards mailed to them.

Deaf/Hard of Hearing Awareness

Quarter 3 Focus Point
July-September

In this section you will find information on the Creative Art-Poster contest, Sign-A-Song Contest, and the deaf awareness service project.

CREATIVE ART POSTER CONTEST

THEME: Deaf Awareness

The National Junior Grange is working to help bring awareness about the deaf and hard of hearing community to your community by creating a poster on deaf/hard of hearing awareness.

Rules:

- 1) Must be a Junior Grange Member
- 2) Maximum Art size is 8.5 x11
- 3) May use any medium they choose (i.e., crayons, pencil, markers, paint, etc.)
- 4) Each entry must be labeled on the back with an index card stating, in clear handwriting or typed, the following information:
 - a. Name
 - b. Age (and birthdate)
 - c. State
 - d. Grange name and number
 - e. Mailing address

Submissions must be postmarked by September 1st of current year to be entered into National Competition.

AGE: Will be broken down into 3 age categories:

Group 1: 5-7

Group 2: 8-10

Group 3: 11-14

Judging will be based on creativity, originality, and use of theme.

By entering this contest, you are giving the National Grange/National Junior Grange/Grange Foundation, full rights to use your art for promotional purposes and other projects as the organization deems necessary

Awards:

Cash prizes for 1st-3rd place winners in each age category will be awarded during the National Grange Session. Winners not present will have their awards mailed to them.

NATIONAL JUNIOR GRANGE SIGN-A-SONG CONTEST

The National Junior Grange Sign-A-Song Contest will be held during the National Grange Convention every November. This contest will be open to all State and Regional Junior Grange Sign-A-Song winners and will be judged during the contest time at National Session. Winners will be announced during the Grange Night of Honors and the Best of Show winner will present their sign a song that evening.

Requirements:

- **AGE-** 5- 14 years of age
- **CATEGORIES:** Novice, Hobbyist, Group
- All National Junior Grange competition participants must have achieved First Place in their State Junior Competition, or Best of Show at their Regional Competition. One participant from each category may represent their state at National Convention and the Best of Show winner may represent from their region.
- Name, age, song title, and state must be turned in by November 1st to the National Junior Grange Director at juniors@nationalgrange.org

Judging Criteria: The contestants will be judged in the following areas:

Communication: Utilization of total communication, Sign Language Ability, Signs clearly with correct interpretation.

Expression: Body expression/Displays Emotion. Expresses Key thoughts with body movements. Mouths words for lip reading.

Overall Presentation: Dressed appropriately. Confidence. Timing/Uniformity

Signer must have a song selection that is appropriate with a clear meaning and one that is appropriate for the participants signing ability. Participant must sign their own name, the title of the song, and inform the judges and audience of the type of sign being used.

National Competition Winners:

1st-3rd place winners in each age category will receive cash prizes. A Best of Show winner will also be announced and given the opportunity to present their Sign-A-Song at the Grange Night of Honors.

Note no funding will be provided to attend the National Grange Session

Deaf Awareness Service Project

Through the deaf awareness service project your Grange/Junior Grange will have the opportunity to choose one or more of the following events to support the deaf community and serve as a committee to help bring awareness to deaf culture within your own communities.

You may work together with your Subordinate and/or Junior Grange to host one of the following events.

- Start a Sign-Language Club in your school/Grange/Community to teach children about sign-language and encourage them to learn the language.
- Host a silent dinner where the patrons are only allowed to sign and there is no talking allowed without sign during the dinner.
- Host a deaf movie night- there are several ASL films all in sign-language or other movies about deaf culture. Gather to watch these movies with only closed captioning and no sound.
- Host a deaf coffee chat at a local coffee shop, restaurant, or Grange Hall and invite the deaf to come and have a sign-language social.
- Host a fund-raiser event to raise funds for the Grange Foundation Deaf Activities fund.

Community Service

Quarter 4 Focus Point
October-December

In this section you will find information on the National Junior Grange Community Service Project, Cape of Honor, Grange in Action, and Community Service Report.

National Junior Grange Community Service Project

Teaching our children about community service is more important than ever. Community service has been a foundational piece for the Grange since its beginning. This year Junior Grangers across the country are encouraged to take part in a service project together. The basis of this project will be the same across all Junior Granges, but each Grange is encouraged to make the project unique and mold it to fit within their communities.

The goal of the 2023 Junior Grange service project is to teach kids how businesses and community organizations work. Juniors are encouraged to learn how to plan and carry out a plan of action. They are taught within service projects how to communicate with others, accomplish a task, and learn the process and rules of carrying out a service project.

2023 Junior Grange Service Project: Local Food/Supply Drive

Step 1: Identify a need within your community. Where are the supplies you collect going to go? While organizing a food/supply drive- Juniors are to figure out what the most needed items for their drive should include- this can be toiletry items, non-perishables, or more specific items such as just peanut butter

Step 2: Locate a local organization/company that you can partner with- is your local grocery store or food service facility willing to partner with you or help you in your event

Step 3: Develop a plan in order to have a successful event. This includes deciding on how you are going to advertise the event, if you need a budget for the event, and how long you want the event to run.

Step 4: Do the project- put your plan into action

Step 5: Reflect- discuss with your group the good, the bad, and how you can improve the next service project. Discuss what you have learned and identify who you may have helped in this project.

BE A SUPER JUNIOR

Cape of Honor Award

Do you have a Junior Granger who has gone above and beyond for the Grange and their community? Now it is the time to honor them in a special recognition during the National Grange Session. Junior Grangers who plan, participate, and serve their communities will have the opportunity to be honored for their hard work.

Juniors are challenged to put on their capes and get out into their communities.

CONTEST PURPOSE:

The purpose of the Cape of Honor award is to spotlight our Junior Grangers that are doing the work of true Grangers and going above and beyond our expectations. Every Junior that submits an application and meets the tier requirements will be recognized during the Night of Honors at National Session; however, the Junior Granger with the most community service hours served in a 1-year time frame will be named as the Junior Granger of the Year. **Submissions must be postmarked by September 1.**

All Applicants are required to meet the following criteria:

- 1) Must be a Junior Grange member in good standing
- 2) Must be between the ages of 5-14 at time of submission and not yet received the obligation into the Subordinate Grange.
- 3) Junior Granger is expected to keep track of community service hours August 1 of the current year through July 31 of the following year. (Example August 1, 2021- July 31, 2022)
- 4) Junior Granger must keep track of their projects throughout the year.

All Applicants must submit the following:

**The Junior Granger with the MOST community service hours will be named
JUNIOR GRANGER OF THE YEAR**

JUNIOR APPLICANTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND NATIONAL GRANGE SESSION BUT ARE NOT REQUIRED.

IF Junior is not in attendance the award will be sent with the State Junior Director or State Master.

****At this time applicants are invited to attend National Convention and all Junior activities at their own cost****

- 1) Application form (found on next page)
- 2) A letter from the Junior applicant stating "Why they have a passion to serve their communities and what their favorite service project was from the last year"
- 3) A list of service projects done throughout the year- along with how many hours each project took from start to finish.
- 4) The number of community service hours completed.
- 5) A headshot of the applicant.

TIERS FOR AWARDS:

WHITE TIER: Junior must complete between 10-100 community service hours to complete this tier

RED TIER: Junior must complete between 101-200 community service hours to complete this tier

BLUE TIER: Juniors must complete between 201-300 community service hours to complete this tier

GOLD TIER: Juniors must complete over 301 hours of community service to complete this tier

National Junior Grange CAPE OF HONOR Application

Junior Member Name	Date of Birth:	Age	Date Joined Jr. Grange
Address	City	State	Zip
Subordinate Grange	Number	State	Presidents Name
Junior Grange Name	Number	State	Type of Membership: Jr Grange Member: o 1+Member o
Junior Leader	Phone	Address	City, State, Zip
Parent/Guardian Name	Phone	Address	Email

Requirements	Requirements Met/Certified by: -Leaders Signature-	
1. Is a Junior Granger in good standing-		
2. Number of Service Hours Completed:		HOURS: _____
3. Junior has competed the following Tier: _____		Circle one: White Red Blue Gold
SUBMIT FOLLOWING ITEMS	CHECK WHEN ATTACHED	
1. Letter from Junior Granger		
2. List of Projects Completed		
3. Headshop of applicant		

<p>Parental Permission:</p> <p>I _____ certify that my child, _____, has met all of the above requirements for the Cape of Honor Award and I give permission to the National Grange to publish my Child's name and/or picture in future publications produced by the National Grange.</p> <p>X _____ Phone: _____ Date: _____</p>
--

National Grange

Junior Grange Community Service Contest

Through the National Grange Community Service Department

The intent of this collaborative program between these two departments is to bring attention to the community service projects Junior Granges are doing. We know that some Junior Granges either perform C/S projects on their own or in conjunction with their sponsor Granges. This would also be a way to enhance the 1 Plus program by drawing attention to what a single Junior is doing in their community and hopefully pique the interest of other children in that age range.

Each Junior Grange or 1 Plus member would enter a short report/booklet not to exceed **3** pages (front and back). These should include an information page about the submitting JG, which would mirror what the Subordinate Grange submits for their State Grange report book. The report would be for just a single project to make it easier for the JG's to put together the report.

REPORT TO INCLUDE:

1. Short paragraph about the project
2. Newspaper article
3. Pictures
4. Paragraph from the JG Leader about how this impacted the community and what the JG's learned.

PRIZES/AWARDS

TBD

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: NOW

Any projects completed after 10/1/2022 can be entered for this year's contest

Program Information

1. The Junior Grange leaders throughout each state should submit their reports to the state community service director or person within state that collects subordinate CS books. Judges for the CS books should also be the judges for the Junior reports.
2. Each winning report should be brought to National Grange Convention and given to National Grange Community Service Chairman, Pete Pompper no later than **Monday November 13, 2023**
3. Getting the word out. National Grange will send out information through Good Day! magazine and Patrons Chain.
4. **NG Point of Contact** will be Pete Pompper, National Grange Community Service Director.

National Grange
Junior Grange Community Service
Project Report

This page should be the cover page for your report.

Junior Grange Name: _____ State: _____

JG Leader's Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone Number _____

Name/Type of project: _____

Total # of JG members: _____ Total # JG members involved with this project _____

Important information to include in your report: report should be no more than 3 pages (front and back) not including this cover page.

Date and location of the project, number of people impacted, names of other groups who helped, number of non-Grangers who helped, no more than 4 photos, 1 or 2 newspaper articles about event, no more than 3 thank you letters.

Report must be submitted to National Community Service Director Pete Pompper at National Convention by Monday November 13, 2023

Grange In Action

The Grange In Action program is designed to encourage all Granges to be active in their communities and complete events or projects, no matter how small. Any Grange that does not complete the application for Distinguished Grange can participate in this program.

Granges who wish to be recognized at the 2023 National Convention as a “Grange In Action” should complete the following requirements:

- Submit a 1 page letter size with color pictures and brief caption of at least 3 various events/activities and no more than 6 pictures of various event/activities that the Grange either sponsored or assisted with from Sept 1, 2022 to Sept 1, 2023 - anything over 1 page will be disqualified.
- The Grange Name, number and state must be on the front of the page.
- On a separate page please include the name, address, phone and/or cell number, and email address of who submitted the Grange In Action.
- Granges that qualify for the 2023 Distinguished Grange award are not eligible for this recognition.
- Deadline to submit the 1 page to National Grange is postmark or electronic by midnight on September 25, 2023.
- Mail to National Grange, Attn. Loretta Washington – 1616H Street, NW, 11th Fl. Washington, DC 20006.
- Email to Loretta Washington @ lwashington@nationalgrange.org please put in the subject line for the email: Grange In Action 2023 report.

To be named a “State Grange in Action”, a State Grange must have at least 6 Granges recognized as “Grange In Action.”

Some of the entries will be on display at next year’s National Convention.

Those Granges that submitted a 1 page entry will receive a certificate with the National Grange President’s signature.



Other Contests and Programs

In this section you will find information on Grange Baseball, National Junior Grange Ambassador Contests, Junior Mentor Award, and the Passport program.

GRANGE BASEBALL

Grange Baseball

Individuals have the opportunity to gain knowledge about the Grange and Junior Grange, its history, and impact on rural America.

Grange Baseball gives you the opportunity to expand your knowledge of the organization in many different areas, while enhancing your critical thinking, problem solving, communications and listening skills. Questions will be gathered from: The National Grange roster, youth and Junior programs, past trivia challenges, manual, degrees, Grange history books, Digest of Laws, Journal of Proceedings, etc.

Age: 5-14 years of age by December 31 of the competing year.

- Regional Participants will be divided into two teams: Blue Agates or Golden Sheaves. State affiliations do not matter.
- Play will last for five innings or an hour and a half. In the case of a tie breaker an extra inning will be played.
- Each team will get 3 outs per inning. (An out is an incorrect answer.)
- When a player gets up to bat they will get to determine what type of base hit they want: single, double, triple, home run.
- The type of base hit will determine the difficulty of the question.
- Participants will have 15 seconds to answer a single or double question; 30 seconds to answer a triple or homerun question.
- Junior Baseball players may request help from a pinch hitter (help from the audience) no more than 3 times over the total length of the game.

- Once the teams have been decided, the teams will need to come up with a line-up. Teams cannot help the batter answer a question.

-Statistics will be kept on each individual player. The three players from each region with the best slugging percentages will represent the region at National Session. These participants will be referred to as "Silver Sluggers".

-For anyone not participating, team cheering sections are highly encouraged. Cheer gear will be provided by the National Grange Youth and Junior Departments.

-Anyone is able to participate at a regional level, only Juniors/Youth/Young Adults will be able to participate at National session.

The top 3 contestants with the highest scores in the national contest within the Junior Category will win a cash prize.

Contestant's information must be submitted no later than Nov. 1 to the National Junior Grange Director at junior@nationalgrange.org.

Name

Age

State

Junior Grange Name and Number

Mailing Address

NATIONAL JUNIOR GRANGE AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

The purpose of the National Junior Grange Ambassador program is to provide an opportunity for outstanding Junior Grangers, selected by their State Grange, to attend the National Grange Convention and build their leadership potential. They will be given the opportunity to build relationships with other Junior Grangers and Grangers across the Nation. They will receive vital training that will be instrumental in developing the Junior Grange programs within their state, as well as preparing them for their future in the Grange.

A maximum of 2 Junior Grangers per state may be chosen to represent their State at the National Convention. No more than two candidates will be chosen through a process of interviews and observations made by a council of judges. The candidate(s) that are chosen will serve as the National Junior Grange Ambassador and will be a representative of the National Junior Grange program for a one-year term.

Applicants are only permitted to apply and run for National Junior Grange Ambassador one time in their Junior Career. Applicants running for Ambassador are to attend the National Grange convention and attend meal functions and activities determined by the National Junior Grange Director, at the costs of the applicant.

All applicants are required to meet the following criteria:

1. Must be a Junior Grange member for a minimum of 3 years.
2. Must be between the ages of 11-14 years, having observed their 11th birthday, but not their 15th by December 31st of the year they attend National Session.
3. Applicants must be able to attend National Convention to represent their state during Junior Grange activity days (Thursday-Saturday) at their own costs.
4. Applicants must have a parent or guardian attend National convention with them.

Applicants must submit the following:

1. Four letters of recommendations from:
 - a. State Master/President
 - b. State Junior Director (if applicable)
 - c. Junior Leader (if applicable)
 - d. Educational Leader (i.e. teacher, Sunday school teacher etc.)
2. Headshot- a professional photograph containing only yourself
3. 1-page biography telling about yourself, your family, and your Junior Grange Achievements.
4. Attach a 1-page essay on "Why you would like to represent the National Grange as the NJGA."

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT APPLICATION: September 1

Each State Grange may send two representatives.

****At this time all Ambassadors must be able to attend National Convention and all Junior Activities at their own cost****

****If named National Junior Grange Ambassador, you may be required to attend certain activities and events at your own cost.****

National Junior Grange Ambassador Application

Member Name	Date of Birth:	Age and T-Shirt Size	Date Joined Jr. Grange
Address	City	State	Zip
Subordinate Grange	Number	State	Presidents Name
Junior Grange Name	Number	State	Type of Membership: Jr Grange Member: o 1+Member o
Junior Leader	Phone	Address	City, State, Zip
Parent/Guardian Name	Phone	Address	Email

Requirements	Requirements Met/Certified by: (leader signature)	Date completed
1. Meets membership requirement. 3 year member and between 11-14 years old.		
2. 4 Letters of Recommendation		
3. Attached Biography and headshot		
4. Attached Essay "Why would you like to represent the National Grange as NJGA?"		

Parental Permission: I certify that my child, _____, has my permission to apply for the position of National Junior Grange Ambassador. We will be able to attend National Grange Convention and will be able to cover any costs associated with attending convention. I also give my permission for my child's photograph to appear in publications for the National Grange. I also understand that if my child is selected for NJGA there may additional expenses throughout the year that may not be covered by the National Grange. X _____ Phone: _____ Date: _____
Junior Leader Certification I Certify that _____ qualifies for the National Junior Grange Ambassador Program and has met all the program requirements for participation. X _____ Phone: _____ Date: _____

Junior Mentor Award

in conjunction with the National Youth 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 35. Application deadline is September 1.

State winners will receive a certificate and be recognized at National Session during Youth Leadership Days. The Junior Grange 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 National Grange Youth Development Director at youth@nationalgrange.org or National Junior Grange Director junior@nationalgrange.org.

Please mail the applications to youth director.

Junior Mentor Award Entry Form

Due: September 1

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

Give some examples of how they have gone above and beyond to help Junior Grangers and/or a Junior Grange Department

Feel free to use additional pages if necessary

Name of Grange submitting nominee: _____

Chairperson's Name: _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

PASSPORT PROGRAM

The Junior Grange *Passport* is designed to be an exciting and innovative way for Juniors to learn more about *their world, their country, their state, their community, and their Grange.*

The PASSPORT program is an online digital format, so leaders will now have easier access to stamps that will not require a purchase, and thus save on programing costs within your state. This format will allow us to have constant changes and additions, which will grant us the ability to spotlight important issues or events throughout history. This transition will be beneficial to all Junior Grangers, Leaders, and Educators. Junior Grangers will now have an easy to handle notebook that will allow them the ability to keep track of their accomplishments and utilize them as resources for outside studies. Educators will be able to utilize the Passports as part of their curriculum, encouraging their students to learn more about the Grange and other educational entities that will be offered. Leaders will appreciate the ability to have immediate availability of the downloadable stamps, making it easier to plan and award Juniors with a stamp in their PASSPORT.

The program is broken down into five categories:

- 1. Grange Adventures**
- 2. United States**
- 3. Career Readiness**
- 4. American History**
- 5. World Discovery**

It is highly encouraged that each Junior Director promotes the use of the PASSPORT program. The completion of these stamps not only gives each Junior a sense of accomplishment, it also provides a challenging educational foundation. Through the PASSPORT program Juniors will gain knowledge about the Grange and the world around them that will last beyond the time they spend in the Junior Grange, laying the path for a strong future leader.

Be sure to check the Junior Grange website where you will be able to download the current PASSPORTS and be sure to check back often as there may be new Stamps introduced throughout the year!

PASSPORT IDEA SUBMISSIONS

Any ideas can be submitted to the National Junior Grange Director for consideration as an entry in the National Junior Grange Passport Program. Ideas can be submitted from any member of the Grange as well as outside idea resources. The entire form must be filled out to be considered for an entry in the Passport.

Please send submissions to: Samantha Wilkins, National Junior Grange Director
The National Grange
1616 H St. NW, Washington DC 20006

Please fill out the following information:

Submitter's Information:

NAME: _____ GRANGE NAME/STATE: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____ EMAIL: _____

Passport Information

Category (circle one): Grange Adventures United States Career Readiness
American History World Discovery

Name of Passport Stamp: _____

Difficulty Level: ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Target Audience: _____

Necessary Resources: (ie colors, internet, paper etc...) _____

Learning Objectives: _____

Learning Outcomes: (Upon completion, Junior Grangers will be able to.....)

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

How many steps does your entry take to complete? (please limit to no more than 12 steps) _____

List Steps on Back: (example: Step 1: Define Endangered Species)

State Director Information

In this section you will find information on Background Checks, Junior 1+ program, and State Director Reports.



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 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 break down cost for the 2-year clearance through Safe Gatherings is less than \$2.00 a month.



BEGIN YOUR BACKGROUND CHECK TODAY:

www.safegatherings.com

Search “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 National Junior Grange Director Samantha Wilkins at 210.838.7892 or junior@nationalgrange.org

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 age 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 or 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

Junior 1+ Program

1+ Program- Individual Junior Membership Class

At the 2013 Annual Session of the National Grange, in Manchester New Hampshire, the delegates adopted changes to the By-Laws allowing an individual membership class for Junior Grange age children (5 to 14) to become members of a Subordinate/Community Grange when no chartered Junior Grange exists.

Purpose of the 1+ Program

The 1+ program allows your Grange to build a Junior Grange program one member at a time. These individual members become the core group to build a chartered Junior Grange Program. Many children have not had the opportunity to participate in the Junior Grange program because of the number of children required to charter a Junior Grange.

The 1+ Program allows children (age 5-14), the opportunity to become an individual Junior Grange member within a Subordinate/Community Grange. The children do not have a vote in the Grange, but are eligible to participate in all Regional, State, and National programs, contests, and activities on an equal status with members of the chartered Junior Granges. This would also include the National Youth Fair program where it has been adopted within a State.

Sponsorship

For the 1+ Program, the Subordinate/Community Grange will:

- Appoint a Junior Grange Leader
- Provide a meeting space
- Provide financial assistance as necessary
 - Granges may dedicate specific fundraising projects for the Junior Grange Program
- Occasionally provide meeting time for the individual Junior Grange member(s) to report on their projects
- Organize a chartered Junior Grange when there are sufficient individual members to meet that requirement. The individual members shall automatically become members of the newly organized/reorganized Junior Grange. (Please refer to National Grange By-Laws, section 4.6.2 for complete details)

How to become a 1+ Program Junior Member

- An individual child, age 5-14, will complete a Junior Grange membership application and submit it to the sponsoring Grange.
- The Junior Grange applicant shall be obligated by the Master/President of the Subordinate/Community Grange. This is completed by using the Obligation Ceremony for Individual Junior Grange Membership, printed in this program book.
- Once obligated, the Subordinate/Community Grange secretary will enter the new Junior Grange member on the rolls of the Grange.
- Minimum dues for Junior Grange members are \$1.00 and are subject to change per individual State Grange policies.

Administration:

Leaders

- Qualifications
 - Subordinate/Community Grange member, in good standing

- Background clearances
 - Check with your State Grange Office for current requirements
- Leaders will need:
 - National Junior Grange Program Book
 - State Program Book(s)
 - Access to Junior Grange Passport programs
 - To be in constant communication with State Junior Leaders regarding activities and individual Junior Grange membership within the Subordinate/Community Grange

Reporting Membership Status

- The Junior Grange member is to be reported by the Subordinate/Community Grange on the provided lines within the quarterly reports and then submitted to the State Grange having jurisdiction.

Obligation Ceremony for Individual Junior Grange Membership-1+ Program

National Junior Grange 1+ Program

Adopted: September 2014

Upon submission of a Junior Grange application, and election to membership by the Subordinate/Community Grange members, the individual Grange member will be obligated to membership using the following procedure:

Subordinate Officers Participating: Master/President, Lady Assistant Steward, Assistant Steward

During the appropriate agenda item for Obligating new members, the President will say”

Master: *(from their Station)*

“Worthy Assistants, please escort our newly elected Junior Grange candidate(s) to the Altar for the Junior Grange obligation”

LAS and AS will conduct the Junior Grange candidate(s) to the Altar, asking the candidate(s) to stand in the center, facing the Altar and the Master. The assistants stand next to the candidate(s), forming a semi-circle with the candidate(s) in the center. The Master will approach and stand between the Altar and his back to the Graces stations.

Lady Assistant Steward:

“Worthy Master, it is my pleasure to introduce to you, (give names of candidates), who have been elected to the Junior Grange membership in our Grange. They are presented here to receive the Obligation and words of counsel from you.”

Master:

The Grange is a family organization, welcoming all generations in its Halls and meetings. My young friends, is it your wish to join us as members of this Grange? If so, please say ‘It is.’

Candidates:

“It is.”

Master: *(Direct these words to the parents/guardians of the Junior Grange member(s) facing where they are seated in the Hall)*

“To the parents and guardians of our Junior Grange candidates, your support and guidance is most important of all. We commend you for your foresight in allowing your children to become Grange members. We ask for your continued encouragement and assistance in their participation and growth in the Grange”

Master: *(Face the Candidates at the Altar)*

“With your election to membership in this Grange, it is my pleasure to give you the Junior Grange Pledge. The Pledge is a simple promise which you freely give to become part of the Grange Family and to live a good life. In turn, the members of this Grange promise to help and support you as you grow into future leaders in your schools and communities.”

“Please place your right hand over your heart. I will give the Pledge so that you may clearly understand it”

(Master gives the entire Pledge slowly and distinctly)

“I Promise – that I will obey – all the rules of the Order, -- and will treat – my fellow members – with respect. – I will try to follow – the good advice – of my parents and teachers – and will do my best – to avoid bad company – and harmful habits.”

Master:

“I welcome you as members of this Grange. Remember, promises are an important commitment. As part of your Grange Family, we promise to encourage you as you continue to grow and learn. We ask you to contribute to our meetings by sharing your discoveries with us. In this way we may learn from you. We want you to know about the Grange; its past, its present, and, most of all, how you can influence its future.”

“When you turn 14 years old, you will graduate from the Junior Grange Program and once again stand at this Altar, taking the next Pledge as a Subordinate Grange member. From this time until then, you have our promise to encourage you along life’s journey.”

“We extend to you a heartfelt Welcome to our Grange.”

“Worthy Assistants, please escort our new members to their seats, introduce them and return to your stations.”

The Assistants will pass by the Master, who will shake each members’ hand as they pass. After the last member has passed by, the Master will return to his Station.

The Assistants will escort the new members to their seats, introduce them, and return to their Stations.

State Directors Report

Due Date: September 1st

Mail to: National Junior Grange Director,
Samantha Wilkins
1616 H ST NW WASHINGTON DC 20006

State Junior Director:	State:
Address:	
City, State, Zip	
Phone: ()	E-Mail:
Number of Junior Grange Members (Including 1+ Members) in your state as of June 30th:	1+Members _____ Junior Members _____ Total Number of Members _____
Number of Chartered Junior Granges in your state as of June 30th:	
Number of Subordinate/Community Granges with 1+ Program in place:	
ATTACHMENTS: Please attach additional information:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. List of Junior leaders to include names, addresses, phone numbers, and e-mails. 2. PROGRAMMING: Send a copy of your current Program Book or submit an outline that is planning for the participation in any local, regional, State, or National Junior Grange Program. 4. MEMBERSHIP: Outline membership promotion efforts by the Junior Grange members and leaders. 5. Comments or suggestions for the betterment of the Junior Grange Program.



**RAISED
RIGHT
HERE™**

**2023 NATIONAL GRANGE
YOUTH/YOUNG ADULTS
HANDBOOK**

GRANGE **Gy** YOUTH



State Youth Directors, Youth, Young Adults, and Grange Youth Enthusiasts,

For the 2023 Programs, I haven't added any new programs, but have made some updates to some of them. The most major update is to the National Youth Officer Team. They will now be referred to as National Youth Officer Council. The application process has remained the same, but the responsibilities of the team have increased. Once selected they will serve for one year on the council assisting in programming ideas, fundraising ideas, and other general youth things. The hope is that this much-needed update will aid in creating programming with youth input from across the country as well as providing meaningful leadership opportunities. The Youth Officer Council will still perform an opening drill and open the Grange Friday at National Session.

The National Grange Youth Department remains committed to recognizing Youth Achievements through its Youth recognition programs- National Youth Officer Council, Horizon Leadership Program, and the John Trimble Legislative Experience. Please review the guidelines for each of these programs because there have been some minor changes made for these programs as well.

I look forward to working with all of the youth directors across the country as we go into 2023 with new programming that will help guide us into the future of our organization. Continue to strive to "Be Proud. Be Leaders. Be Grange Youth."

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Fraternally,

Mandy Bostwick
National Grange Youth Development Director

11690 Ferguson Road
Ozawkie, KS 66070
youth@nationalgrange.org

Table of Contents and Submission Deadlines

All applications are available online at: www.nationalgrangeyouth.org

Program	Page Number	Deadline (if applicable)
Grange Inter-State Youth Exchange (GISYE)	4-7	April 15 to State Youth Dir. May 1 to National Director
Washington DC Experience	8	February 1
Grange Grassroots Activism Scholarship	9-10	February 1
Wib and June Justi Community Service Award	11-12	September 1
Junior Mentor Award/Application	13-14	September 1
Youth Membership Recruitment Award	15-16	September 1
Distinguished Youth Program/Applications (State and Subordinate/Pomona)	17-23	September 1
Grange Baseball	24	
Regional Public Speaking Competition	25-26	Notification of Entry TWO WEEKS Prior to regional conference
Regional Sign-A- Song Competition	27	Notification of Entry TWO WEEKS Prior to regional conference
UPDATED Grange Ritual Contest	28-30	Notification of Entry TWO WEEKS Prior to regional conference
Parliamentary Procedure Contest	31-34	Notification of entry September 1
Grange Display Contest	35	Notification of entry by September 30th
NEW Youth Officer T-Shirt Design Contest	36	September 1
NEW G.R.A.N.G.E. Youth Pillar Project and Contest	37-39	Notification of entry by September 1
NEW G.R.A.N.G.E Pillar Project Inspiration Calendar	40	
UPDATED National Grange Youth Officer Council Guidelines and Application (formerly Youth Officer Team)	42-45	September 1
John Trimble Youth Legislative Experience Guidelines & Application	46-48	September 1

Horizon Leadership Ambassador/Young Patron Guidelines and Application	49-52	September 1
National Grange Youth Leadership Team	53	
G.R.O.W Club Travel Scholarship <i>(online application only)</i>	54	October 20
G.R.O.W. Club DCE Scholarship	54	
NJHA & Grange Youth Horticulture Identification Judging Contest	55-56	
National Grange Child Protection Policy	57	

Grange Inter-State Youth Exchange (GISYE)

Submission Deadline: April 15

AGES 16-20

The GISYE program provides the opportunity for exchange visits between youth Grange members and families in different states. The exchange, of 7 to 10 days in length, is designed to help the young Grangers to develop a better understanding of the community and Grange life of other areas. By thus building interest, enthusiasm and increased youth membership should result.

The Plan

This program is open to single Grange members (minimum of one year) in good standing who are more than 16, but less than 20, years of age on April 15, and in good physical condition.

The exchange is boys with boys, and girls with girls. One-way GISYE assignments are also possible. It is not restricted to rural families.

Applications are received by the National Grange Youth Department, which then selects the exchanges. Upon notifications of their selection, each pair of exchangees will arrange their own schedule of visits. These should be 7 to 10 days in length and preferably sometime between June 15 and September 1.

Travel arrangements are the responsibility of the exchangees and their host families. The cost is to be borne by the family involved. Each exchange will get an official "GISYE" pin.

The Exchange

Exchangees should correspond with their host families prior to making the visit. Upon arrival, they will participate in all the family activities of their host.

It is also a responsibility of a GISYE to publicize the program and make a report of their visit to the National Grange Youth Department.

The Host Family

The host family will accept the exchangee as a member of the family and, as such, provide room, board and laundry service while the exchangee is in their home. **ALL PARENTS/LEGAL GUARDIANS AND ANY PERSON OVER THE AGE OF 18 LIVING IN THE HOST FAMILY HOME MUST HAVE COMPLETED A SAFE GATHERINGS BACKGROUND CHECK. BOTH STATE AND NATIONAL GRANGE CHILD PROTECTION POLICIES MUST BE FOLLOWED.**

The Grange

The Subordinate and Pomona Granges should arrange a special program or activity in honor of the exchangees and assist in assuring the success of the exchange program.

GISYE Application Form

Name _____
(Last) (First) (Middle)

Address _____
Street Number City State Zip code

Telephone _____ Age _____ Date of Birth _____

Email Address _____

Health (circle) Good Fair Poor Physical Handicap

Member of _____ Grange No. _____

Date of Joining - _____ Degree(s) Held _____

Present offices and committees assignments held in the Grange: _____

Past offices and committee assignments _____

Membership in organizations other than Grange _____

Offices Held, honors received, projects: _____

Hobbies: _____

Education: Year in School _____ Course of Study _____

Future Plans _____

Have you participated in the exchange before (circle) Yes No

We would like to participate in the GISYE program because

Other family members living in the household: _____

Have parents/guardians completed a Safe Gatherings background check? _____

Have all other family members, over the age of 18, completed a Safe Gatherings background check? _____

Father/Legal Guardian #1 Signature

Mother/Legal Guardian #2 Signature

References:

References need to be someone outside the Grange and outside the family unit.

We are pleased to serve as character references for the members of the applying family, and have no hesitation in recommending them as hosts for a young visitor from another state for several weeks.

Reference 1

Date _____ Printed Name: _____

Signature _____

Email: _____ Telephone _____

Reference 2

Date _____ Printed Name: _____

Signature _____

Email: _____ Telephone _____

To be completed by Subordinate Grange to which applicant belongs.

Our Grange, after personal investigation by the undersigned, recommends this applicant and family for participation in the Grange Inter-State Youth Exchange Program. We Understand that we will be a host to an incoming exchangee.

Grange Name _____ Grange No. _____

President _____ Telephone _____

Email _____

Youth Chairman _____ Telephone _____

Email _____

Mail this form before April 15 to your State Grange Youth Director. It is the responsibility of the State Directors to investigate all applications and forward their comments to the National Grange Office before May 1.

To be completed by State Youth Director after receiving it from the applicant.

I, after personal investigation by the undersigned, recommend this applicant and family for participation in the Grange Inter-State Youth Exchange Program.

State Youth Director Signature _____

State Youth Director Printed Name _____

Comments:

The National Grange reserves the right to accept or reject any or all applications.

Washington DC Experience – TBA

Your National Youth, National Junior and Legislative Departments and in alignment with *Apathy Not Allowed* (Apathy Not Allowed books available from the National Grange office)

Registrations Due by February 1

Registration available online www.nationalgrangeyouth.org

Youth, Young Adults and Juniors are invited to join us for the Washington DC Experience. The purpose of the Washington DC Experience is for Junior and Youth/Young Adult aged Grangers from across the country to come together and learn about how the Grange functions on the legislative side. Youth and Juniors will be educated on the many ways in which Grangers and citizens alike can advocate on issues they feel important to shape public policy and communities in which they live.

During the Washington DC Experience, Grangers are invited to get an up-close and behind the scenes look at what government is and how it operates in Washington, DC. Junior and Youth members, along with their leaders/parents, are invited to attend the Washington DC Experience. Junior and Youth Leaders accompanying must adhere to the National Grange Child Protection Policy.

Grangers will attend briefings with important information pertaining to the Grange Legislative Department. Plans will also include meeting with governmental departments (such as Department of Agriculture and Department of Education) meeting with Congressmen and Senators from your state and a tour of DC to be included.

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.

Make plans to join us now. Travel and lodging costs are the responsibility of the attendees with a TBA registration fee to cover some meal costs and tours.

See application for the Grange Grassroots Activism Scholarship opportunity.

2023 Grange Grassroots Activism Scholarship

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

Any Youth, Young Adult, or Junior that has applied to attend the Washington DC Experience is eligible to apply for the Grange Grassroots Activism Scholarship. The scholarship application with supplemental materials will be submitted to the National Grange Youth Director/National Junior Grange Director 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.

The scholarship will be awarded following the event and contingent on receiving a travel expense form. Travel expenses are limited to hotel costs, mileage, and/or airfare, for the recipient only. An expense form will be provided to the recipient(s) at the Washington DC Experience to be filled out prior to Potomac Grange's next meeting.

Applicants must submit ALL of the following:

- 1) The completed application form.
- 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 on the date of presentation and outcome
- 3) An essay about what you want to gain by attending the Washington Experience
- 4) Two letters of reference:
 - a) One from your State President or President of your Subordinate/Community, or State 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) After the event, the scholarship recipients are to provide to Potomac Grange #1 either a written report of their experience of why it was valuable to them as a Granger and young person or they can join us the Grange at a ZOOM meeting to share their experience.

Grange Grassroots Activism Scholarship Application

Deadline: February 1

State _____ Subordinate Grange & No. _____

Applicant Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Circle One: Junior (5-13) Youth (14-21) Young Adult (22-35)

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 letters you have attached to this application

Name: _____ Position _____

Name: _____ Position _____

Wib and June Justi Youth Community Service Award

In conjunction with National Grange Community Service Dept.

Community Service is an integral part of the Grange that allows local members to interact and serve the communities where they reside. The National Grange will continue to recognize winners on the state level. The National Grange Youth Department and National Grange Community Service Department are pleased to announce the National Grange Wib and June Justi Youth Community Service Award.

State Presidents, State Youth Committees and/or State Community Service Committees can nominate a Grange youth/young adult between the ages of 14 and 35, or a group of Grange Youth for the award. The application deadline is **September 1**.

State winners will receive a certificate and be recognized at National Session during Youth Leadership Days. The Community Service 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 National Grange Youth Development Director at youth@nationalgrange.org or National Grange Community Service Director Pete Pompper at mbeachgranger@gmail.com or 609-820-6239 (c).

Please mail the applications to National Grange Youth Development Director:
Mandy Bostwick
11690 Ferguson Rd.
Ozawkie, KS 66070

Electronic applications can be found at: www.nationalgrangeyouth.org

Wib and June Justi Youth Community Service Award Application

Due: September 1

Nominee(s) Name: _____

Nominee(s) State and Subordinate Grange: _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

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

Describe the community service activity that was conducted and who benefitted from the activity. Was this a new or ongoing project?

What was the impact or results of the community service activity?

Who else was involved? Explain or describe their contribution.

Feel free to use additional pages if necessary

Name of Grange submitting nominee: _____

Chairperson's Name: _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

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 youths 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 Presidents, State Youth Committees and/or State Junior Grange Committees can nominate a Grange youth/young adult, between the ages of 14 and 35. The application deadline is September 1.

State winners will receive a certificate and be recognized at National Session during Youth Leadership Days. The Junior Grange 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 National Grange Youth Development Director at youth@nationalgrange.org or National Junior Grange Director junior@nationalgrange.org.

Please mail the applications to National Grange Youth Development Director:
Mandy Bostwick
11690 Ferguson Rd.
Ozawkie, KS 66070

Electronic applications can be found at www.nationalgrangeyouth.org

Junior Mentor Award Application

Due: September 1

Nominee(s) Name: _____

Nominee(s) State and Subordinate Grange: _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Pease 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

Give some examples of how they have gone above and beyond to help Junior Grangers and/or a Junior Grange Department

Feel free to use additional pages if necessary

Name of Grange submitting nominee: _____

Chairperson's Name: _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Youth Grange Member Recruitment Award

In conjunction with the Membership Department

Membership is a valuable part of the Grange experience and it is the responsibility of all members to grow the Grange. Youth are a part of the membership growth process.

To encourage youth and young adults to grow the Grange, the youth department in conjunction with the membership department will be recognizing youth and young adults for their recruitment efforts. The program will run from July 1 to June 30.

Members recruited can be of any age and must have never joined the Grange before. Membership application forms must be properly submitted to the state Grange. The award will be submitted by your state youth director with verification from the state President and membership director (if applicable).

Each state can select one Grange youth to be recognized by the National Grange as its State Youth Recruiter of the Year. The national award winner will receive a cash prize of \$50.

Considerations for selection should include, but not exclusively,

- Number of members recruited in a year
- Service on a Grange Growth team
- Assistance with subordinate Grange membership growth activities and/or events, fair booth, mall/library display
- Present the four steps of membership recruitment at subordinate Grange meeting.
- Participate in monthly membership matters Zoom meetings

State Youth Recruiter of the Year Awards will be presented during the Youth Days at National Session, or, at the request of the state, sent to be presented at a state session.

Please mail the applications to National Grange Youth Development Director:
Mandy Bostwick
11690 Ferguson Rd.
Ozawkie, KS 66070

Electronic applications can be found at www.nationalgrangeyouth.org

Youth Grange Member Recruitment Award Entry Form

Due: September 1

Nominee(s) Name: _____

Nominee(s) State and Subordinate Grange: _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Pease tell us why this person should be selected:

Please list specific tasks, projects, initiatives that this youth/young adult has led to increase membership

Give some examples of how they have gone above and beyond to help recruit members

Feel free to use additional pages if necessary

Name of Grange submitting nominee: _____

Chairperson's Name: _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Distinguished Youth Program & Application

DEADLINE: Postmarked by September 1 to National Youth Director

The Distinguished Youth Program, similar to the National Grange Distinguished Grange Awards Program, was established to encourage our state youth directors to get their youth/young adults to participate in all the programs available to our members as appear in this guide. Being named a Distinguished Youth Program shows your commitment to the youth of our Order, their leadership training, skill enhancement, participation in Grange activities and much more. Only through a strong Grange Youth program can we ensure the vibrant future of our organization.

The Distinguished Youth Program Awards will be presented annually at National Grange Convention and will seek to honor Youth Programs for their work from July 1 through June 30 of the program year. All Distinguished Youth Granges will receive a certificate and be recognized in the annual honors list.

Please mail the applications to National Grange Youth Development Director:
Mandy Bostwick
11690 Ferguson Rd.
Ozawkie, KS 66070

Application available at www.nationalgrange

STATE GRANGE DISTINGUISHED YOUTH PROGRAM

State Granges may qualify for the award by completing enough of the following requirements to earn 100 points.

State Grange Name: _____

Name of Submitter: _____

Current Grange Position Held: _____

Address: _____

City/County: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

- 🔗 Organize a state youth committee/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.)

Date	Date
------	------

- 🔗 Have a state youth event, such as camp, lock-in, retreat. (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 contest and Grange Trivia contests. (20 pts.)_

# of Speech Participants	# of Sign-A-Song Participants	# of Trivia Participants
--------------------------	-------------------------------	--------------------------

- 🔗 Participate in an Advocacy/Legislative based program as a State Grange (ex. of programming options: host a youth oriented Capitol Day, sponsor a youth to attend the Washington DC Experience, work with youth to present a legislative program at the State level; or some equivalent legislative-oriented youth activity or program).

DESCRIBE. (20 pts.)

🍷 Host a State Youth Ambassador contest or Young Couple/Young Adult contest. (10 pts.)

_____ Youth Ambassador(s)
_____ Young Couple/ Young Adult

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

State President's Initials: _____

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

_____ Title and Date Published

🍷 Submit article to National Grange Youth Director for consideration in youth department blog about your youth program or an event. (5 pts.)

_____ Title and Date Submitted


🍷 Have two Pillar Projects submitted to National Session (10 pts)

_____ Group/Individuals names


_____ Group/Individuals names

🍷 Organize a youth community service project. DESCRIBE. (15 pts.)

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

 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). DETAILS. (20 pts.)

Lecturer or OTHER Committee Chair's Signature

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

_____ \$ _____
Date Amount

Total Points: _____

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

Printed Name

Date

Signature of Submitter

Signature of State President

SUBORDINATE/POMONA GRANGE DISTINGUISHED YOUTH PROGRAM

Find the Application online at: www.nationalgrange.org

Subordinate and Pomona Granges may qualify for the award by completing enough of the following requirements to earn 100 points. YOUR GRANGE MUST HOLD AT LEAST TWELVE (Subordinate) OR FOUR (Pomona) LEGAL MEETINGS OR YOU WILL BE DISQUALIFIED FROM SUBMITTING FOR THE AWARD.

Grange Name: _____

Name of Submitter: _____

Current Grange Position Held: _____

Address: _____

City/County: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Organize a Subordinate or Pomona Grange Youth Committee (if your Grange had a youth committee organized prior to July 1 please indicate when it was organized). (5 pts.)

_____	_____
Committee Chair	Date Organized
_____	_____
E-mail	Phone

Hold at least two Youth Committee meetings. (5 pts.)

_____	_____
Date	Date

Host a Youth Lecturer's Program, Youth Service Event; Youth Competition or other Youth oriented program to entice young members to further their Grange experience. DETAILS. (10 pts.)

Have at least one youth member of your Grange submit application for a youth opportunity at the State or National Grange level. (10 pts.)

_____	_____
Name	Opportunity

Take in at least one new member between the ages of 14 and 35 by the end of the second quarter, June 30. (To submit additional names, attach separate sheet of paper to application.) (5 pts.)

Name	Age	Date Obligated
------	-----	----------------

Have at least one youth column or blog post appear on your Grange website (contact National Grange for details about your FREE website through grange.org). (5 pts.)

Website Address	Date
-----------------	------

Have at least one of your Grange's youth members compete in a State, Regional or National Sign-A-Song competition or host a youth-oriented sign language and deaf awareness event at your Grange. (10 pts.)

Name	Event Competed In	Date
------	-------------------	------

Have at least one of your Grange's youth members compete in a State, Regional or National Public Speaking competition or host a youth-oriented public speaking competition (open to Grange and non-Grange youth) at your Grange. (10 pts.)

Name	Event Competed In	Date
------	-------------------	------

Have at least one of your Grange's youth members compete in a State, Regional or National Baseball Contest or host a youth-oriented Grange Trivia contest in your Grange (written form is OK). (10 pts.)

Name	Event Competed In	Date
------	-------------------	------

Organize a Youth Drill Team at your Grange (if previously organized, indicate date). (20 pts.) Date_____

Invite your State's Young Couple, Youth Ambassador(s), or State Officer who is a Youth to speak at your Grange. (10 pts.)

Date	Name(s) of Ambassador(s)/Couple/Officer
------	---

Submit article for consideration about an ongoing youth program or project in your Grange to the National Grange for appearance in the National Grange Youth Blog. (5 pts.)

Title	Date Submitted
-------	----------------

Submit a list, including names, date of birth, office presently held if applicable and e-mail, of all Youth Members in your Grange to the National Grange Youth Department (ATTACH TO APPLICATION). (15 pts.)

Have at least one of your Grange's youth members compete in any one of the following National Programs/Events: John Trimble Youth Legislative Experience; National Youth Officer Team; Horizon Leadership Ambassador Program; or Leadership Award for Outstanding Youth. (10 pts.)

Name

Applied For/Participated In

Have at least one of your youth members submit an entry to the National Grange Lecturer's Quilt Block Contest (or State Version) or National Grange Lecturer's Photo Contest (or State Version). (10 pts.)

Name

Contest Object was Submitted To

Have at least one of your Youth attend a State or National Legislative Event, such as a Capitol Day. Washington DC Experience, or Fly-In. (15 pts.)

Name

Event

Donate at least \$1 per member of your Grange (as of August 15th) to the National Grange Foundation Youth Fund. (20 pts.)

Date

\$_____
Amount

Total Points: _____

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

Printed Name

Date

Signature of Submitter

Signature of State President

Grange Baseball

- Regional Participants will be divided into two teams: Blue Agates or Golden Sheaves. State affiliations do not matter and you do not have to be a state winner to participate at a regional conference.
- Play will last for five innings or an hour and a half. In the case of a tie-breaker, an extra inning will be played.
- Each team will get 3 outs per inning. (An out is an incorrect answer.)
- When a player gets up to bat a question will be randomly chosen for them. The difficulty and type of question are based on the following:
 - Single – True/False
 - Double – Multiple Choice
 - Triple- Fill in the Blank
 - Home run – Short Answer
- The type of base hit will determine the difficulty of the question.
- Participants will have 15 seconds to answer a single or double question; 30 seconds to answer a triple or homerun question.

Once the teams have been decided, the teams will need to come up with a line-up. Teams cannot help the batter answer a question.

Statistics will be kept on each individual player. The three players from each region with the best slugging percentages will represent the region at National. These participants will be referred to as "Silver Sluggers".

For anyone not participating, team cheering sections are highly encouraged. Cheer gear will be provided by the National Grange Youth Department.

Questions will be gathered from: The National Grange roster, youth programs, past trivia challenges, manual, the first four degrees, Grange history books, Digest of Laws, Journal of Proceedings, etc.

Anyone is able to participate at a regional level, only Youth/Young Adults will be able to participate at National session.

Regional Public Speaking Competition

(Categories Updated)

There will be three categories along with three age divisions as follows:

Youth: 14-21 years of age

Young Adults 22-35 years of age

Youth Alumni: 36+ years of age

The age of the contestant as of January 1 determines the age group. For state, regional and national public speaking contest, props will be allowed but must be appropriately sized for the room.

To compete in a regional speech contest it is NOT REQUIRED to compete first at a state level.

Category A: Prepared Speech

Contestant's choice of topic – Contestants in Category A will be required to answer an impromptu question at the end of their speech. The questions will be related to the contestant's chosen speech topic. Speeches must be a minimum of 3 minutes and a maximum of 5 minutes. Contestants may use a slide show presentation for their speech, if they so choose. A projector will be provided for use, contestants must provide their own computer and HDMI connection adapter. A paper copy of an outline must be provided for the judges.

One overall winner from each region will be selected to showcase at the National Grange Convention. To advance to the National Convention, Grangers must compete in their local region. Best of Show will only be selected from those in the Youth and Young Adult Category.

Category B: Impromptu Speech

An impromptu speech is delivered with little preparation or thought ahead of time.

- We hope that by establishing an impromptu speech category that members will build confidence and in the future, participate in the prepared speeches or the Grange Commercial Contest
- Impromptu speeches should be at least one minute in length and not longer than 5 minutes.
- Time keeper will hold up hand when the 1 minute mark has been reached and then 4:30 minute mark has been reached so speaker knows when he/she can stop.
- Participants will draw two topics, select their choice of the two and return the other one and then be given one minute to write down notes before presenting their speech.
- Competition will be held at the Regional Conferences – You need not have participated in a state competition in order to participate.

Category C: Youth Ambassador/Young Patron Prepared Speech

State Ambassador and Young Patrons are required to give a prepared speech at their regional conference the year they apply for the National Grange Youth Leadership Team. They must present a speech on one of the following topics:

- What does Grange mean to me?
- What is leadership?
- How can you apply the National Grange mission statement to your future endeavors in the Grange?

The same guidelines as Category A should be followed. Speeches in this category WILL NOT be chosen for Best of Show. Ambassadors/Young Patrons wanting to compete for Best of Show shall enter additionally in Category A.

Ribbons will be awarded to the top three entrants in each category and age division.

Sign-A-Song Regional Contest

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 years.

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

Group – two or more people signing.

Expert – one who signs professionally. Ineligible for Best of Show, but looking for an opportunity to encourage others to participate.

Rules

1. It is not a requirement to be a state winner to compete at a regional conference. Selection of the state winners is under the jurisdiction of the State Grange.
2. Participants are to supply the National Youth Development Director with three copies of the words to the song they are signing **prior to judging**.
3. Participants must provide their own music. A Bluetooth speaker will be available. Notify the regional conference chairperson prior to the event if you will need one.
4. Anyone who is a professional instructor or receives money for signing may only enter in the expert category. Expert category entries are ineligible for the Best of Show. If there is a professional signer in a group entry, it is only eligible in the Expert category.
5. Signers must use total communication techniques: Sign Language, facial expressions, mouthing of words for lip reading, finger spelling if appropriate, and body movement.
6. Participants must be Grange members.
7. Props and costumes are permitted, rhythm is optional.
8. Only one song may be signed during the competition performance.
9. Participants must sign their own name and song title.
10. Participants must inform the audience and judges what type of sign language they will be using. (Pidgin, ASL, ESL, etc.)

The Best of Show will be eligible to showcase at the National Grange Convention in November. To be eligible to participate at the Grange Awards Night, you must advance from your local region.

Sign-a-Song contestants at National Session will go through a pre-judging before presenting at Grange Awards Night.

Speech and Sign-a-Song judging guidelines and rubrics are available online.

Grange Ritual Challenge- Updated

Can you crack the Grange code? If so, you can present your skills at your **REGIONAL CONFERENCE** to one of the Assembly of Demeter officers.

You can obtain a copy of the codebook and the cipher by request from the Assembly of Demeter, High Priest Roger Bostwick, 9578 110th St. Ozawie, KS 66070, rogerbostwick@hotmail.com. Or, you can contact your state President or state youth director for additional information.

Participants must notify the National Grange Youth Director **two weeks prior to their regional conference**. Participants will be judged in their oral presentation of the code. There will be three categories:

Novice Level 1 – for first year beginners learning the code Any level of novice contest winners will advance to the Patron Contest next year.

Novice Level 2– for second year learning the code. After the second year, participants must enter in the Patron Level.

Patron Level – for members with two or more years of experience.

The judge(s) will be selected by the High Priest, Assembly of Demeter, certified and able to issue the Award of Merit code reading card to qualifying members.

Participants will be recognized during the National Grange Awards Night during National Session (need not be in attendance).

Novice Level Challenge

Novice participants will present to the judge the following items from the codebook:

The Use of the Gavel, Degree Words (1st-4th) Annual Password, Voting Sign, Sign (1st-4th) and Patrons Grip.

Can enter this level for two years (Novice Level 1 and Novice Level 2)

Patron Level Challenge

The Patron contest is designed to follow the code reading Award of Merit card requirements.

From Section I, contestants must read:

1. Opening ----- pg. 2-3
2. The Use of The Gavel ----- pg. 5
3. Salutations for all Degrees ----- pg. 7
4. Password At Outer Gate ----- pg. 8
5. Degree Words ----- 1st Degree pg. 9
6. Degree Words -----2nd Degree pg. 13
7. Degree Words ----- 3rd Degree pg. 15
8. Degree Words ----- 4th Degree pg. 17
9. Annual Word ----- pg. 19
10. Voting Sign ----- pg. 19

From the Section II, they must read:

1. Passing To Different Degrees --- pg. 4-5
2. Signals at the Inner Gate ----- pg. 6-7
3. Signal At Outer Gate - 1st Degree ----- pg. 8

4. Signal At Inner Gate --- 1st Degree ----- pg. 8
5. Sign ----- 1st Degree pg. 9
6. Salutation ----- 1st Degree pg. 10
7. Signal At Inner Gate ----- 2nd Degree - pg. 13
8. Sign ----- 2nd Degree pg. 14
9. Salutation ----- 2nd Degree pg. 14
10. Signal At Inner Gate --- 3rd Degree -- pg. 15
11. Sign ----- 3rd Degree pg. 16
12. Salutation -----3rd Degree pg. 16
13. Signal At Inner Gate --- 4th Degree -- pg. 17
14. Sign ----- 4th Degree pg. 18
15. Salutation ----- -4th Degree pg. 18

Contestants select two of the elements in Section III to compete.

1. Sign of Caution pg. 10-11
2. Sign of Distress pg. 11
3. Patrons General Sign pg. 12
4. Sign of Recognition pg. 20-21
5. Patrons Grip pg. 22
6. Patrons Test pg. 23-24

Code Book Reading Award of Merit

Note: Participants may elect to read the entire codebook. In electing this option, the participant will be allowed five mistakes

SECTION I:

1. Opening ----- pg. 2-3
2. The Use of the Gavel ----- pg. 5
3. Salutations for all Degrees ----- pg. 7
4. Password at Outer Gate -----pg. 8
5. Degree Words ----- 1st Degree pg. 9
6. Degree Words ----- 2nd Degree pg. 13
7. Degree Words ----- 3rd Degree pg. 15
8. Degree Words ----- 4th Degree pg. 17
9. Annual Word ----- pg. 19
10. Voting Sign ----- pg. 19

(Participant cannot make a mistake within Section I.)

SECTION II:

11. Passing To Different Degrees--pg. 4-5
12. Signals at the Inner Gate -----pg. 6-7
13. Signal At Outer Gate ----- 1st Degree
pg. 8
14. Signal At Inner Gate ----- 1st Degree
pg. 8
15. Sign ----- 1st Degree pg. 9
16. Salutation ----- 1st Degree pg. 10

17. Signal At Inner Gate ----- 2nd Degree
pg. 13
18. Sign ----- 2nd Degree pg. 14
19. Salutation ----- 2nd Degree pg. 14
20. Signal at Inner Gate ----- 3rd Degree
pg. 15
21. Sign ----- 3rd Degree pg. 16
22. Salutation -----3rd Degree pg. 16
23. Signal At Inner Gate ----- 4th Degree
pg. 17
24. Sign ----- 4th Degree pg. 18
25. Salutation ----- -4th Degree pg. 18

In addition to the above, participants must select two of the following six options in completing Section II.

1. Sign of Caution ----- pg. 10-11
2. Sign of Distress ----- pg. 11
3. Patrons General Sign ----- pg. 12
4. Sign of Recognition -----pg. 20-21
5. Patrons Grip -----pg. 22
6. Patrons Test -----pg. 23-24

(Participant is allowed three mistakes within Section II)

Parliamentary Procedure Contest

Notification of Team Entry: September 1

Purpose

The purpose of this contest is to encourage Grange youth and young adults to learn to effectively participate in a business meeting and to assist in the development of their leadership, public speaking, and problem-solving skills.

Grange youth and young adult members will use parliamentary procedure to conduct an orderly and efficient meeting, following the meeting format, including the Grange opening and closing as prescribed in the subordinate Grange manual. Teams can follow the opening and closing ceremonies from the 2013 National Grange Subordinate Manual. The Parliamentary Authority for the contest shall be the most current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised.

As part of the contest, they will:

- Demonstrate knowledge of parliamentary law
- Conduct Grange business effectively
- Present a logical, realistic and convincing debate on motions
- Record complete and accurate minutes
- Present memorized speaking parts during the opening and closing ceremonies

Team members will be needed to fill the offices of President, Vice President, Steward, Chaplain, Secretary and Gatekeeper. During the contest, the offices of Lady Assistant Steward, Assistant Steward, Lecturer, Treasurer, Ceres, Flora, Pomona and Executive Committee will be filled by non-competing Grange members. State Grange Youth Departments will host the state contest and may choose up to two teams to represent their state. Multi- state teams are permitted.

Event Rules

1. Notification of having a team is due to the National Youth Director by September 1 of the contest year.
2. Team members must be qualified Grange members at the time of qualification. They must be between the ages of 14 - 35 as of January 1 of the contest year.
3. Teams will consist of a President, Vice President, Steward, Gatekeeper, Chaplain, and Secretary. Additional offices will be filled by the Youth Officer Team.
4. The event will consist of the following activities: a.) Written Examination; b.) Opening Ceremonies; c.) Team Demonstration; d.) Closing Ceremonies; e.) Oral Questions.
5. Members will conduct a regular subordinate Grange meeting and demonstrate a designated main motion and four additional parliamentary procedure motions.
6. It is recommended that the meeting be conducted according to the most current Grange Subordinate Manual. Teams may use whichever opening version they prefer. Opening and Closing Ceremonies should be memorized.
7. The most current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised will be the Parliamentary Authority for the contest. If there is a discrepancy between RONR, the Grange Subordinate Manual, and the Digest of Laws, the Digest, followed by the Manual will override RONR.

Event Procedures

1. Team members should arrive at the contest location at least one hour prior to listed event start time to take the exam. Ex. if demonstration begins at 9 am, all team members should arrive by 8 am.
2. The room will be set up according to the Grange Manual. Station markers, cloths, and a timer will be provided.
3. All team members will be provided with paper and pencils to take notes during their demonstration.
4. Team members will have one minute immediately before their team's demonstration to look at their cards. They may not write on or mark the cards or confer/signal to each other during that time or the rest of the demonstration. This one minute will begin when the President taps the gavel and will be timed by a timer provided by contest coordinators.
5. Each member will receive a card listing the main motion and four additional permissible motions. An individual's required secondary motion will be marked by underlining and bolding that motion. The unmarked motions will be made by the other team members.
6. The Secretary will not be given a required motion. It is recommended that the secretary make the main motion for contest purposes. Minutes will only be judged in the event of a tie.
7. The demonstration will not be over 15 minutes. A time clock will be provided so the team can see. Time will begin when the President signals with two raps of the gavel and will end at the conclusion of the Closing Ceremonies. A time keeper will hold up cards at the 10 and 14 minute marks if no clock can be provided.
8. Teams will begin Opening Ceremonies with team members seated at their stations. No Opening or Closing Drill will be performed. Assistants will walk room to examine and report and assume all members present are correct. The Salute to the Flag and Roll Call of Officers will be performed.
9. Team members should have opening and closing ceremonies memorized. Manuals will be available if they are not. However, 5 points will be deducted for each team member who uses assistance during opening ceremonies.
10. The order of business will begin at the conclusion of Opening Ceremonies and begin with the consideration of New Business. The motion to adjourn is not allowed.
11. Each team member will be required to present two debates. Each debate will be worth a maximum of points. If the member exceeds two debates during the demonstration, the top two debates will be counted.
12. Only one debate is allowed per motion per team member. The exception to this rule is the motion maker who may make two debates on that motion.
13. Only votes from the team should be counted. The additional officers (filled seats) will be instructed not to vote. Should they vote, their votes should be ignored for contest purposes.
14. Following the disposal of all New Business, the team will perform Closing Ceremonies.
15. Judges will ask one oral question (containing 1 -2 parts) of each team member at the conclusion of their demonstration. Members may not consult with or receive help from team members and must answer individually.
16. Business casual dress is highly recommended.

17. It is recommended that Opening Ceremonies take no more than 5 minutes, and Closing Ceremonies no more than 3 minutes. The remaining time should be used for the demonstration of New Business.

Written Test:

The 45-minute written test will consist of 25 questions covering:

- Opening and Closing Ceremonies
- Standard Order of Business
- Grange Knowledge
- Permissible Motions

Questions will be drawn from the most current editions of the Grange Subordinate Manual and Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised.

References/Resources:

- Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised (11th Edition)
- National Grange Digest of Laws
- Grange Subordinate Manual
- Dunbar's Manual of Parliamentary Procedure Test Questions
- Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised (11th Edition) in Brief

Awards:

Awards will be presented to the 1st Place Team, High Scoring Individual, and High Scoring Chair. Participatory awards may be presented to other participants.

Parliamentary Procedure Contest Judges Score Card Worksheet

	Written Test	Opening Ceremony	Debate (2x, 15pts each)	Required Motion	Oral Questions	Individual Total
President	25	15	30		10	80
Vice President	25	15	30	50	10	130
Steward	25	15	30	50	10	130
Chaplain	25	15	30	50	10	130
Secretary	25	15	30		10	80
Gatekeeper	25	15	30	50	10	130
Individual Totals	150	90	180	200	10	680
Main Motion						50
Conclusions Reached						65
Team Voice, Poise, Expression						50
Closing Ceremony						20
Team Total						135
Deductions for Overtime						
Total Points						1000

Additional Rules

President's debate points = Ability to preside, use of the gavel

Only the top 2 debates will be scored

Time limit-deduct 2 points per second over 15 minutes

Conclusions reached = did team deal with business appropriately; no motions left on the floor;

do the decisions make sense?

Opening Ceremonies Memorization – 5 points deducted for each person not having memorized their part

Tie Breakers for Teams will be in the following order:

Secretary's Minutes

Written Test-Sum of all scores

Oral Questions-Sum of all scores (will also be used to break ties for the team written test award)

Example Oral Questions:

President: What type of vote is required to postpone definitely?

Vice President: Is a second needed to refer a motion to a committee?

Steward: What vote is needed for a point of order?

Chaplain: What is the purpose of (Call the) Previous Question?

Secretary: What are the three motions that may interrupt the speaker?

Gatekeeper: What is the purpose of Division of the Assembly?

Grange Display Contest

(formerly Folding Display Contest)

The goal of the Grange Display contest is to create either a digital or folding display that could be utilized at a county fair, library, Grange open house or other forum to promote the Grange, Grange program or Grange issue.

Contest Rules:

- 1) All entrants must be youth or young adult members of a subordinate/community Grange
- 2) There will be two age divisions of the Folding Display Contest: Youth - Grange members between the ages of 14-21 as of Jan. 1; Young Adult - Grange members between the ages of 22-35.
- 3) The display theme must be Grange related. State youth directors must notify National Youth Director by September 1st or after state session, of any entries. **(Not required to be a state winner)**
- 4) All entries must be exhibited at the National Grange Session; members need not attend to participate.
- 5) A Grange member may enter as an individual OR as a member of a group. All group entry members must be in the same age division.
- 6) Folding Display should be no larger than 3' x 4' and should be able to stand by itself. Digital displays must be on a flash drive and in .MP4, .MPG, WMA format.
- 7) Displays will be judged on content, organization, originality and neatness.
- 8.) Grange member will be responsible for shipping arrangements of display to and from National Grange meeting.

Grange Display Contest Evaluation Sheet

<p>Content- 30 Points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the theme well defined • Accurate and appropriate information • Use of Materials 	<p>Neatness: 25 points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pictures and clippings are securely fastened OR • Pictures and clippings are in focus • Sturdy, durable, attractive, eye catching
<p>Organization 30 Points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arranged in such a way that the theme portrayed can be followed easily and logically 	<p>Originality: 15 points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creativity

FOLDING DISPLAY CONTEST ENTRY FORM.

(if submitting a digital display all information should play at the beginning)

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Birth Date _____ Age _____ Division (circle) Youth Young Adult

Display Topic _____

Youth Officer Team T-Shirt Design Contest

Youth Officers will be provided a shirt to wear at National Convention during the Youth Opening . Any Youth or Young Adult may submit a design to be voted on via social media votes.

1. Designs must be no more than two colors and front design only.
2. Designs must be submitted at a .PNG or .JPEG image via email to the National Grange Youth Director (youth@nationalgrange.org) no later than September 1.
3. Voting will take place from September 5th– September 15th. Winning Designs will be announced after September 15th.

All entries must be submitted with a waiver of release:

Waiver of Release

Name _____

Grange and No . _____

Email _____ Phone _____

I , the above named participant, have voluntarily registered to participate in the 2023 Youth Officer 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 art work that I have submitted to the Youth Officer T-shirt Design Contest. By signing below, I grant non-exclusive 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, rules and that my submission is original, non-copyrighted work.

Applicant Signature _____ Date _____

Parent Approval for applicants under 17 years of age

_____ Date _____

G.R.A.N.G.E Youth Pillar Project

An individual or a group, up to three youth/young adults, are challenged to put together an event or project within their Subordinate, Pomona, or State Grange that aligns with one of the six pillars of G.R.A.N.G.E Youth and track that project throughout the event's time frame. The event or project must take place between July 1 and June 30th. Once the event or project has concluded (and throughout) youth will put together a project portfolio to show their beginning, during, and end progress. Youth will have to complete a planning guide summary to be included in their portfolio.

The Pillar Project is to hone in on the passions, creativity and leadership abilities of Grange Youth and Young Adults. The pillars are meant to be vague because, like many Granges, everything we do is unique and fits for our State, Pomona and Subordinate Granges needs. The pillars serve as the six main things that we should be striving to live by as G.R.A.N.G.E. youth.

A Planning Guide Summary will need to be submitted to the National Youth Director by September 1. Portfolios that are not being entered for Contest will need to be brought to National Session by State Presidents or State Youth directors by the opening of session to be put on display in the showcase. See page 39 for contest rules.

Project Portfolio

The project portfolio will need to be divided into 5 sections: Identify Need, Objective, Planning Process (Before), Action (During), Follow-Up (After).

A summary page will need to be included for each project/event. Be as descriptive in each section as possible.

Identify Need- This is the section where you will identify the need that will tie into your Pillar of choice. You will need to be specific and detailed.

Objective: This is a specific result that you want to achieve within the time frame given. Objectives are measurable. This is the basic tool that underlies all planning and strategic activities.

Planning Process: (The Before)- This is the stage of all of the who, what, when, where, how, cost, resources, etc.

Action: This section will be the "meat" of your book. It is the section where you detail out everything. Things to be included in this section: emails, letters, other correspondence, flyers/advertisements, social media posts, pictures from the event.

Follow-Up: This section will be how you wrapped up your event. Everything that you did following the event; thank-you letters, donations made, etc. This section will also need to include a reflection. Reflections include things that went well, things that you could have done better, things that you feel went well but would change in the future.

NEW- Pillar Project Contest

Notification of Entry: September 1

Rules:

- 1) Project must take place between July 1st and June 30th.
- 2) Project may be done individually or with a group of no more than 3.
- 3) Participants will put together a project portfolio and display to be presented in front of a panel of judges at National Convention. Physical display must be able to stand by itself and no larger than 3' by 4'.
- 4) Presentation needs to be at least 5 minutes long, but no longer than 8 minutes. Time will be kept for judging purposes.
- 5) Participants will be asked follow up questions that will last no longer than 5 minutes.
- 6) Judging will take place on Wednesday of National Grange Convention starting at noon. An official sign-up will be sent out after entries are received.
- 7) Portfolios and Displays will be put in the Grange Showcase after Judging.
- 8) There will be two age divisions:
 - a. Youth - Grange members between the ages of 14-21 as of Jan. 1;
 - b. Young Adult - Grange members between the ages of 22-35.Note: If in a group, the age of the oldest group member determines the division to enter.

Participants will be judged on:

Non Verbal Skills: Eye contact, Body Language, Poise

Verbal Skills: Elocution, Enthusiasm, Delivery

Content: Subject Knowledge, Organization, Grammar/Mechanics

Appearance : Appropriateness for their presentation

Displays and Project Portfolios will be judged on:

Appearance: Neatness, appealing, creativity

Content: Divided into 5 sections, includes a complete Project Summary Page

Organization of Content

Mechanics: Grammatical Accuracy and Sentence Structure

The Six Pillars of G.R.A.N.G.E. Youth

Growth

Growth in the Grange can mean a lot of things. Membership growth, leadership growth, and opportunities, or even professional growth. This pillar is dedicated to all of the hard work that we put in as Grangers.

Ritual

Grange has a very strong and distinct history. Preserving our history and relating their teaching to the present day can be tough. This pillar is dedicated to our history and finding unique ways to make it relevant to today's world.

Action

Granges have been long known for doing things in their communities; i.e. dinners, 5K's, food drives, etc. This pillar is dedicated to that action that we do as Grangers.

Networking

This pillar is dedicated to gaining public speaking skills to help promote the Grange or connecting with other states, people in agriculture, in legislation.

Grassroots Advocacy

Grange, since its inception, has been working in legislation as an advocate for agriculture and rural America. This pillar is dedicated to that legislative work and advocacy work that we do as Grangers; i.e. hosting town hall meetings, lobbying.

Education

Education has its own subheading within our Declaration of Purposes. This pillar is dedicated to preparing our youth for leadership positions and giving them the opportunity to be good leaders and empowering their leadership skills.

G.R.A.N.G.E Pillar Project Inspiration Calendar

Pillar	Possible Dates	Possible Events to Plan/Ideas to help with Pillar Projects
<p>G</p> <p>Growth</p>	December and January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Membership Drive • Grange Hall Open House • Hosting Workshops about Professional Growth for your community- ie; Budget 101, preparing taxes, resume building, Living Will preparation, etc.
<p>R</p> <p>Ritual</p>	February and March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practice Code Reading • Hold a Degree Discussion in each of the seasons that coincides with the 1st four degrees. • Host a Degree Day
<p>A</p> <p>Action</p>	April and May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grange Month Activities • Plan a Community Service Project • Organize a fundraiser for your Grange or specific cause • Host a food drive
<p>N</p> <p>Networking</p>	June and July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Conferences • Vamp up your Social Media- Contact your State Communication Director and see where you can help give a youth perspective on social media posts • Talking to State and Local Legislators
<p>G</p> <p>Grassroots Advocacy</p>	August and September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Grange Preparation and Resolutions • Election Preparation • Talking to State and Local Legislators • Hold a candidate forum/town hall meeting
<p>E</p> <p>Education</p>	October and November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deaf Awareness Activity in your community • Work with Juniors on their Passports • Leadership Workshops



Planning Guide Summary



(This page can be modified, but all headings need to be in the correct order)

Identify Needs

Objective

Who, What, When, Where, How, Resources, Cost, etc.

Planning Process

Action

Follow-Up

National Grange Youth Officer Council - Updated

Formerly Youth Officer Team

APPLICATION POSTMARK DEADLINE: **September 1**

-Applications must be sent to the National Grange Youth Development Director-
Mandy Bostwick, 11690 Ferguson Road, Ozawie, KS 66070

Purpose: The purpose of the Youth Officer Council is for Grange Youth and Young Adults to provide valuable input on current and future programming, fundraising, youth events at Annual Session, regional conferences, and other youth and young adults-focused events AND to assemble a team of Youth from across the nation to open the National Grange convention on Friday morning at the annual session. This will provide more youth with an opportunity to participate in the National Grange Convention.

Duties include –The Youth Officer Team- Opening Drill and Open the Grange at National Session AND once selected to the Youth Officer Team they will automatically serve for one year on the Youth Officer Council. (October to September)

The Youth Officers Council would be required to meet:

- Pre- Convention Meeting in October (zoom)
 - In-Person in November at National Convention
 - Post-Convention in December (zoom)
 - And attend at least two additional meetings held on the third Sunday of even-numbered months (prior to Youth Yammerings)
- The Grange Youth Officer Council will march in, open the Grange in the fourth degree and march out during National Grange Convention.
 - President, Vice President, Steward, A.S., L.A.S., G.K., and Chaplain have speaking parts.
 - Lecturer will need to select an opening song.
 - Secretary will need to be prepared to call the roll of Youth officers – which will be established following the application process. Secretary is responsible for learning how to pronounce the names of the officers correctly.
 - Ceres, A.S., and L.A.S. will need to know how to present the flag properly according to the Official Flag presentation ceremony offered by the National Grange.
 - A.S. and L.A.S. may submit suggestions for the seating & retiring drill. Also, please limit the time of the opening drill to 6 minutes and the retiring drill to 3 minutes.
 - Musician applicants must submit a musical demonstration tape or CD. Musical piece should be no more than 3 minutes. Musician may make suggestions for March Music. The National Youth Development Director will screen any music suggestions for appropriateness.
 - There are 18 offices to be filled: President, Vice President, Lecturer, Steward, A.S., L.A.S., Chaplain, Treasurer, Secretary, Gatekeeper, Ceres, Pomona, Flora, and four executive committee positions and Musician.

- Those applying for a position should be Grange members who are at least 14 years of age and not over 35 years of age.
- The National Grange Youth Development Director may contact each applicant with additional questions during the selection process.
- The selection process will be based on letters of recommendation as well as the application.
- *Applicants must have attended a regional conference the same year they apply and participate in the Impromptu Speech or Grange Commercial contest. If applicant is their state winner for prepared speech or sign a song contest they will fulfill this requirement.*
- Youth may not serve twice in the same office. Pomona and Flora will be considered one office as well as Executive Committee.
- Youth Officers will participate in an Officer Meet and Greet at National Session on Wednesday night. This is a networking and learning opportunity for the Grange Youth.
- **NEW** Youth Officers will be required to attend Thursday morning of session to see the delegate body at work and observe what National Grange officers do.
- Youth Officers, or their individual states, are responsible for their **own transportation, hotel costs, Youth Tour, and some meal costs.** Youth housing (4 per room) at the National Convention will be available for any who wish to participate.***
- Youth Officers are required to attend the Youth Tour and the Celebration Banquet. Youth Chaplain will be required to attend the GROW Club Banquet to give the blessing.
- Each applicant will be notified of the results no later than September 15th, so that each has adequate time to make travel arrangements
- Applicants must submit two letters of recommendation from a member of their local Grange –preferably President – and state youth director or state President. Letters of recommendation should be from the year of application.
- Applicants must be committed to memorizing their speaking part if the office they are applying to fill has a speaking part. Each Applicant must be willing to comply with the dress guidelines that will be established for Youth officers.
- Current Horizon Leadership Ambassadors and John Trimble Youth Legislative Experience delegates are not eligible to apply.

***** Youth housing at the National convention will be available for any who wish to participate. If funds are available in the Grange Foundation Youth Leadership Fund, a small stipend to provide financial assistance will be given for lodging and meals AFTER National Grange Convention based on participation.**

National Grange Youth Officer Council Application

Name _____ Gender _____

Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

Email (print clearly) _____

Phone (_____) _____ Age as of Jan. 1 _____

Grange Name and # _____ State _____

Please list the offices you are interest in filling in order of preference:

1st _____ 2nd _____ 3rd _____

What facts would prevent you from coming to the National convention other than illness or death? _____

If a student, have you obtained permission from teachers/professors? _____

How are you going to pay for the trip? _____

Biographical Information: Description (5-8 lines) about yourself and/or family to be used for display purposes through the National Session. Enclose or send 3 4"x6" color photos including one picture of the family. The pictures and bio will be scanned and be included on a video that will play throughout various functions throughout National Session.

Grange Experience (Please Provide Information on a separate sheet)

- A. Subordinate/Community Grange Years
- B. State/National Years
- C. Subordinate Offices Held or Committees
- D. State Offices Held or Committees
- E. Any additional Grange experience you'd like to share.

Leadership Experience (outside of Grange) (Please provide information on a separate sheet)

- A. Community and Service Programs participated in by you and leadership given (civic and service clubs, professional organizations, church, school, etc.)
- B. List significant offices held or awards achieved while participating in your organizations.
- C. What additional award(s) and recognition have you received in the past?
- D. What are your leadership goals for the next five years?
- E. Why do you want to be a member of the National Grange Youth Officer Council?

I hereby apply to be considered for the National Grange Youth Officer Team. I understand that as a member of the Youth Office Council I am expected to attend workshops and the youth tour at National Session and to attend council meetings throughout the year. If I fail to comply I will reimburse the National Grange Youth Department. I also understand that funding may not be available in the Grange Foundation Youth Leadership fund to provide assistance for lodging and meals. If funds are not available, I am responsible for expenses incurred.

Your Signature _____

Parent Signature (if under 18) _____

Subordinate and State Certification

This certifies 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. Also, I understand that funds may not be available for the Grange Foundation Youth Leadership and our Grange may need to provide assistance to cover lodging and meal expenses at National Session of the above-named person.

Subordinate President or Secretary Signature _____

State Youth Director Signature _____

State President Signature _____

To be included with application;

Two letters of recommendation

- Subordinate Grange, preferable President or Secretary
- State Youth Director or State President

John Trimble Youth Legislative Experience

APPLICATION POSTMARK DEADLINE: **September 1**

-Applications must be sent to the National Grange Youth Development Director-
Mandy Bostwick, 11690 Ferguson Road, Ozawie, KS 66070

Opportunities for Legislative Experience

National Convention Youth Legislative Experience will provide opportunities for one or two Grange Youth, age 16 – 35, with an interest in the legislative aspect of the National Grange to see the inner workings of committees and the grassroots legislative policy development effort at the National Grange Convention.

- Each youth will serve on one of the legislative committees reviewing resolutions as a voting member of the committee and as a youth staff assistant to the National Grange Legislative Director. Participants will watch the delegate body take action on the resolutions and assist in other ways.
- An individual may participate in the program a maximum of one time.
- As a youth staff assistant, they will be assigned some additional logistical duties so that they can see how the backroom production process works at the convention. These duties will not conflict with the opportunities of seeing the National Delegates work on the floor.
- As guests of the National Grange their room cost will be paid (room to be shared with other participants) plus meals or tickets to certain meal functions.
- Transportation will be the participant's responsibility.
- Any participant who fails to comply with the guidelines set up will be expected to pay their own expenses.
- Applications will be submitted to the National Youth Development Director, who will share applications with National Legislative Director and National President in making selection of participant(s) and assignment to committee.
- Applicants must have attended a regional conference the same year they apply and participate in the Impromptu Speech or Grange Commercial contest. If applicant is their state winner for prepared speech or sign a song contest they will fulfill this requirement.
- Please include letters of recommendation from your Subordinate/Community Grange President, state youth director (if applicable) and your State Grange President. Letters of recommendation should be from the year of application.
- Applications can be obtained from your State Youth Director, the National Youth Development Director, State President or the National Grange Website at www.nationalgrangeyouth.org.

John Trimble Youth Legislative Experience Application

Grange Name _____ Grange No. _____

County _____ State _____ National Convention Region _____

Name _____ Gender: _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip Code _____

Phone _____ E-Mail address _____

Age as of Jan. 1 _____ Facebook ID: _____

Biographical Information: Description (5-8 lines) about yourself and/or family to be used for display purposes through the National Session. Enclose or send 3 4"x6" color photos including one picture of the family. The pictures and bio will be scanned and be included on a video that will play throughout various functions throughout National Session.

Date of joining Grange _____ Total average meeting attendance in past year _____

Number of regular Subordinate Grange meeting held in the last year _____

Number of regular Subordinate Grange meetings you attended this last year _____

Highest Degree held in the Grange? _____

Current Office or Committees serving on?

Grange Experience (Please Provide Information on a separate sheet)

- A. Subordinate/Community Grange Years
- B. State/National Years
- C. Subordinate Offices Held or Committees
- D. State Offices Held or Committees
- E. Any additional Grange experience you'd like to share.

Leadership Experience (Please provide information on a separate sheet)

- A. Community and Service Programs participated in by you and leadership given (civic and service clubs, professional organizations, church, school, etc.)
- B. List significant offices held or awards achieved while participating in your organizations.
- C. What additional award(s) and recognition have you received in the past?
- D. What are your leadership goals for the next five years?
- E. Legislative Experience you have participated in to date: (For Example, resolutions written, state convention delegate or attendance at business sessions, local government experience, etc.)
- F. How do you plan to use this experience in your own Grange, Pomona or State?

What is your legislative area of interest? Please prioritize 1,2,3,etc...

_____ Citizenship & Public Affairs

_____ Agriculture

_____ Conservation & Natural Resources

_____ Education & Health

_____ Labor & Judiciary

_____ Transportation &Taxation

Applicant's Signature_____

Applicant's Parent's Signature (if under 18) _____

Subordinate 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 my knowledge.

Youth Chairman (Signature)_____Date_____

Subordinate President (Signature)_____Date_____

State Certification

State Youth Director (Signature)_____Date_____

State President (Signature)_____Date_____

Return this form to the National Grange Youth Development Director postmarked by September 1.

Please include the letters of recommendation from your Subordinate President and your State Grange President.

Horizon Leadership Ambassador/Young Patron Program

APPLICATION POSTMARK DEADLINE: **September 1**

-Applications must be sent to the National Grange Youth Development Director-
Mandy Bostwick, 11690 Ferguson Road, Ozawie, KS 66070

The purpose of the Horizon Leadership Ambassador program is to provide an opportunity for Youth, Young Adults and Young Couples, selected to represent their state at a National Grange convention, to build their leadership potential; broaden their view of the Grange by experiencing a National Convention; receive educational training to use in their own states; and build relationships with Grangers throughout the nation by having fun.

The National Grange Horizon Leadership Ambassador program is an opportunity for youth selected by their state to participate in activities as guests of The Grange Foundation, Youth Leadership Fund.

Each state may send two youth (preferably, but not limited to one male, one female) and two young adults or a young couple, who meet the following criteria:

- Youth ambassadors must be 16-21 years of age at the time of their state selection, have observed their 16th birthday, but not their 23rd birthday by December 31 of the year they attend the National session. These individuals must also be single, never been married, may not have children and must not marry and/or have children during term of service. If under 18, must have parent's consent.
- Young Adults/Young Couples must be between the ages of 22-35, have observed their 22nd birthday, but not their 36th birthday by December 31 of the year they attend national session.
- Ambassadors, Young Patrons and Young Couples must have been a Grange member for a minimum of one year at the time they attend National Session.
- Previous State Ambassadors/Young Patrons/ Young Couples who have participated in this program at the National Grange Convention are not eligible. Exception: Young Adults who are former Youth Ambassadors are eligible to participate in the Young Patron Program.
- Ambassadors/ Young Patrons/Young Couples must meet their state's requirements.
- Ambassadors/ Young Patrons/Young Couples must be able to attend the National convention to represent their state during Youth activities days. (Wednesday evening through Saturday).
- **NEW** Ambassadors/Young Patrons must attend their regional conference the year they apply. They must also present a prepared speech at their regional conference. This speech will not be considered for Best of Show or selected for National. Exception: If the Ambassador/Young Patron is their state's winner for Prepared Speech/SAS contest they will meet this requirement.

- Ambassadors/ Young Patrons/Young Couples must attend a state session in the past two years
- Official Application form must be completed and postmarked by September 1. Send to the National Grange Youth Development Director
- The following letters of recommendation are to be sent with the application:
 - Person from outside the Grange (teacher/professor, Organization/Club Leader, etc.)
 - Subordinate Grange, preferably President or Secretary
 - State President or State Youth Director
- NOTE: Letters of Recommendation should be from the year of application.
- **NEW** Ambassadors/Young Patrons/Young Couples must present a 30 minute workshop at National Convention
- **NEW** Ambassadors/Young Patrons/Young Couples must submit the following along with their application:
 - An example of a social media post that would be used to promote membership
 - A short essay (350- 500 words) about why they want to be considered for the National Grange Youth Leadership Team
- Horizon Leadership youth ambassadors will be housed together at the National Grange Convention with up to three other official participants per room.
- Young Adults will be housed in the same area with up to three other official participants per room. Young couples will be housed one per room.
- Horizon Leadership Ambassadors/ Outstanding Young Patrons will be recognized at the National Convention.
- Ambassadors/ Young Patrons or their individual states are responsible for their **own transportation, meals and lodging.** Youth housing is available at National Convention for anyone who wishes.***
- Ambassadors are required to attend the Youth Tour and Celebration Banquet.
- The National Grange GROW Club will provide tickets for the GROW Club Dinner.
- Youth Ambassadors/ Young Patrons are required to bring a ½ inch wide binder with photos and highlights from their year as Ambassador or Young Patron to National Session. The binders will be placed on display in the idea fair and reviewed by the judges. The binder needs to show how they have exemplified what it means to be a G.R.A.N.G.E. Youth. (See the Six Pillars for more details)
- Young Couples will be viewed as one entity. They will apply together, but they will be interviewed separately and together at National Session when being considered for the National Grange Youth Leadership Team.

****** Youth housing at the National convention will be available for any who wish to participate. If funds are available in the Grange Foundation Youth Leadership Fund, a small stipend to provide financial assistance will be given for lodging and meals after National Grange Convention based on participation.**

National Grange Horizon Leadership Program Application

DEADLINE: September 1

State _____ Subordinate Grange & No. _____

Name _____

Mailing address _____

City, State, Zip Code _____ Phone number _____

E-mail address _____

Youth Ambassador: (Circle) Male Female

Young Adults: (Circle) Male Female Couple

Age as of Jan. 1: _____

Parents Names (Youth Ambassadors only) _____

Biographical Information: Description (5-8 lines) about yourself and/or family to be used for display purposes through the National Session. Enclose or send three 4"x6" color photos including one picture of the family. The pictures and bio will be scanned and be included on a video that will play throughout various functions throughout National Session.

Date of joining Grange _____ Total average meeting attendance in past year _____

Number of regular Subordinate Grange meetings held in the last year _____

Number of regular Subordinate Grange meetings you attended this last year _____

Highest Degree held in the Grange? _____

Current Office or Committees serving on?

What activities/events did your state require you to participate in as an ambassador/young couple/young adult?

.

Grange Experience (Please Provide Information on a separate sheet)

- A. Subordinate/Community Grange Years
- B. State/National Years
- C. Subordinate Offices Held or Committees
- D. State Offices Held or Committees
- E. Any additional Grange experience you'd like to share.

Leadership Experience (Please provide information on a separate sheet)

- G. Community and Service Programs participated in by you and leadership given (civic and service clubs, professional organizations, church, school, etc.)
- H. List significant offices held or awards achieved while participating in your organizations.
- I. What additional award(s) and recognition have you received in the past?
- J. What are your leadership goals for the next five years?
- K. How do you plan to use this experience in your own Grange, Pomona or State?
- L. What have you done to promote membership in the Grange? How many people have you encouraged to join Grange, how many actually joined?

Last state session attended in the past two (2) years _____

Regional Conference Attended _____

Your Signature(s) _____

Parent Signature (if under 18) _____

Subordinate 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.

Subordinate Youth Chairman or Secretary Signature _____

President's Signature _____

State Certification:

Youth Director's Signature _____

State President's Signature _____

Three letters of recommendation are to be sent in addition to this application:

- i. Person from outside the Grange (teacher/professor, Organization/Club Leader, etc.)
- ii. Subordinate Grange, preferably President or Secretary
- iii. State President or State Youth Director

APPLICATION POSTMARK DEADLINE: **September 1**

-Applications must be sent to the National Grange Youth Development Director-
Mandy Bostwick, 11690 Ferguson Road, Ozawie, KS 66070

National Grange Youth Leadership Team

Up to two youth, preferably one male and one female, and up to two Young Adults who have shown outstanding mentoring abilities as a Horizon Leadership Ambassador/ Young Patron will be selected to serve as the National Grange Youth Leadership Team for a one-year term. Dependent on Youth department funding, the National Youth Leadership Team will also receive membership development training and assist with National Grange-sponsored activities. They will also assist with several National Grange Youth Department leadership and development projects.

A selection committee, appointed by National Youth Development Director, will select the team members. The committee will judge the candidates based on ambassadorship, an interview, speaking ability and their leadership qualities.

The first alternates must be willing to step in should the Ambassadors not be able to finish their term.

Their duties would include:

Throughout the year:

- Help organize and promote Grange Youth Yammerings meetings.
- Write a minimum of one article for the Patrons Chain Newsletter and Good Day! Magazine (a rotation will be established for the team)
- Assist with ongoing Youth Department activities and projects.
- Be available to travel as a representative of the National Grange Youth Department, as budgets permit.
- Attend their home region conference, at their own expense.
- Assist youth director with management of Grange Youth social media.

For National Session

- Helping the Horizon Leadership participants know where things are at the hotel.
- Greeting upon check-in and helping them find their rooms.
- Involving those who are reluctant to become involved.
- Assisting the Director with details of convention. For example, in contacting participants when last minute changes are made or instructions are needed or being at a workshop when Director needs to be somewhere else.
- Act as a facilitator for workshops when needed.
- Provide valuable input as to age appropriate workshops.
- Arrive at convention Monday to meet with Director before participants arrive.
- Sit in on session committee meetings (National Grange President will appoint the committee)
- Plan get-acquainted activities for Wednesday evening.
- Assist and/or lead other Youth events during National Session

Grange Foundation Youth Leadership Fund will pay transportation costs to the convention, plus hotel costs at the convention and the meal functions required to attend (Tour, Host Banquet, GROW Club Reception, and celebration banquet.) All other meals would be at their own expense, after being named to the National Grange Youth Leadership Team.

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 Grow 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 Granges, Grangers, Pomona Granges and State Granges to support the Grange Foundation Youth Leadership Fund.
- E. An address and e-mail database will be continually updated of current members.
- 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 fund raising ideas. G.R.O.W. Club members may be utilized in fund raising 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: Eastern, 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 select their own officers. The National Grange President and the National Youth Development Director will serve as ex officio members.
- H. The 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 representative under the GROW 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 Horizon Leadership or National Youth Officer Team participants cover some of their costs to attend national session. Applications are due October 20th. Winners will be announced at National Session during the G.R.O.W. Club reception. **Applications are available online.**

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

Application Deadline: TBA

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

NJHA and Grange Youth Horticulture Identification and Judging Contest

This year, the National Grange Youth Department and National Junior Horticultural Association have partnered together to encourage horticultural education. Horticultural education was a passion of Wib Justi, first National Grange Youth Development Director. He was involved with NJHA, fostering a partnership between the two organizations.

Started in 2015, a Grange division has been added to the NJHA Horticultural Identification and Judging Contest. In addition, Grange youth can participate in other NJHA national contests. To learn more about these contests and for entry deadlines, go to www.njha.org.

Horticulture Identification and Judging Contest

Purpose of the Contest

The production, marketing and buying of fruit, vegetable, flower and ornamental crops requires a detailed knowledge of many subject matter disciplines. This contest is a training program concerned with teaching youth to recognize and identify some of the most important horticultural crops, to learn criteria influencing quality and to be able to answer questions and solve problems relating to the art and science of horticulture.

National Program Chair contact:

Terry Berke

PO Box 204, Zamora, CA 95698

Phone: (530) 383-2349

Email: 5littleberkepeppers@gmail.com

Rules and Regulations

Team Guidelines

- a. The Grange team consists of 3 or 4 individuals aged 14-21.
- b. Contestants who have previously placed first (Grand National Award Winner) or been a member of a first-place team will participate in the Honors Division.
- c. The top individual in the Honors Division is automatically ineligible for further competition.
- d. Coaches and other individuals not competing in the contest will not be allowed in the contest room while the contest is being conducted. After the last paper has been turned in the contest room will be open for observation and photography of the identification and judging sections. Answers will be placed on the entries.
- e. Entry Deadline: September 15. Consult with your leader for additional information.

Contest Format

The horticulture contest consists of three sections (Judging: 80 pts., Identification: 200 pts. [250 pts. for honors] and Horticultural Knowledge: 160 pts.) for a total point score of 440 pts. (490 pts. for honors).

Judging

Eight classes of four (4) plates each will be judged on the basis of condition, quality, uniformity, true to type, and size. Two classes will be taken from the list of four commodity groups to be identified/judged (fruits and nuts, vegetables and herbs, flowering and indoor plants and woody ornamentals). Plates in each class will be ranked from first to last. Scores will be determined by a Hormel calculator. Oral reasons will not be required of contestants.

Information

Eighty (80) objective questions (true-false and multiple choice) will be taken from information in the study manual and on this section of the website. Questions will test the contestant's knowledge of cultural practices for horticultural crops, plant science, pesticides, horticultural careers and other topics related to the production, processing and consumption of horticultural crops.

Identification

One hundred samples (100) will make up the third segment of the contest. Twenty-five (25) samples will be taken from each of the four (4) commodity groups. These commodity groups will be separated onto different tables and the participant will have a complete list of all items which could potentially appear. Specimens may be alive or preserved plant parts such as, but not limited to: stems, twigs, leaves, flowers, seeds, fruits, roots, bulbs, tubers, or plant products. Participants in the honors division of the contest will identify 25 additional specimens. The specimens will come from all four groups and will not be segregated by category (randomly mixed).

Awards

Up to 5 teams and 10 individuals may receive medals based on the number of entries in each division. The top individual and team will receive gold medals; second place when awarded will receive silver medals; and any other placements awarded will receive copper medals. The top team in each division will also receive a plaque. Top individuals in each of the divisions may also be eligible for a cash prize when available. The highest overall scoring individual of all the divisions is also eligible for a monetary prize in years that monies for such are available.

For more information visit: <http://njha.org/contests>

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 age 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 or 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



2023 LECTURER'S DEPARTMENT CONTESTS



2023 National Grange Photo Contest

STATEMENT OF INTENT

To encourage members and friends of the Grange to submit photos that can be used in National Grange publications and virtual media. Submitted photos will become the property of the National Grange and may be used in National Grange publications, marketing, merchandise, and virtual media.

RULES

- A. The National Grange Virtual Photo Contest is open to all Grangers and yet-to-be Grangers.
- B. All entries must be received electronically as a single (1) file no larger than 10 MB via Google Forms at <https://bit.ly/grangephoto2023> by September 1, 2023.
- C. Divisions – there are four divisions:
 - Farm machinery
 - Potluck Activity
 - Gardens
 - Grange Family
- D. Each individual is limited to entering a total of three (3) photos.
- E. Entries should be no more than one (1) year old.
- F. Any photograph deemed inappropriate will not be judged or exhibited in the National Grange Virtual Photo Contest.
- G. Any entries received after the **September 1, 2023** deadline will not be judged.

PRIZES

Monetary prizes will be awarded for each division: 1st - \$50, 2nd - \$30 and 3rd - \$20.

The top three photos in each division will be featured in a 2023 greeting card collection.



2023 National Grange Garden Design Contest

STATEMENT OF INTENT

Share gardening experiences, large or small, that connect us to the larger picture of agriculture, growing and nurturing plants for a variety of purposes.

RULES

- A. The National Grange Garden Design Contest is open to everyone.
- B. All contest entries must be received by the National Grange Lecturer by **September 1, 2023**. Submit entries at: <http://bit.ly/grangegarden2023>
- C. All entries must be received electronically as a single PDF file. (If you need assistance creating a PDF file, please email National Grange Communications Director Philip Vonada at pvonada@nationalgrange.org)
- D. Groups and Divisions:
 1. Individual Junior Grange (age 5 – 14)
 - a. Container Garden
 - b. Raised Bed Garden
 - c. Ground Space Garden
 2. Individual Adult (age 14 +)
 - a. Container Garden
 - b. Raised Bed Garden
 - c. Ground Space Garden
 3. Group (all ages)
 - a. Container Garden
 - b. Raised Bed Garden
 - c. Ground Space Garden
- E. Definitions:
 - a. **Raised Bed Garden:** Raised beds are freestanding garden beds constructed above ground level. "Raised bed" means that the soil level in the bed is higher than the surrounding soil and implies a size small enough to work in without stepping onto planting area. Raised beds are enclosed with box-like frames to provide structural support and prevent erosion and may be constructed using a variety of materials. Beds can also be elevated for gardeners who want to avoid bending to the ground while working.
 - b. **Container Garden:** A container garden can be a single pot with one or more plants in it, or several containers with multiple plants in each or a single plant per container, or a mixture of containers with various configurations of plant mixtures. Containers may be pots made from a variety of materials, baskets, planters or other objects that work effectively as a home for garden plants.



2023 National Grange Garden Design Contest

- c. Ground Space: any area of a ground level space cordoned off for growing garden plants (fruits, vegetables, flowers and other plant materials). Plants must be directly planted into the soil. Configurations of this garden plot may be in rows, square foot or broadcast.
- F. Entries must include a written description that includes:
- a. Name of gardener, Group and Division (ex. Individual Adult: Container) Grange name, number and location, contact information including mailing address, email address, and phone number.
 - b. Purpose of the Garden: examples include purposes such as: herbs, produce for fresh use, produce for preserving, gifting, cut flowers, pollinators, etc.)
 - c. List of all plant varieties in the garden: (ex. Early Girl Tomato, Malabar Spinach,
 - d. Three photographs: one at the completion of planting, one mid-season and one in late August.
- G. Any entries received after the September 1, 2023 deadline will not be judged.
- H. Winners will be announced at the National Grange convention in Niagara Falls, New York.

PRIZES

- Monetary prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in each Division.
- Ribbons will be awarded to all entrants.

ENTRY

- Submit entries at this link: <http://bit.ly/grangegarden2023>



2023 National Grange Weather Watcher Challenge

STATEMENT OF INTENT

Changing climate and the challenge it presents to farmers and gardeners alike is a concern for all of us. This challenge is to help educate and inform us as we closely follow the day-to-day changes in weather and phenology in our local areas. Use of the various Weather Watcher Partnership sites will be of help to complete this challenge.

GUIDELINES

- A. The National Grange Weather Watcher Challenge is open to everyone.
- B. All entries must be received by the National Grange Lecturer by **September 1, 2023**. Send entries to:
 - C. Entries may be submitted electronically as a single file at <https://bit.ly/grangeweather2023> or mailed as a packet to:

Ann Bercher, National Lecturer
777 Excelsior Blvd. Apt #310
Excelsior, MN 55331
- D. Groups and Divisions:
 1. Individual Junior Grange (age 5 – 14)
 2. Individual Adult (age 14 +)
 3. Group (all ages such as members at a Grange Hall)
- E. Entries must include:
 - a. Entry information
 - b. Completed Weather Watcher Form from September 1, 2022 – August 15, 2023)
- F. Any entries received after the September 1, 2023 deadline will not be judged.
- G. Winners will be announced at the National Grange convention in Niagara Falls, New York.

Attach: Data Collection Sheet and description for how to fill it out.



2023 National Grange Weather Watcher Challenge

2023 Weather Watcher Challenge

ENTRY FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Grange Member: Prospective/Not Yet a Member:

Grange Name: _____ No.: _____ State: _____

- Group I – Individual Junior (age 5-14)

- Group II – Individual Adult (age 14+)

- Group III – Group (all ages)

All challenge entries must be received by the National Grange Lecturer by **September 1, 2023**.

Mail entries to:
Ann Bercher
777 Excelsior Blvd., Apt. #310
Excelsior, MN 55331

Or submit at <https://bit.ly/grangeweather2023>



2023 National Grange Weather Watcher Challenge

Date	Time	Temp	Wind	Sun	Clouds	Precipitation	Phenology Notes

Temp: taken on outdoor thermometer in the shade

Wind: what direction is the wind coming from? A wind gauge may tell you the speed

Sun: full sun, cloudy, partly cloudy

Clouds: what type of clouds? Cirrus, etc. (check the sites of our Weather Partners for more information!)

Precipitation: rain, show, hail (Check out <https://www.cocorahs.org/> for a great precipitation collection activity)

Phenology Notes: arrival of birds such as robins and finches, budding out of trees, blooms on trees or plants on the ground, ice is out on the lake, moon phase, other events that occur for the first time each season. Include if there is extreme weather such as thunderstorms, blizzards, heat waves, etc.

Precipitation: rain, show, hail (Check out CoCoRhas for a great precipitation collection activity)

Phenology Notes: arrival of birds such as robins and finches, budding out of trees, blooms on trees or plants on the ground, ice is out on the lake, moon phase, other events that occur for the first time each season. Include if there is extreme weather such as thunderstorms, blizzards, heat waves, etc.



2023 National Grange Quilt Block Contest

STATEMENT OF INTENT

The Quilt Block Contest provides an opportunity for Grange members and friends to collaborate in creating quilted items that can be donated or auctioned for funds to provide additional services to community members in a nationwide effort

RULES

- A. The National Grange Quilt Block Contest is open to everyone.
- B. All contest entries must be received by the National Grange Lecturer by **September 1, 2023**. Send entries to:

Ann Bercher, National Lecturer
777 Excelsior Blvd. Apt #310
Excelsior, MN 55331
- C. Any entries received after the deadline will not be judged. However, all entries received will be exhibited at the 157th National Grange convention in Niagara Falls, NY.
- D. The quilt block you enter in the contest for judging must be made by you.
- E. There is no limit on the number of quilt blocks a person may submit, but choose **one quilt block** per person to be judged. *Please consider sending four completed squares.*
- F. All entries will be retained by the National Grange to be made into finished quilts and other items to be sold at a later date.
- G. A 2023 Quilt Block Contest Entry Form must be completed for the block to be judged.

GROUPS

- Group I – Adult (Age 14+)
- Group II – Junior (Age 13 and under)

PRIZES

- Monetary prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in each Group.
- Ribbons will be awarded to all entrants.



2023 National Grange Quilt Block Contest

2023 Quilt Block Contest

ENTRY FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Grange Member: Prospective/Not Yet a Member:

Grange Name: _____ No.: _____ State: _____

- Group I – Adult (Age 14+)

- Group II – Junior (Age 13 and under)

All contest entries must be received by the National Grange Lecturer by **September 1, 2023**.

The quilt block you enter in the contest for judging must be made by you.

Please make as many blocks as you wish, but only one contest entry per person.

Please consider sending in four completed blocks to help us build the quilts!

Each contest entry must have a completed Entry Form.

Mail entries to:

Ann Bercher

777 Excelsior Blvd., Apt. #310

Excelsior, MN 55331



2023 National Grange Quilt Block Contest

Nine Patch with a Half Square Corners

Begin with 2.5-inch squares of multiple fabrics:

6 dark colors (prefer all monochrome – all blue, all green, all red, etc, but each can be a different pattern or solid)

5 very light colors (white, cream, light gray; different patterns or solids)

Create a nine-patch block.

Keep all light colors on one side, and dark colors on the other.

Create one **half-square triangle** on the top right, and one on the bottom left.

Use a scant $\frac{1}{4}$ inch seam allowance.

This 9-patch block should measure $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches, unfinished on edges.

Looking for scrappy blocks, but with similar colors in the “dark” fabrics.

These are small blocks, so the more you send in, the better!

See attached photos for example.

Questions? Email lecturer@nationalgrange.org for guidance.



Final block



2023 National Grange Quilt Block Contest

Steps to make **Half-Square Triangle**

1.



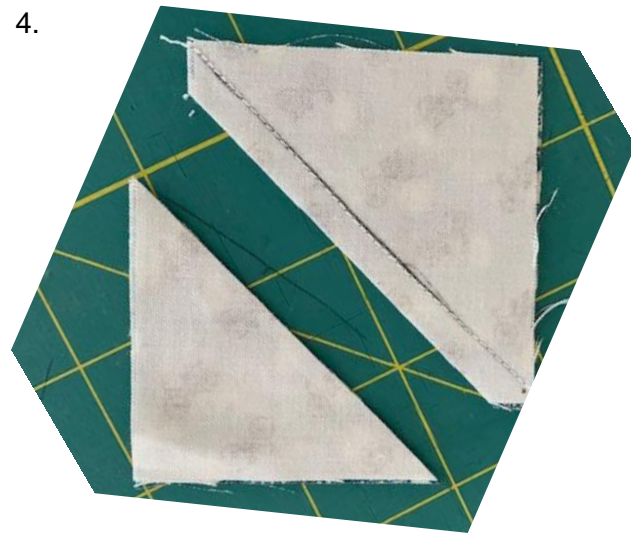
2.



3.



4.





2023 National Grange Quilt Block Contest

5.



6.



Communications Department Contest





2023 National Grange Publicity Item Contest

STATEMENT OF INTENT

The ability of our Granges, at every level, to successfully promote specific events or the Grange as a whole is necessary and essential. The goal of the **National Grange Publicity Item Contest** is to recognize the publicity work being done by our Granges across the country and to share this work with other Granges with the intent of fostering even more and improved publicity efforts. The more Grange publicity that occurs within our communities, the better!

RULES

- A. The National Grange Publicity Item Contest is open to all Granges (State, Pomona, Community, Junior), Grange committees, or Grange groups (i.e., auxiliary, youth, Junior 1+).
- B. A Publicity Item may be a flyer, poster or advertisement; a short video; a radio commercial or announcement; a social media post; a press kit or media release; a shirt, button, or another wearable item; or anything else you create to promote Grange. "Out of the box" ideas are welcomed!
- C. All entries must be received electronically as a single (1) file no larger than 1GB via Google Forms at <http://bit.ly/grangepublicity2023> by **September 1, 2023**.
- D. There are two (2) divisions:
 - Created by a professional (paid or in-kind).
 - Created in-house (without professional assistance).
- E. There is no limit on the number of publicity items that can be submitted by any Grange, Grange committee, or Grange group.
- F. Entries should be created since the previous deadline (July 1, 2022).
- G. If your publicity item is wearable or otherwise 3-dimensional, please take a photo of the item and submit the photo.
- H. Any entries received after the **September 1, 2023** deadline will not be judged.
- I. Any entry submitted may be shared by the National Grange via social media, email, website, or other means.
- J. Winners will be announced at the 2023 National Grange convention in Niagara Falls, New York.

PRIZES

Monetary prizes will be awarded: 1st- \$200, 2nd- \$100, 3rd- \$50 and 4th- \$25 in each division.



2023
Legislative Department
Contest



GRASSROOTS ADVOCACY IN ACTION AWARD

Deadline: September 1

The National Grange has been driven for over 150 years by the grassroots advocacy of its membership in their communities and states across the country. From rural electrification to rural broadband, all of the National Grange's legislative accomplishments have begun with grassroots advocacy. With that in mind, the Grassroots Advocacy in Action Award is an annual award given by the National Grange Legislative Affairs Department to an outstanding individual/local Grange who has made exceptional grassroots advocacy action in the past year.

To apply for the award, eligible individuals should submit a minimum one-page written description of their grassroots advocacy action along with at least one photo. For the purposes of the award, eligible applicants include any individual Granger or local Grange. Submissions should be sent to lwashington@nationalgrange.org by September 1st with the subject line of "Grassroots Advocacy Award".

Please be sure to include a cover page with your name, Grange, Grange #, and state when you submit your application.

Examples of the sorts of grassroots advocacy actions we are looking for include hosting events with elected officials (local or national), organizing letter-writing or phone-calling campaigns, or meeting with elected officials in your state capitol. These examples are not an exhaustive list of every possible grassroots advocacy action which you can take and we encourage you to be creative in your advocacy! It is also important to remember when engaging in grassroots advocacy on behalf of the Grange that you should represent Grange values including respect, honesty, and non-partisanship.

Questions? Contact Sean O'Neil, Legislative Assistant, at soneil@nationalgrange.org.