

Youth and Young Adults Ages 14-35

Oregon State Grange Youth Officers (Oregon Program)

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 must be youth age, 14 to 35 years as of January 1. Information will be published in the February issue of the OSG Bulletin and on Facebook.

If you are interested, please contact the Oregon State Grange youth committee at office@orgrange.org

Additional events, activities, and contest may be planned. Contact the Oregon State Grange youth committee at office@orgrange.org for more details.

National Grange Youth Officer Team

Deadline: September 1, 2026

The National Grange Youth Officer Team is a group of youth and young adults from across the nation who have the opportunity to represent not only their State Grange but also the National Grange as National Youth Officers at the National Grange Convention.

The team will participate in opening and closing drills, open a morning session of the convention, and conduct the order of business for the convention delegation. This is a great opportunity for the youth and young adult officers to grow as leaders and represent Grange youth and the future of our organization.

Purpose:

To allow youth and young adults the opportunity to learn from the Officers of the National Grange and gain a perspective of the duties those officers hold.
To engage in leadership growth and learn what it means to hold such an important leadership position.

Requirements:

Must attend all youth activities while attending the National Grange Convention, including workshops, service projects, practices, and any other events as directed by the National Grange Youth Director
Must be prepared before the convention with officer duties specific to your office. Officers will be notified early of the office in which they will serve. Officers with speaking parts must memorize their lines prior to the convention.

Officers are responsible for funding their own transportation, rooming, and any costs associated with

attending the National Convention. A small stipend will be awarded to youth officers who show exemplary participation.

Officers must enter at least ONE contest from any National Grange Department. You'll be asked to note which contest you entered on the application.

Regional Youth Ambassador Program

Deadline: September 1, 2026

A leadership opportunity for young people to represent the Grange, serve their communities, and promote agriculture and civic engagement.

The National Grange Youth Department is transforming the traditional Youth Ambassador Program into a Regional Program. This program is aimed at growing and developing stronger leaders across all Grange Regions.

Up to two Regional Youth Ambassadors may be selected in each region. These Ambassadors will be catalysts for the development of youth programming in those regions and will become the National Grange Youth Team. They will work closely with the National Youth Director, Youth Advisory Council, and youth directors/state presidents across their region to bring programming, leadership development, and education to the states they represent.

Honorary Youth Delegate Experience

Deadline: September 1, 2026

Purpose:

The Honorary Youth Delegate Experience is designed to cultivate knowledgeable, passionate young advocates who understand the Grange's legislative process or desire to learn it, and who feel empowered to shape the future of rural America. This program honors the legacy of John Trimble — a dedicated Grange leader who believed deeply in education, civic responsibility, and youth involvement.

Participants will have the opportunity to serve as an Honorary Youth Delegate at the National Grange Convention, gaining first-hand knowledge of policy development, debate, and decision-making within the Grange. Individuals will be selected at the National Grange convention to serve the National Grange for one year as participants in the Honorary Youth Delegate Experience. They will serve the National Grange throughout the following year, culminating at the next National Grange Convention, where they will serve as an Honorary Youth Delegate. During their year, they will learn and participate in Grange legislative work through

committee assignments, mentorship, and learn about and participate in hands-on advocacy engagement.

Community All Star Program

Deadline: September 1, 2026

The Community All-Star Program is designed to encourage youth to actively serve their communities while developing leadership, compassion, and civic responsibility. Youth will track their community service hours throughout the year, celebrate milestones, and recognize outstanding dedication to service. While all service is valued, one youth will be honored as the Community All-Star of the Year for exceptional commitment. Service Tracking Sheet

Service Tracking:

Youth will track all community service hours from September 1, 2025, to August 31, 2026. Service may include:

- Grange projects
- School or church service
- Community clean-ups
- Volunteering with nonprofits
- Agricultural or environmental service
- Youth-led service initiatives
 - Hours must be logged on the service log sheet and signed by a Grange leader or project supervisor.

All Star Service Levels:

- Rookie Helper - 10+ hours
- Community Player - 25+ hours
- Team Leader - 50+ hours
- Service Captain - 75+ hours
- All Star Elite - 100+ hours

Ignite Leadership

Deadline: September 1, 2026

Ignite Leadership is a hands-on leadership development program designed to help youth discover their unique leadership style and put it into action in meaningful ways. Every young person leads differently, and this program is built on the belief that leadership is not one-size-fits-all—it starts with understanding who you are and how you influence others.

Through guided activities, discussions, and self-discovery tools, participants will explore their strengths, interests, and leadership approach. Youth will learn how different leadership styles work together and how their individual style can serve their Grange, school, and community.

The program goes beyond learning by challenging youth to create and lead a project that reflects their leadership

style. Whether it's organizing a service project, advocating for an issue, supporting agriculture, or leading a team effort, participants will turn ideas into action and make a real impact.

Ignite Leadership encourages confidence, creativity, teamwork, and responsibility while helping youth build practical skills such as communication, planning, problem-solving, and decision-making. Most importantly, it empowers youth to step forward, lead with purpose, and discover the difference they can make.

Ignite Leadership is where leaders are sparked, ideas come to life, and impact begins.

Rural in Action: From Field to Future

Deadline: September 1, 2026

Rural in Action helps youth explore agriculture in a practical, creative, and accessible way. Participants choose an agriculture topic, complete a hands-on or research-based project, and share what they learned through an easy submission format. The focus is on learning, effort, and impact, not access to land or expensive materials.

Eligibility:

14–25 years old, Grange member in good standing, Individual or small team (2–3 participants)

Project Categories (Choose One):

Participants select one category that best fits their interests and resources.

- Grow It
- Raise It
- Ag Awareness
- Ag Innovation

Future-focused or problem-solving projects Examples: Research on sustainable agriculture, New ideas to reduce food waste, Technology in agriculture, climate-smart farming practice.

Sign A Song Contest

Deadline: November 1, 2026

Purpose:

The Sign-a-Song Contest is designed to give youth a fun and creative way to express themselves through music and performance. This contest encourages participants to develop confidence, communication skills, and stage presence while interpreting a song in a way that reflects their personality and style. Beyond performance, the contest fosters teamwork, creativity, and self-expression, allowing youth to explore the arts in a supportive environment. By participating, youth gain valuable experience in public presentation and performance,

while celebrating music as a tool for connection, inspiration, and leadership within the Grange community.

Guidelines:

Each submission must be from a Grange member in good standing and meeting the age requirements listed below. Contestants may submit both an in-person AND a video entry.

Theme:

This year's Sign-A-Song Theme is 'America's 250th'. Each participant is encouraged to select a song that showcases their patriotism and honors the 250th anniversary of the United States.

Public Speaking Contest

Deadline: November 1, 2026

Purpose:

The public speaking contest is designed to help youth find their voice, build confidence, and share their ideas clearly and with purpose. Through this experience, participants strengthen communication skills that will serve them in leadership roles, school, and everyday life.

Guidelines:

Each submission must be from a Grange member in good standing and meeting the age requirements listed below. Contestants may submit both an in-person AND a video entry.

Ages:

- Youth- 14-20
- Young Adult- 21-25
- Alumni 26+

Seeding the Future Challenge

Deadline: September 1, 2026

Purpose:

The Seeding the Future Challenge invites youth to play an active role in strengthening the Grange by personally inviting others to become involved. This program emphasizes the power of relationships—sharing your own Grange story, building genuine connections, and welcoming new members with warmth and encouragement. Youth are challenged to lead by example, helping others discover the fellowship, service, and leadership opportunities the Grange offers. Every invitation, conversation, and act of hospitality helps ensure the Grange continues to grow, thrive, and remain strong for generations to come.

Wib & June Justi Community Service Award

Deadline: September 1, 2026

Purpose:

To honor a Youth or Young Adult who has gone above and beyond to serve his or her community.

Description:

Community Service has long been a pillar of the Grange, providing members with meaningful opportunities to engage with and support the communities in which they live. Wib Justi served as the very first National Grange Director of Youth Activities, alongside his wife June, dedicating 18 years to fostering leadership and service among young members. Known for their unwavering positivity and signature response of "I'd be delighted!", the Justis exemplified joyful service, mentorship, and commitment to others.

This award will be presented to a youth or young adult who reflects that same spirit—serving others with enthusiasm, dedication, and a heart for strengthening their community.

Junior Mentor Award

Deadline: September 1, 2026

Purpose:

To honor a Youth or Young Adult who makes an impact by serving and mentoring Junior Grange members.

Description:

Grange Youth and Young Adults play a vital role in shaping our organization's future by uplifting, encouraging, and engaging with our Junior Grange members. Their involvement helps build confidence, foster a sense of belonging, and create meaningful experiences that last for years to come.

This award recognizes individuals who demonstrate exceptional leadership, mentorship, and dedication in guiding Junior Grangers — those who step forward with patience, enthusiasm, and a heart for service. Through their example, they inspire the next generation to grow, lead, and carry on the rich legacy of the Grange.

250th Creative Expression Contest

Deadline: September 1, 2026

Purpose:

The America 250 Creative Expressions Contest invites youth to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the United States through artistic and creative expression. This contest encourages youth to share what America means to them by using creativity, storytelling, and imagination. There is no "right" way to participate—only an

opportunity to express ideas, values, and hopes for the nation's future.

Who Can Participate:

This contest is open to any youth-aged person (age 14-25), and they do not need to be a Grange member.

Choose from one of the following categories. Only one entry per person per category.

- Visual Arts
- Creative Writing
- Media & Storytelling
- Interactive Celebration
 - Drawing, painting, or mixed media
 - Digital art or graphic design
 - Photography or collage

Distinguished Grange Youth Member

Deadline: September 1, 2026

Description:

Grange Youth (individuals) may qualify for this award by completing enough requirements to earn 100 points.

Requirements must be met during the qualifying period of July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026.

- Leadership & Participation Skills
- Communication & Competition
- Advocacy & Service
- Leadership Development
- Representation Outreach
- Membership & Promotion
- Innovation & Support
 - Attend 50% of Community Grange meetings. (10 pts)
 - Serve on a Community, County, or State Youth Committee or help organize a small youth leadership team within your Grange. (5 pts)
 - Participate in at least two youth planning or leadership meetings (local, state, or virtual). (5 pts)
 - Attend and actively participate in a youth-focused event such as camp, retreat, lock-in, conference, or leadership training (in-person or virtual). (10 pts)
 - Assist with or participate in a youth activity at State Session or another Grange-sponsored event. (5 pts)

Washington, DC Experience

The 2026 Washington DC Experience will be held in Washington, DC, on July 11-15, 2026. This experience doesn't just start and stop in Washington, DC, though. This will be a multi-year event to promote youth engagement at the local, state, and national levels of the Grange.

This experience will be sponsored by the National Grange with the understanding that the youth who participate (ages 18-25) will make a four-year commitment to the National Grange. Details on the commitment expectations are below.

The National Grange will provide up to \$2,000 in sponsorship for each youth who applies and is accepted into the Washington, DC Experience. Participation in this program requires a four-year commitment, during which each participant is expected to fully and actively engage with all program requirements.

In return for this commitment, the National Grange will cover the participant's expenses to Washington, DC, and will invite the participant's members to the annual National Grange Convention at their own expense at the end of the participation period. If a participant fails to meet the outlined expectations in any program year, they will be required to reimburse \$500 of the \$2,000 sponsorship amount for each year in which the requirements are not met. Each year, up to 2 outstanding participants may be selected to return to Washington, DC, to help train the next class.

Youth ages 18-25 will commit to the growth and development of youth programming across the country with a willingness to keep growing, keep working, and keep moving the Grange forward into the next generation.

More information on the National Grange program and complete details on the contests is available in the National Grange Youth and Young Adults handbook which can be downloaded from: <https://growthzonecmsprodeastus.azureedge.net/sites/2383/2026/02/2026-National-Grange-Youth-and-Young-Adult-Handbook.pdf>:

Youth and Young Adult Committee

Director

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District 1 - Vacant

District 2 - Vacant

District 3 - Vacant

District 4 - Vacant

District 5 - Vacant