

Youth and Young Adults Ages 14-35

Oregon State Grange Youth Officers

(Oregon Program) Due March 31st

State Youth Officers open the Oregon State Grange Convention on Wednesday morning. In addition each youth officer will be assigned duties during the week to assist their counterpart State Grange officer.

State Youth Officers

- Youth officers will serve a one-year term
- All Youth officers will need to attend the State Grange Convention from Saturday through Wednesday and participate in every Youth Officer practice as requested.
- Youth officers will make an effort to volunteer at least 2 State Grange events, i.e.: FFA convention, Ag Fest, Log Cabin at State Fair and Veteran Day Parade
- Youth officers will be provided with and expected to sell 20 raffle tickets previous to arriving for state convention. Tickets will be mailed no later than May 1
- Youth officers will be available as a state resource to help plan, promote, and conduct Grange Youth activities.

Applicants for State Youth Officers must be youth age, 14 to 35 years as of January 1. The application will be published in the February issue of the OSG Bulletin, on Facebook and can be downloaded from www.orgrange.org/youth/. Applications must be sent to the State Youth Director postmarked no later than **March 31**. The State Youth Team will select State Youth Officers and the State Youth Director is responsible for informing the applicants of their office no later than May 1.

All officers will need to attend the State Grange Convention at the Talent High School from Saturday June 18 through Thursday June 23 and participate in every Youth Officer practice.

Youth Officers cannot hold the same office for two consecutive years.

Officers with speaking parts will have their parts thoroughly memorized upon arrival at the State Grange Convention

The AS is responsible for having an entrance drill prepared. The LAS is responsible for having an exit drill prepared. Please limit the opening drill to six minutes and the retiring drill to three minutes.

Dress requirements for Youth Officers on Wednesday morning when opening the State Grange Convention:

- Male officers will be required to wear a button-up shirt, slacks, tie, jacket and dress shoes (no athletic shoes).
- Female officers will be required to wear a floor length dress with straps or sleeves and dress shoes.

Oregon Teenager Award

(Oregon Program) Due May 15th

This program is for young Grange members 14-15 years old, who are making the transition from the Junior Grange program to the youth program of the Subordinate/Community Grange. Applicants do not have to have been a Junior Grange member to enter.

The following process will be used to select the winner:

- One teenager between the ages of 14 and 15 will be selected to receive this honor.
- The Subordinate/Community Grange must certify that the applicant is eligible. This includes submitting a completed Oregon Teenager Award Application, which must be signed by the Subordinate/Community Grange President and Youth Chair or Secretary. The application can be downloaded from www.orgrange.org/youth/.
- Applicants must submit an essay of at least 300 but not more than 500 words on one of three topics
 - "How I plan to bring more young people into the Grange and help keep them active?"
 - What is the role of a teenager in the Grange?
 - What have I learned from Grange?
- Applicants must complete the requirements of two seals from the National Achievement Program prior to the State Grange Convention.
- Applicants must secure one letter of recommendation from your Subordinate/Community Grange President or Secretary or Pomona Youth Chairperson.
- Judges will take into consideration the number of Subordinate/Community and Pomona Grange meetings the applicant has attended in the previous year.

A three-person committee appointed by the State President and/or State Youth Director shall select the state winner.

The winner will be announced at the Youth Luncheon during the State Grange Convention. The winner will receive a certificate and \$25.

Previous winners are not eligible to compete again.

Judging Criteria:

Points

Judging Criteria:	Points
Personal Essay	100
Application	50
Letter of Recommendation	50
Possible:	200

The application package consisting of the Oregon Teenager Award Application, essay and one letter of recommendation must be sent to the State Youth Director postmarked no later than **May 15**.

The Oregon Teenager will serve a one-year term on the State Youth Committee and be available as a state resource to help plan, promote, and conduct Grange Youth activities.

Junior Mentor Award

(National Program) Due August 1st

This award is designed to recognize Grange youth and young adults who go above and beyond to guide and mentor Junior Grangers.

- Mentors must be between the ages of 14 and 35.
- National Nominations will be by the State Youth Committee with advisement of the State Junior Committee. Any Oregon Grange or state Committee may make nominations to the state Youth Director. The OSG application deadline is **August 1**.
- State winners will receive a certificate and may be recognized during Youth Activities Days at the National Grange Convention.
- The National Junior and Youth Departments will name a committee to select one winner, who will receive a plaque.

Oregon Ambassador, Outstanding Young Adult & Young Couple – National Horizon Ambassador & Young Patron-Program

(State & National Program) Due May 15th

The purpose of this program is to provide an opportunity for selected youth, young adults, and young couples to build their leadership potential, broaden their view of the Grange by experiencing a National Convention, receive educational training to use in their state, and build

relationships with Grangers throughout the nation by having fun.

Each state may send two youth (one male and one female), and two young adults or one young couple who meet the following criteria:

- Youth ambassadors must have observed their 16th birthday, but not their 23rd birthday by December 31 of the year they attend the National Convention. The individuals must also be single, never been married, have no children and must not marry and/or have children during their term of service. If under 18, they must have their parents' consent.
- Young adults and young couples must have observed their 22nd birthday, but not their 37th birthday by December 31 of the year they attend the National Convention.
- All applicants must have been a Grange member for a minimum of one year at the time they attend the National Convention.
- Previous ambassadors, young adults and young couples cannot repeat the experience, but former ambassadors can become young patrons.
- All must be able to attend the National Convention to represent their state during Youth Activities Days (Wednesday evening through Saturday).
- All must attend a regional youth conference in the year they apply and a State Convention in the past two years. Applicant 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.
- Applicant must submit an example of a social media post used to promote membership and a short essay about why they wish to be considered for National Grange Youth leadership team.
- Ambassadors/Young Patrons/Young Couples must present a 30 minute workshop at National Convention.
- 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

Oregon Requirements

- Must meet the above requirements or show progress towards
- Must complete and submit the Oregon Application
- Must submit a letter of recommendation from your Subordinate/ Community Grange President or Secretary

The application form must be completed and sent with a letter of recommendation from your Subordinate/ Community Grange President or Secretary to the State Youth Director postmarked no later than **May 15**. The application form is downloaded from www.orgrange.org/youth/.

State winners will be announced during the Youth Luncheon at the annual State Grange Convention. Each will receive a certificate and will represent Oregon at the Western Regional Conference and the National Convention the year of their reign.

For the Western Regional Conference, the State Grange will pay mileage to and from the carpool departure point, two-night shared lodging, and registration, which includes group meals.

Oregon Ambassadors, Outstanding Young Adults and Young Couple will serve a one-year term on the State Youth Committee and will be available as a state resource to help plan, promote, and conduct Grange Youth activities.

Oregon Ambassadors, Outstanding Young Adults and Young Couple will serve as Grange Ambassadors and make an effort to represent the Grange at State Fair in the Log Cabin, Albany Veterans Day Parade, Oregon FFA Convention and Ag Fest as well as travel to Granges as requested.

State Ambassadors and Outstanding Young Adults or Outstanding Young Couple with complete requirements for the National Grange Horizon Leadership Program and will be responsible for sending the National application package including letters of recommendation from your Subordinate/ Community Grange President or Secretary, the State President and the State Youth Director to the National Grange Youth Director postmarked no later than **August 15**.

- Include a summary of your Grange activities in the following areas: Fellowship, Activities, Recognition, Fun, Leadership, Service, and Membership.
- Write a five to eight line description of yourself and/or your family and submit three 4" x 6" color photo prints, one which is of your family. The

description and photos may be displayed at various events throughout the Convention.

- Ambassadors and Young Patrons (Oregon Outstanding Young Adults or Young Couple) are required to bring a ½ inch binder with photos and highlights from their year to the National Convention. The binders will be placed on display in the Idea Fair and reviewed by the judges.
- At the National Convention ambassadors and young adults will be housed together with up to three other participants per room. Young couples will be housed in one room.
- Ambassadors and Young Patrons are responsible for their own convention registration fee. The State Grange will pay round-trip mileage or airfare and up to \$30 per day reimbursement for meals (Wednesday – Sunday) upon presentation of receipts.
- The National Grange GROW Club will provide each ambassador with tickets to the G.R.O.W. Club Reception.
- Ambassadors are required to attend the Youth Tour and Celebration Banquet.
- Any participant who fails to comply with the guidelines set up will be expected to pay their own expenses.

In Oregon Ambassadors will serve a one-year term on the State Youth Committee and will be available as a state resource to help plan, promote, and conduct Grange Youth activities.

Grange Display Contest

(National Program) Due June 19th

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. The theme of the display must be Grange related..

- Displays must be entered for judging at the State Grange Convention by **noon on Sunday** of convention.
- 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.
- Displays will be judged on content, organization, originality and neatness.
- All entrants must be youth or young adult members of a Subordinate/Community Grange.

- Age categories:
 Youth 14-21 as of January 1
 Young adult 22-35
- Entrants can be either an individual or a group. However, all group members must be in the same age division.

challenges, manual, degrees, Grange history books, Digest of Laws, Journal of Proceedings, etc.

Regional contests:

- Regional Participants will be divided into two teams: Blue Agates or Golden Sheaves. State affiliations do not matter.
- Play will last for five innings or an hour and a half. In the case of a tie-breaker, an extra inning will be played.
- Each team will get 3 outs per inning. (An out is an incorrect answer.)
- When a player gets up to bat, they will get to determine what type of base hit they want: single, double, triple, home run.
- The type of base hit will determine the difficulty of the question.
- Participants will have 15 seconds to answer a single or double question; 30 seconds to answer a triple or home run question.

Judging Criteria	Points
Content	30
Organization	30
Neatness	25
Originality	15
Possible:	100

The first place winner in each age category will receive \$50; their entry will be sent to the National Grange Convention and may be exhibited in the Grange booth at the FFA Convention, the Log Cabin, or other venues determined by the State Grange office.

The State Youth Director will make arrangements for shipping the display to and from the National Grange convention. The contestant does not need to attend.

Youth Officer T-Shirt Design Contest - NEW

(National Program) Due August 15th

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.

- Designs must be no more than two colors and front design only.
- Designs must be submitted in a .PNG or .JPEG image via email to the National Grange Youth Director (youth@nationalgrange.org) no later than August 15th.
- Voting will take place from August 20-September 10th. Winning Designs will be announced after September 10th.
- All entries must be submitted with a waiver of release found in the National Youth Handbook.

Grange Baseball

(National Contest)

Grange Baseball gives you the opportunity to expand your knowledge of the organization in many different areas while enhancing your critical thinking, problem solving, communications, and listening skills. Questions will be gathered from the National Grange roster, Youth and Junior programs, past trivia

Once the teams have been decided, the teams will choose 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. Anyone may participate at a regional level. Only Juniors/Youth/Young Adults will be able to participate at National session.

The State Grange will pay mileage to and from the carpool departure point, two-nights shared lodging, and registration, which includes group meals. The contest at the Western Regional Conference will follow the same format as the national contest.

National winners will receive a ribbon.

If an Oregon contestant is selected to participate at the National Grange Convention, the State Grange will pay round-trip mileage or airfare and up to \$30 per day (Friday – Sunday) reimbursement for meals upon presentation of receipts.

National Grange Youth Officers Team

(National Program) Due August 15th

Purpose: To assemble a team of youth from across the nation to open the National Grange Convention on Friday morning. This provides more youth with an opportunity to participate in the National Grange Convention.

The Grange Youth Officers Team will march in and open the Grange in the Fourth Degree and march out.

There are 18 offices to be filled: President, Vice-President, Lecturer, Steward, Assistant Steward, Lady Assistant Steward, Chaplain, Treasurer, Secretary, Gatekeeper, Ceres, Pomona, Flora, four Executive Committee positions and Musician. Youth who previous served as President are ineligible to re-apply.

- President, Vice-President, Steward, A.S., L.A.S., Gatekeeper, and Chaplain have speaking parts.
- Lecturer will need to select an opening song.
- Secretary will need to call the roll of Youth Officers and pronounce their names 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 of the National Grange.
- A.S. and L.A.S. may submit suggestions for the seating and retiring drill. Please limit the opening drill to six minutes and the retiring drill to three minutes.
- Musician applicants must submit a musical demonstration tape or CD. The musical piece should be no more than three minutes. The Musician may make suggestions for march music. The National Youth Director will screen any music suggestions for appropriateness.

Those applying for a position must be Grange members, who are at least 14 years of age and not over 35 years of age. The application form is available in the *2020 Grange Youth Program and Contest Handbook* or can be downloaded from www.orgrange.org/youth/.

- Applicants must attend a regional youth conference in the year they apply. Applicant must also participate in Sign a Song or Prepared Speech at regional conference.
- Applicants may not apply for an office they have held previously.
- Applicants must submit a letter of recommendation from a member of their local Grange (preferably President), State Youth Director, and State President.
- Applicants must write a five to eight line description about themselves and/or their family and submit three 4" x 6" color photo prints, one which is of their family. The description and photos will be displayed at various events throughout the National Grange Convention.
- 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 officers.

- Current Ambassadors and John Trimble Youth Legislative Experience delegates are not eligible to apply.

The National Youth Director will 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.

Each applicant will be notified of the results no later than September 20, so that each has adequate time to make travel arrangements. Each member of the N.G.Y.O.T. will receive a special certificate.

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, financial assistance will be given for lodging and meals. If funds are not available, all expenses incurred will be the responsibility of the youth participating.

The State Grange will pay round-trip mileage or airfare and up to \$30 per day reimbursement (Wednesday – Sunday) for meals upon presentation of receipts.

Youth Officers will participate in an Officer Meet and Greet with their National counterpart on Wednesday Night of National convention.

Applicants are responsible for sending applications with letters of recommendation and photos must be sent to the National Grange Youth Director no later than **August 15**.

John Trimble National Youth Legislative Experience

(National Program) Due August 15th

The Trimble 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 grassroots legislative policy development at the National Grange Convention.

- Each youth will serve as a voting member of a committee reviewing resolutions 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 only one time.
- As a youth staff assistant participants will be assigned additional logistical duties so that they can

see how the production process works at the convention. These duties will not conflict with opportunities to see National Delegates work on the floor.

The application form is available in the *2022 Grange Youth Program and Contest Handbook* or can be downloaded from www.orgrange.org/youth/.

- Applicants must write a five to eight line description about themselves and/or their family and submit three 4" x 6" color photo prints, one which is of their family. The description and photos will be displayed at various events throughout the National Grange Convention.
- Please include letters of recommendation from your Subordinate/Community Grange President, State Youth Director and your State Grange President.
- Applicants must attend a regional conference the year they apply and participate in either Sign-a-Song or the Prepared Speech contest.
- Applications must be postmarked no later than **August 15** to the National Youth Director, who will share them with the National Legislative Director and National President in making selection of participants and committee assignment. Applicants are responsible for mailing their application.

As guests of the National Grange the participant's room (which will be shared with other participants) cost will be paid plus meals or tickets to certain meal functions. The State Grange will pay round-trip mileage or airfare.

Any participant who fails to comply with the guidelines set up will be expected to pay their own expenses.

Parliamentary Procedure Contest

(National Program) Notify by August 15th

Purpose: 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.

As part of the contest, the team 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 fill the offices of President, Vice-President, Steward, Chaplain, Secretary and

Gatekeeper. All must be between the ages of 14-35 as of January 1.

The event will consist of the following activities:

- Written Examination
- Opening Ceremonies
- Team Demonstration
- Closing Ceremonies
- Oral Questions

Awards will be presented to the 1st place team, high scoring individual, and high scoring chair.

You can download the contest rules, event procedures, and judges' scorecard and sample questions from www.orgrange.org/youth. Teams that intend to enter must notify the National Youth Director by September 1.

Wib and June Justi Youth Community Service Award

(National Program) Due August 1st

Purpose: To recognize a Grange youth or young adult between the ages of 14 and 35, who has performed outstanding service in their community. A group of Grange youth may also receive this award.

The Grange or committee nominating the youth needs to describe the community service activity that was conducted and who benefited from it. Was this a new or old activity? What was the impact or result of the activity? Who else was involved and what was their contribution? The entry form can be downloaded from www.orgrange.org/youth. It must be sent to the State Grange Youth Director postmarked no later than **August 1**. State winner's application must be postmarked by **August 15** to the National Youth Director.

The State Grange winner(s) will receive a certificate and be recognized at the National Grange Convention during Youth Leadership Days. The National Grange Community Service and Youth Departments will organize a committee to select one overall winner, who will receive a plaque in recognition of their achievements.

State Ritual Contest

(Oregon Contest) Notify by June 18th

Our Grange ritual contains important lessons and advice for members, but many Granges no longer use the Opening and Closing Ceremonies let alone exemplify the degrees. The purpose of this contest is to encourage youth to read the manual, identify a favorite passage, memorize it, and deliver it with expression to communicate its meaning to their fellow members.

Age categories (as of January 1)

- Youth 14-21 years of age
- Young Adult 22-35 years of age

Rules

- Select a favorite passage to memorize and recite from these parts of the Manual:
 - Chaplain's prayer from Opening the Grange.
 - Master's charge from Closing the Grange.
 - An officer's part in the First, Second, Third, or Fourth Degrees. The passage should be 100 words or more in length. However, if your favorite passage is Flora's part in the First Degree, you could add Flora's charge in the Fourth Degree after an appropriate transition.
 - The Installing Officer's part in the Installation of Officers: the opening, obligation, or the charge for any of the officers.
- The contestant should begin by identifying the passage (officer, which degree or opening, closing, or installation), and explain why they selected it. Be sure to include anything listeners should know that happened prior to this passage that could affect their understanding of it. This introduction should be less than two minutes in length.
- The competition will be held during the State Grange Convention. Those planning to enter must notify the State Youth Director by first day of State Session so that judges can be provided with copies of the passage.
- Delivery is to be from memory. The contestant cannot have a copy of the Manual or any papers to aid them but can designate a prompter.

Judging Criteria

Introduction: Appropriately set the scene	10
Memorization: Accurately delivered the written words without hesitation or prompting	25
Voice: Spoken clearly, easy to understand	10
Stage Presence: Posture and gestures appropriate, nervousness controlled	20
Expression: Communicated the meaning of the passage to listeners, held their attention by appropriately varying rate or vocal range	25
Difficulty: Met the challenge of difficult wording, pronounced words correctly	10

- 1st place: \$30, 2nd place: \$20, 3rd place: \$10 in each category (plus ribbons).

Youth Member Recruitment Award

(National Program) Due August 1st

Purpose: To encourage youth and young adults to grow the Grange. The program will run from September 1 to August 31. Members recruited can be of any age, but must never have joined the Grange before.

Oregon can select one Grange youth to be recognized by the National Grange as its State Youth Recruiter of the Year. Considerations for selection should include, but not exclusively:

- Number of members recruited in the year.
- Assistance with Subordinate/Community Grange membership growth activities and/or events.
- Present the four steps of membership recruitment at Subordinate/Community Grange meeting or other event.

Nominations must be sent to the State Youth Director postmarked no later than **August 15**. The State Grange winner(s) will receive a certificate and be recognized at the National Grange Convention during Youth Leadership Days. State winner's application must be postmarked by **September 1** to the National Youth Director.

Grange Inter-State Youth Exchange

(National Program) Due August 1st

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 in other areas. By thus building interest, enthusiasm and the increased youth membership should result

Points

NJHA and Grange Youth Horticulture Identification and Judging Contest - NEW

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.

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 events 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 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.

Pillar Project Contest - NEW

(National Contest) Notify by August 15th

Rules: Project must take place between July 1st and June 30th.

- Project may be done individually or with a group of no more than 3.
- Participants will put together a project portfolio and display to be presented in front of a panel of judges at National Convention. Physical displays must be able to stand by itself and no larger than 3' by 4'. Portfolios and Displays will be put in the Grange Showcase after Judging.
- Presentation needs to be at least 5 minutes long, but no longer than 8 minutes. Time will be kept for judging purposes.
- Participants will be asked follow up questions that will last no longer than 5 minutes.
- 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.

- There will be two age divisions (If in a group, the age of the oldest group member determines the division to enter):
 - Youth - Grange members between the ages of 14-21 as of Jan. 1;
 - Young Adult - Grange members between the ages of 22-35.

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.

Youth Sponsored Awards & Contests for All Ages

Code Reading/Grange Ritual Contest

(National Contest) Notify two weeks prior to regionals

Can you crack the Grange code? If so, you can present your skills at the National Grange Convention and test your skills against other Grangers from across the country. Contact the State President at master@orange.org to obtain a copy of the code book and the cipher.

There are two levels:

- Novice: those learning the code; you can compete as a novice for up to two years.
- Patron: members with two or more years of experience.

Novice contestants will read these sections:

- Use of the gavel
- Degree words: 1st, 2nd, 3rd, & 4th degrees
- Annual password
- Voting sign
- Sign: 1st, 2nd, 3rd, & 4th degrees
- Patrons grip

Patron contestants will read these:

Section I

- Opening
- Use of the gavel
- Salutations for all degrees
- Degree words: 1st, 2nd, 3rd, & 4th
- Annual word
- Voting sign

Section II

- Passing to different degrees
- 1st Degree
Signal at the inner gate
Signal at the outer gate
Sign
Salutation
- 2nd Degree
Signal at the inner gate
Sign
Salutation
- 3rd Degree
Signal at the inner gate
Sign
Salutation

- 4th Degree
Signal at the inner gate
Sign
Salutation

Section III

- Sign of caution
- Sign of distress
- Patrons general sign
- Sign of recognition
- Patrons grip
- Patrons test

Code Book Reading Award of Merit

Participants may elect to read the entire code book. The participant will be allowed five mistakes, none of which can be in Section I and only two in Section II. For Section III, the participant will select two of the six options and be allowed three mistakes.

Youth Booster Award

(Oregon Program) Due May 15th

Purpose: To recognize and honor individuals over the age of 36 who have given a boost to your Grange youth in the past year.

- The program will run from May 1 of the previous year to April 30 of the current year. All nominees will be recognized at the Youth Luncheon at the State Grange Convention and will be given a certificate.
- Nominations to be sent to State Grange Youth Directors postmarked no later than **May 15**. A form can be downloaded from www.orange.org/youth/.
- Each Subordinate/Community and Pomona Grange as well as each OSG youth officer may nominate one member each year.

Sign-A-Song Contest

(Oregon and National Program) Notify by May 15th

The National Grange and Oregon State Grange are extremely proud to sponsor this deaf awareness program. The Grange encourages communication among all individuals, groups and communities. Through communication, we learn to know each other better. Communication is essential to practicing the inclusion of all individuals and solving problems. The world in which we live is full of opportunities for improvement. However, without communication, these improvements would be few and far between.

The Sign-A-Song contest promotes the use of non-verbal skills of communication. We encourage Grange members to learn sign language and use it to sign-a-

Youth Sponsored Awards & Contests for All Ages

song. It is a beautiful form of communication for many individuals.

State and regional categories

- Novice: One who is beginning to learn to 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 and has entered the sign-a-song contest no more than two years.
- Group: Two or more people signing. (*Note: If there is a professional signer in a group entry, they are eligible only in the Expert category.*)
- Expert: One who signs professionally or is an instructor (*paid for signing in any capacity.*). They may participate at state as a demonstration in the effort to encourage others to learn sign language. Experts are ineligible for Best of Show and regional competition.

Rules:

- Participants must be Grange members.
- Participants must supply their own music. A CD player and speakers will be available.
- Three copies of the words that are being signed must be supplied for the judges and turned in to the State Youth Directors prior to the competition.
- Signers must use total communication techniques: Sign language, facial expressions, mouthing of words for lip reading, finger spelling if appropriate, and body movement.
- Props and costumes are not allowed; rhythm is optional.
- Only one song may be signed during the competition.
- Participants must sign their own name and song title.
- Participants must inform the audience and judges what type of sign language they will be using (Pidgen, ASL, ESL, etc.).

Judging guidelines

Utilization of total communication skills:	Max pts
Sign language ability, signs clearly with correct interpretation	32
Body expression, displays emotion, expresses key thoughts with body movement, mouths words for lip reading	30
Presentation, interprets with confidence, uniformity (group)	25
Appropriate song selection, with a clear meaning and suitable for the contestant's signing ability	10
Signed their own name	1
Signed title of song	1
Informed judges and audience of type of sign language being used	1

Those planning to enter must notify the State Youth Directors by **May 15** so that qualified judges can be identified. An entry form can be downloaded from www.orgrange.org/youth/.

State prize: 1st place: \$25; certificates for all participants.

Regional competition: Oregon may send one entry in each category to the regional competition. The State Grange will pay mileage to and from the carpool departure point, two-nights shared lodging, and registration, which includes group meals.

National Grange will provide ribbons for each regional contest for first, second and third. 1st place: \$20, 2nd place: \$15, 3rd place: \$10.

The Best of Show at the Western Regional Conference will receive a special award plus \$25 and be eligible to participate in the showcase at the National Grange Convention in November. If the Best of Show is from Oregon, the State Grange will pay round-trip airfare and up to \$30 per day (Thursday – Sunday) reimbursement for meals upon presentation of receipts. Showcase acts will receive \$100 from National Grange for participating (*provided after the Evening of Excellence at National Convention.*)

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Public Speaking Contest

(Oregon and National Contest) Notify by May 15th

The purpose of this contest is to aid in the development of public speaking abilities and to build self-confidence in the participating Grange members.

Age categories (as of January 1):

- Youth: 14-21 years of age
- Young Adult: 22-35 years of age
- Adult: 36+ years of age

Rules

- This competition is open only to Grange members.
- Those planning to enter must notify the State Youth Director by **May 15** so qualified judges can be identified. An entry form can be downloaded from www.orgrange.org/youth/.
- The state competition will be held during the State Grange Convention.
- State contestants in the prepared speech are required to submit three copies of an outline of the speech to the State Youth Director prior to the competition.
- A panel of three judges with public speaking abilities will judge. The judges will score each contestant on an individual basis and then collectively determine the rankings of the contestants. Score sheets will be returned to entrants. After the state contest a time for private evaluation with the judges will also be offered to each contestant.
- The state winner in each category will receive a certificate. Each participant will receive a National Achievement Award.
- One point will be deducted for every 30 seconds, or fraction thereof, a participant goes under or over the time limit.

Prepared Speech

Contestants will choose a topic and speak on it for a minimum of three minutes and a maximum of five minutes. A timekeeper will keep the time but provide no time prompts.

The contestant will be required to answer one question related to their speech topic at the end of their speech.

Props will be allowed, but must be appropriately sized for the room. Points can be deducted for props.

At the National Grange Convention, regional winners' speeches will be judged and the best two will present at the Evening of Excellence. Showcase speakers will

receive \$100 from National Grange for participating (*provided after the Evening of Excellence at National Convention*).

Judging Criteria

Judging Criteria	Points
Text	
Content: Information gathered and included in speech	15
Composition: The speech was compiled in a manner that was easy to understand	15
Delivery	
Voice: Spoke clearly, easy to understand	10
Stage Presence: Dressed neatly and appropriately, posture and nervousness	20
Expression: Delivered speech with enthusiasm	20
Impromptu Answer	
Response was thought out and delivered without much hesitation	20

Grange Commercial

A Grange commercial is an advertisement promoting the Grange. Prior to regional contest participant(s) must film and edit themselves doing a commercial for the Grange. Can include up to five people in the commercial. Commercial should last between 30-60 seconds. The participants must provide a written script. Commercials must be submitted to the National Grange Youth Director prior to the competition.

Judging Criteria

Judging Criteria	Points
Text	
Content: Related to the Grange	15
Composition: The spot was compiled in a manner that was easy to understand	15
Creativity: Original matter than captured attention of audience	15
Delivery	
Voice: Spoke clearly, easy to understand	20
Expression: Delivered speech with enthusiasm and emotion	20

Impromptu Speech

An impromptu speech is delivered without preparation or thought ahead of time. Participants will draw two topics, select their choice and return the other one. Topics will be provided by the State Youth Director.

The minimum time is one minute and maximum is five minutes. The timekeeper will hold up a hand at one minute to signal the minimum and again when the four minute 30 seconds mark has been reached. One point

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will be deducted every 30 seconds a participant is under or over the time established.

For the Western Regional participants need not participate at state, but must notify the National Director of intent to enter. Contestants will speak immediately with no note cards.

Judging Guidelines:

Criteria	Points
Voice: Spoke clearly, easy to understand	10
Stage Presence: Dressed neatly and appropriately, postures appropriate, nervousness controlled	20
Expression: Delivered speech with enthusiasm and emotion	20
Confidence in speaking, Content of speech	15
Clarity of thoughts and ideas on topic	15

Regional Competition

- The first place winner of each age category in the Prepared Speech category will be eligible to travel to the regional competition.
- The best Grange Commercial speakers in each age category will be given the opportunity to travel and compete at the Regional competition.
- Oregon's representatives will receive mileage to and from the carpool departure point, two-nights shared lodging, and registration, which includes group meals.
- National Grange will provide ribbons to the top three entrants in each division and age category
- One overall winner (a Prepared Speech or Grange Commercial) from each region will be selected to compete at the National Grange Convention. If the Best of Show is from Oregon, the State Grange will pay round-trip airfare or mileage and up to \$30 per day (Thursday – Sunday) reimbursement for meals upon presentation of receipts. The National Grange will award \$100 to each regional Best of Show that showcases at the National Grange convention

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 prepared speech.

Grange Debate (NEW Regional Contest)

(National Program)

Debate is a wonderful way to build critical thinking skills, articulate your thoughts, educate yourself on various topics, form empathy for your opponent and their beliefs, build presentation skills, expand world views, and build confidence.

As Grange Youth, we should be able to gather research on a topic from reputable sources, form an argument/position based on their position. Participants should also be able to listen to the opposing positions(s)/argument(s) and issue a rebuttal with calmness in deliberation, forbearance to those who you differ from and charity toward their motives.

Format: Total estimated time for one round of 40 minutes

Team Pro:	Team Con:
4 Minute speech, 2 minute Cross Examination	4 Minute speech, 2 minute Cross Examination
4 Minute speech, 2 minute Cross Examination	4 Minute speech, 2 minute Cross Examination
1 minute preparation, 5 minute speech	1 minute preparation, 5 minute speech

Speech time refers to 1 person speaking in favor of or in opposition to the resolution without interruption. Cross examination following a speech refers to a period when a member of the team which did not give the speech asks questions of the person who has just spoken.

Team structure:

- 2 speakers, 2 researchers – 1 speaker must be a youth, 1 researcher must be a youth.
- 1 team per state in the region.

Potential Topic Areas:

- Food waste/security
- Climate change and its solutions
- Trade (protectionism vs. free trade)
- Or other Grange related policies or topics

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The topic for all Grange Debate teams at regional conferences will be given on Friday of the conference and the Debate will take place on Saturday night of the regional conference giving teams time to prepare and research.

Ballots:

Winner is determined by a combination of three ballots:

1. Judge vote – expert judges decide which team they believe won
2. Audience vote – the audience votes on who they think won the debate
3. Audience shift vote – the audience indicates a preference on the topic before the debate round (Strongly agree, agree, neutral, disagree, strongly disagree) and after the debate round. For a movement of position by 1 place (i.e. from agree to neutral) a team is awarded 1 point, the team which has accumulated the most points by this system wins this rounds ballot.

Full descriptions and forms of National contests, scholarships, awards and opportunities including some not listed above are not yet finalized. We anticipate that they will be able to be downloaded from the National Grange Youth web site, under the News and Resources, tab, Youth Downloads, at this URL

<https://nationalgrangeyouth.org/youth-downloads/>

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