

National Grange Youth Officers Team (National Program)

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: Master, Overseer, Lecturer, Steward, A.S., L.A.S., Chaplain, Treasurer, Secretary, G.K., Ceres, Pomona, Flora, four Executive Committee positions and Musician. Youth who previous served as Master are ineligible to re-apply.

- Master, Overseer, 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 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 *2017 Grange Youth Program & Contest Guide* or can be downloaded from www.organge.org/youth/.

- Applicants are required to prove that they have earned a minimum of three achievement awards between August 31 of the previous year and September 1 of this year. One award seal must be completed in the John Thompson Ritual Achievement Award. They will also need to complete the Grange Trivia Challenge.
- Applicants must submit a letter of recommendation from a member of their local Grange (preferably Master), State Youth Director, and State Master.

- 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.
- Single youth (14-21) applicants must not have become pregnant nor have children during their term of service. If under 18, they must have their parents' consent.
- 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 off letters of recommendation as well as the application.

Each applicant will be notified of the results no later than October 1, 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 airfare and up to \$30 per day reimbursement for meals upon presentation of receipts.

Applications with letters of recommendation and photos must be sent to the National Grange Youth Director no later than **September 1**.