

Horizon Leadership Ambassador & Young Patron Program

(National Program)

The purpose of the Ambassador 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 have attended a regional youth conference in the past five years and a State Convention in the past two years.
- All must complete three of the Oliver Hudson Kelly Achievement Awards and one of the John Thompson Ritual Achievement Awards. They must also complete the requirements for a minimum of two seals of any of the other achievement awards between September 1 of the previous year and by October 15 of the current year.

The application form must be completed and sent with a letter of recommendation from your Subordinate/Community Grange Master or Secretary to the State Youth Director postmarked no later than **May 15**. The application form is available in the *2017 Grange Youth Program & Contest Guide* or can be downloaded from www.orgrange.org/youth/.

- 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.
- Applicants must complete the Grange Trivia Challenge with a score of at least 80 percent prior to attending the convention. The Trivia Challenge may be downloaded from www.nationalgrangeyouth.org or obtained from the National Director and returned to her by October 15.

State winners will be announced during the Youth Luncheon at the annual State Grange Convention and presented to the Master's station during the 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.

The State Youth Director will send the application package including letters of recommendation from the State Master and the State Youth Director to the National Grange Youth Director postmarked no later than **September 1**.

- Ambassadors and Young Patrons are asked 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.
- The National Grange will provide scholarship assistance toward room and meal costs at the National Grange Convention for Ambassador and Young Patrons.
- 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 airfare and up to \$30 per day reimbursement for meals upon presentation of receipts.
 - The Grange Foundation Youth Leadership Fund will provide each ambassador with the following tickets: Tour, Pizza Party, Banquet and Invitation to A.O.L.E./G.R.O.W. Club Dinner.

- 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.