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**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,

Samantha Wilkins
National Grange Youth Development Director
21578 Pleasanton Road
San Antonio, TX 78264

youth@nationalgrange.org

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

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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.

If it 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:
Samantha Wilkins
21578 Pleasanton Road
San Antonio, TX 78264

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:
Samantha Wilkins
21578 Pleasanton Road
San Antonio, TX 78264

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 _____

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: _____

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:
Samantha Wilkins
21578 Pleasanton Road
San Antonio, TX 78264

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:
Samantha Wilkins
21578 Pleasanton Road
San Antonio, TX 78264

Application available at www.nationalgrange.org

Gy 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.)

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

_____ Youth Ambassador(s)

_____ Young Couple/ Young Adult

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

State President's Initials: _____

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

Title and Date Published

Gy 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

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

Group/Individuals names

Group/Individuals names

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

Gy 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.)

Gy 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

Gy 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. Ozawkie, 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

Content- 30 Points <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the theme well defined • Accurate and appropriate information • Use of Materials 	Neatness: 25 points <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pictures and clippings are securely fastened OR • Pictures and clippings are in focus • Sturdy, durable, attractive, eye catching
Organization 30 Points <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arranged in such a way that the theme portrayed can be followed easily and logically 	Originality: 15 points <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-
Samantha Wilkins, 21578 Pleasanton Road, San Antonio, TX 78264

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-
Samantha Wilkins, 21578 Pleasanton Road, San Antonio, TX 78264

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-
Samantha Wilkins, 21578 Pleasanton Road, San Antonio, TX 78264

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?

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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-
Samantha Wilkins, 21578 Pleasanton Road, San Antonio, TX 78264

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