

YOUTH DEPARTMENT

State Youth Director

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WEBSITES

WA State Grange Youth Department – includes applications for all state Grange youth programs:
www.grange.org

National Grange Youth Department – 2019 Grange Youth Program and Contest Handbook includes applications for all national grange programs: www.nationalgrangeyouth.org

Facebook Group: Washington State Grange Youth

YOUTH DEPARTMENT CALENDAR FOR 2020

March 6-8: Teen Get Away Weekend at the Moses Lake Grange Hall

February 1: Application due to National Legislative Director for Grassroots Advocacy Program

May 15: Applications due to State Youth Director for the following:

- 4-H/FFA Member Award
- Spirit of Youth Award

June 1: Notify State Youth Director of intent to enter the following:

- Horizon Youth Ambassador and Young Patron Program
- Outstanding Young Adult
- Sign-a-Song Contest
- Public Speaking Contest – prepared speeches

June 24-27: State Grange Convention @ Walla Walla County Fairgrounds. Bring items for the Keep Washington Warm Service Project and Grange Youth Display Contest Entries

August 7-9: Western Regional Grange Leadership/Youth Conference – hosted by the Idaho State Grange

August 15: All applications for the following due to the State Youth Director:

- John Trimble Legislative Experience
- National Grange Youth Officer Team

September 1: Applications due to National Youth Director for the following:

- Distinguished Grange Youth Program
- Horizon Youth Leadership Ambassador
- National Grange Youth Officer Team
- John Tribble Legislative Experience
- GRANGE Youth Pillar Project

October 1: Applications due for the National Grange GROW Club Scholarship

November 17-21: National Grange Convention in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania



MISSION STATEMENT FOR THE YOUTH DEPARTMENT

The Youth Department exists to serve the interests of young Grange members and foster their role in the future of the Grange.

STATE GRANGE YOUTH OFFICERS

The Washington State Grange Youth Officers are elected at State Convention with installation to follow. To be eligible to be a State Youth Officer, you must be a fourth-degree member in good standing, and no more than 20 years of age at the time of election. Each person can hold any given office for only one year. There is a limit of three officers per county, if possible, to give everyone a chance to become an officer. State Youth Officers' duties consist of opening, conducting business, and closing Youth meetings at convention; helping with the planning and running of Youth Weekend; and attending their own Subordinate and Pomona meetings as well as others in their area. They will be called on to speak to other groups about the Grange and represent the Grange at other functions and meetings. You are representatives of the Grange and the Youth Department!!!

STATE CONVENTION

The youth activities during convention are open to all fourth-degree members in good standing.

The Youth Department of the Washington State Grange will not be responsible for youth not in attendance of youth functions, or in the evenings after all youth activities are over for the day. Each youth under the age of 18 must have a responsibility form on file with the Washington State Grange. The person signing the responsibility form must be over the age of 21 and staying for the entire convention.

The responsibility form requires the name and convention address of the person responsible for the youth attending the convention. Any youth attending convention and participating in youth activities must be registered and wear the registration badge to all functions. Each youth will need a completed medical release form to register. The youth badge is required to attend all youth activities.

DRESS GUIDELINES: Everyone will be dressed neatly (clean, no holes, tears or unsightly patches). We suggest at least one dress shirt (tie recommended) and slacks for men and at least one dress outfit for women. Appropriate casual dress will be fine most of the time.

YOUTH GET AWAY WEEKEND

Youth Get Away Weekend is open to all Grange youth. This event will be March 6-8 at the Moses Lake Grange Hall. All participants will pay a registration fee of \$20.00. Everyone must have a registration and medical release form. Forms are available from the Youth Director and online on the Washington State Grange website. Please send all completed forms to the State Youth Director. We maintain a zero-tolerance policy on alcohol, tobacco, drugs, and weapons. Once a teen arrives, they will stay with the group until they leave to go home, unless the absence has been pre-approved by both the directors and a parent. This includes the use of cars. Violators will be sent home.

KEEP WASHINGTON WARM YOUTH SERVICE PROJECT

In cooperation with the State Grange Community Service Department, our Grange youth members will be collecting stocking caps, mittens, gloves, scarves, etc. for distribution to the less fortunate in our state. Items may be purchased or hand made. Donations should be delivered to the State Grange Convention. Grange youth will display the items and then distribute the items in the host convention area following the convention.

HORIZON LEADERSHIP YOUTH AMBASSADOR and YOUNG PATRON PROGRAM

The purpose of the Horizon Leadership Ambassador/Young Patron program is to provide an opportunity for Youth and Young Adults, 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 program is an opportunity for youth and young adults selected by their state to participate in activities as guests of The National Grange Foundation, Youth Leadership Fund.

The National Grange will provide scholarship assistance toward room and meal costs at the National Grange convention. The Washington State Grange Youth Department will reimburse for the cost of airfare to the national convention site.

Details for eligibility and selection process can be found in the WA State Grange Youth Program Guide.



FFA OR 4-H MEMBER AWARD

An award is presented to a 4-H or FFA member who is a fourth-degree Grange member who meets these requirements:

FFA:

1. Hold at least chapter degree of achievement in FFA.
2. Has an outstanding record of planned farm experience.
3. Is a leader and is involved in both Grange and non-Grange activities.

4-H:

1. Has been a 4-H member for at least one year.
2. Has an outstanding record of participation in 4-H activities.
3. Is a leader and is involved in both Grange and non-Grange activities.

The recipient of this award is entitled to \$50 travel expenses for attending the State Grange Convention, Complimentary initiation in the Fifth and Sixth degrees and certificate. The State Grange Youth Team makes the

selection of the final winner. Applications are available on the State Grange website. All applications must be postmarked by May 15 of the current year to the State Youth Director.

WASHINGTON STATE SPIRIT OF YOUTH AWARD



This award is designed to honor those who have given unselfishly of themselves to Youth Programs. Often these people are behind the scenes, never receiving recognition, but always have the needs of Youth in their plans. The Spirit of Youth Award is an award of distinction, an honor of prestige.

Rules: Nominees can be single or married. Nominees can be of any age. Nominations should take the form of a letter to the Youth Director explaining why this person/couple should be recognized for this award. Nominations are due to the State Youth Director postmarked by May 15th. The award will be given during State Convention.

JOHN TRIMBLE YOUTH 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 grass roots legislative policy development effort at the National Grange Convention. Details for eligibility and selection process can be found in the National Grange Youth Program Guide.

NATIONAL GRANGE YOUTH OFFICER TEAM

Purpose: 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. Details for eligibility and selection process can be found in the National Grange Youth Program Guide.

PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST

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

- 14-21 years of age
- 22-35 years of age
- 36+ years of age

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



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.

Category B: Impromptu Speeches

An impromptu speech is delivered without preparation or thought ahead of time. No note cards are used, and topics are generally drawn. We hope that by establishing an impromptu speech category that members will build confidence and participate in the prepared speeches or the Grange commercial speech category.

Impromptu speeches should be at least one minute in length and not longer than 5 minutes. The timekeeper will hold up hand when the 1-minute mark has been reached and the 4½ 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. Competition will be held at the Regional Conferences – You need not have participated in a state competition to participate. Participants must notify National Director of intent to enter prior to the beginning of the contest.

Public speaking will be judged on the following criteria:

- Voice: Spoke clearly, easy to understand;
- Stage Presence: dressed Neatly and appropriately, posture, nervousness, etc.;
- Expression: Delivered speech with enthusiasm and emotion;
- Confidence in speaking, content of speech;
- Clarity of thoughts and ideas on topic.

One point will be deducted for every 30 seconds a participant is under or over the time established. Score sheet will be returned to entrants.

Category C: Grange Commercial

A Grange commercial is an advertisement promoting the Grange. Contestants must film and edit themselves doing a commercial for the Grange. Can include up to five people in the commercial. Commercial should last between 30 and 60 seconds. The participants must include a written script. Commercials must be submitted to the state director by the opening of the State Grange Convention.

Prizes: National Grange will provide ribbons to the top three entrants in each division and age category. 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. Impromptu Public speaking category entries are not eligible for Best of Show. Each Best of Show that show cases at the National Grange convention will receive \$100.

WA STATE GRANGE CONTEST INFORMATION: Participants in Category A (Prepared Speeches) should notify the State Youth Director by June 1 of their intent to enter the contest. Participants in Category B should notify the State Youth Director prior to the contest at the State Convention. Participants in Category C must submit their entry to the State Youth Director prior to the opening of the State Grange Convention. The state contests will be held during the State Grange Convention in June of each year. First place winners in each age group of Category A will be eligible to enter the Regional Public Speaking Contest in August. The cost of attending the regional conference (registration fee, hotel, transportation, etc.) is the responsibility of the contestant. There is no limit on entries in Categories B and C at the regional level.

Prizes: State prizes in each age group of Category A (Prepared Speech) are: First Place, \$100; Second Place, \$75; and Third Place, \$50. State prizes in each age group of Category B (Impromptu) and C (Grange Commercial) are: First Place, \$15; Second Place, \$10; and Third Place, \$5.



SIGN-A-SONG CONTEST

Categories:

- A. Individual – either a novice or hobbyist. An individual who is beginning to learn to sign or signs on an occasional basis and strictly for fun.
- B. Group – two or more people signing.

Rules

1. Each state may send one entry in each category to the regional competition. Selection of the state winners is under the jurisdiction of the State Grange
2. Participants are to supply the contest officials with three copies of the words to the song they are signing.
3. Participants must provide their own music. A CD player and speakers will be available.
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. (Pidgeon, ASL, ESL, etc.)

Judging guidelines for a total of 100 points:

- Utilization of Total communication skills (sign language ability, signs clearly with correct interpretation) - 32 points
- Body expression, displays emotion, expresses key thoughts with body movement, mouth words for lip reading -30 points
- Presentation, interpret with confidence, uniformity (group) - 25 points
- Song selection is appropriate, with a clear meaning and is suitable for the participants signing ability - 10 points
- Signed their own name - 1 point
- Signed title of Song - 1 point
- Informed judges and Audience of type of sign language being used - 1 point

Prizes: National Grange will provide ribbons for each regional contest for first, second and third. To be eligible to participate in National Showcase, you must advance from your local region. Showcase acts will receive \$100 for participating.

WA STATE GRANGE CONTEST INFORMATION: Participants should notify the State Youth Director by June 1 of their intent to enter the contest. The state contests will be held during the State Grange Convention in June of each year. First place winners in each category will be eligible to enter the Regional Public Speaking Contest in August. State prizes in Category A: First Place, \$50; Second Place, \$30; and Third Place, \$20. State prizes in Category B: First Place, \$75; Second Place, \$50; and Third Place, \$25. The cost of attending the regional conference (registration fee, hotel, transportation, etc.) is the responsibility of the contestant.

MEMBER RECRUITMENT AWARD

To encourage youth and young adults to grow the Grange, the youth department will be recognizing youth and young adults for their recruitment efforts. The program will run from October 1, 2019 to September 30, 2020. Full details can be found in the National Grange Youth Program Guide.

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

To encourage youth and young adults to interact and serve the communities where they reside. Full details can be found in the National Grange Youth Program Guide.

JUNIOR MENTOR AWARD

Grange youth and young adults can have a powerful impact on the Grange experience with our youngest members. This award is designed to recognize the Grange youth and young adults that go above and beyond to guide and mentor Junior Grangers. Full details can be found in the National Grange Youth Program Guide.

GRANGE YOUTH DISPLAY CONTEST

All entrants must be youth or young adult members of a subordinate/community Grange. There will be two age division: Youth – Grange members 14-21 years of age as of January 1; Young Adults – Grange members 22-35 years of age. Full details can be found in the National Grange Youth Program Guide.



GRANGERYOUTH

WA State Info: All entries are due to the youth meeting room at the State Grange Convention before the opening of the convention. If no entries are received at the convention, the State Youth Committee reserves the right to select state representative entries following the state convention.

GRANGE YOUTH PILLAR PROJECT

An individual or 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 GRANGE Youth and track that project throughout the events time frame. The event or project must take place between October 1 and September 20. Once the event or project concludes, youth will put together a project portfolio to show their beginning, during, and end progress. Complete details are available in the National Grange Youth Program Guide.

The Six Pillars of GRANGE Youth are: Growth, Ritual, Action, Networking, Grassroots Advocacy, and Education.

GRANGE BASEBALL

Grange Baseball is an exciting event that brings together youth and young adults interested in Grange trivia and history. Individuals will gain knowledge about the Grange, its history and impact on rural America. This fact sheet serves as a guideline to prepare Grangers for a Grange Baseball competition. Details for eligibility and selection process can be found in the National Grange Youth Program Guide.

PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE CONTEST

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. Full details can be found in the National Grange Youth Program Guide.

GRASSROOTS ADVOCACY PROGRAM

APPLICATION DEADLINE: February 1

Any member who has completed the Sapphire and Emerald John Trimble Legislative Achievement Award requirements is eligible to enter Grange Grassroots Advocacy Award program. The program requires entrants to submit an application to the National Grange Legislative Director along with supporting documents. Details for eligibility and selection process can be found in the National Grange Youth Program Guide.

Prizes: First place – Two winners will be selected to receive an \$800 travel scholarship to attend the 2020 Legislative Fly-In. The awards are compliments of Potomac Grange #1. All other entrants will receive certificates of participation.

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, Ambassador or Horizon Leadership programs or have served as Youth team members or as a National Grange Youth Director. State Grange GROW Club members will meet annually during the State Grange Convention.

DISTINGUISHED GRANGE YOUTH PROGRAM

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. By 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, 2019 through June 30, 2020. All Distinguished Youth Granges will receive a certificate and be recognized in the annual honors list. Applications are due to the National Grange Youth Director by September 1.

2020 REGIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCES

Regional conferences will be held in six regions of the nation. The regional conferences will include workshops which youth and young adults and older Junior Grangers will be able to utilize in their own states and communities. Public speaking and sign song competitions will be held at the regional conference. Regional conferences will help Youth and Young Adults develop needed In life skills. Non-Grange youth are invited to participate in the regional conferences. These conferences are for everyone - age is unimportant, but your enthusiasm and love for the Grange is needed. The Western Regional Conference is scheduled for August 7-9, 2020 and will be hosted by the Idaho State Grange.

