



2023

NATIONAL JUNIOR GRANGE

Program Guide



www.nationaljuniorgrange.org



1ST EDITION June 2022

This version of the Junior Grange Program Guide replaces all prior versions and will go into effect beginning November 2022.

For any additional updates or for more information

visit the National Junior Grange Website at www.nationaljuniorgrange.org

Questions or comments should be directed to:

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Or to

National Grange

1616 H St. NW Washington DC 20006

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2023 Junior Grange Program Book Information

Welcome Junior Grange Enthusiasts,

When I started with the National Junior Grange department in 2016, I had no clue how many amazing people I would meet on this journey. I have learned so much from so many of you throughout the last few years. Together leaders from across the country have helped establish a program that is sure to excite Junior Grange members, engage Junior Grange members, and ignite a passion in them for years to come. Together we have created what I believe to be a fun and educational program that has the potential to develop strong leaders across the nation.

We have had the opportunity to listen to State Directors, Leaders, Junior Grange Alumni, and Junior Grangers themselves to develop and incorporate new ideas to the program. In order to continue creating a successful program we are always looking for and appreciate your feedback.

I know with the pandemic many of us had to take a step back and reevaluate a lot of the ways in which we do things and incorporate new ways of thinking. But it has been exciting to hear that Grange Halls are beginning to buzz again with little voices and activities.

Junior Grangers have always been such a delight, some of the things I have seen in the last few years is their willingness to learn and really make a difference within their community. So, after much careful consideration and input from many we have made a few changes to the program that I hope you all will enjoy.

This year we have broken everything down into a quarterly program. Of course, you are welcome to implement these things at anytime during the year, however, we hope that this layout will help our Junior leaders be able to incorporate more of the National Junior Grange programming into their regular state and local programming. With this new layout we will learn about some of the most important aspects of being a good Granger. Starting out with a different focus each quarter we will spend our year focusing on advocacy, agriculture, deaf awareness, and community service.

This year as we continue to focus on the National Grange theme RAISED RIGHT HERE, I can only think about how that truly affects us here beginning with the Junior Grange. When I was 5 years old and was finally old enough to join the Junior Grange I couldn't help but look up to the other members who stood near me when I took the Junior Degree and I strongly remember the words of the Chaplain as they said "Youth is the springtime of life; and habits formed in youth, like seed sown in the spring, will bear fruit, for good or ill, through all the years of life." To me this was the foundation that was laid for the rest of my Grange journey. Our young members, starting with our Junior Grangers, are the youth in springtime, ready for planting, ready for us to raise them right here, in the Grange. I am excited to be a part of that journey with you and your Juniors and I encourage you to look deeper into the National Junior Program, see how you can include it as part of your own in your Grange Hall. Open your doors to new families, encourage the sounds of children's laughter or the pitter patter of their feet to flow throughout your Grange Halls. Begin investing the time to secure our future, for without those children, the willingness to seat new families, and a foundation being laid our next generation, will the children of the future be able to tell the story of how the Grange helped in Raising them Right Here.

Fraternally yours,

Samantha Wilkins

National Junior Grange Development Director

EVENTS IN 2023

National Convention

Niagara Falls New York

November 14-18, 2023

The Conference & Event Center

Niagara Falls

101 Old Falls Street

Niagara Falls, NY 14303

Regional Conferences

(All dates are tentative, check www.nationalgrange.org for updated information)

Great Plains Regional Conference- June 9-11, Nebraska

Eastern Regional Conference- June 16-18, TBD

Midwest Regional Conference- June 23-25, Wisconsin

Northeast Regional Conference- TBD, Massachusetts

Western Regional Conference- August 4-6, California

JUNIOR GRANGE PROGRAM - AGE REQUIREMENTS

Junior Grangers ages 5-14 are welcome to participate in all programs within the Junior Grange Program.

*With exceptions to participating in the Ambassador Program. However, they are still welcome to work on achieving those goals before they reach the appropriate age.

FINANCIAL DISCLAIMER:

NATIONAL GRANGE AND GRANGE FOUNDATION CHECK POLICY: All checks written on bank accounts for the National Grange and The Grange Foundation are valid for six (6) months from the date of issue. Checks not cashed by the recipient within six (6) months will be credited back to the organization as a donation.

DATES & DEADLINES:

All contest/applications entries will be due **September 1.**

Advocacy for All Ages

Quarter 1 Focus Point January-March

In this section you will find information on the 'Local Advocacy Project', Public Speaking Contest, Washington DC Experience, and the Grassroots Activism Scholarship by Potomac Grange #1

Local Advocacy Project:

Do you have an issue that affects your community? What is it? How can you make a difference and create change within your community? With this project we are encouraging Junior Grangers to identify issues within their community and research the issue and be an advocate for change. Within this process the Junior Granger should learn the legislative process of the Grange and the community in which they are working with for a change. (i.e., local government, school board, HOA, etc.)

Junior Leaders are to help the Junior Granger Identify the following:

- **Community**
 - Identify what community type you are interested in helping
 - This can be within your Grange, town, school, subdivision, etc.
- **Issue**
 - Identify what do you want to be advocating for?
 - Is this a Grange, school, local, state, or national issue?
- **Reason**
 - Once you have identified the issue determine why this issue is relevant and why you should be advocating for a change.
- **Plan**
 - Come up with a solution to work on solving the issue. Is that writing a resolution for your local Grange, speaking to the school board or local government officials?
- **Presentation**
 - Schedule a meeting with the correct officials and present your plan for change and advocate for why you think these changes are important.

Example:

Community- School

Issue- Homework is given three nights a week and you believe it should only be given once a week and due at the end of the week.

Reason- You believe homework should only be given once a week because kids are busy in the evenings, and it would give them an entire week to work on the assignment.

Plan: You want to speak to the school board to make the entire school follow the same homework guidelines.

Presentation: You went to speak with the school board about the issues and presented your plan of action and encouraged the school board to vote for a change in the homework policy.

Junior Grange leaders are encouraged to post on social media and send their advocacy projects to the National Junior Grange Department. They are also encouraged to celebrate victories and defeats that the Juniors may have during this process. Advocating for something doesn't always mean you will win, but it does mean that you are learning to work with others and help find a solution to a problem. We as Grangers have a long and very strong history in advocating. Training our Juniors at a young age to advocate is substantial to obstacles they will face all throughout life.

NATIONAL JUNIOR GRANGE PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST

The National Junior Grange Public Speaking Contest will be held during the National Grange Convention held every November. This contest will be open to all State and Regional Junior Grange Public Speaking winners and will be judged during the contest time at National Session. Winners will be announced during the Grange Night of Honors and the Best of Show winner will present their speeches that evening.

Requirements:

-**Age:** 5- 14 years of age

- **Participants** must have achieved First Place in their State Junior Competition, or Best of Show at their Regional Competition. One participant in each category (Short Story/ Prepared) may represent their state at National Convention and the Best of Show winner may represent from their region.

Name, age, speech title, category and State name must be turned in by November 1st to the National Junior Grange Director at juniors@nationalgrange.org.

Categories

Impromptu-(only at Regional Conferences) The contestant will draw 2 topics from a mystery bag and select one of those topics to give their speech on. The contestant must meet a minimum of 1 minute with no more than 3 minutes for their speech.

Short Story- The contestant may present a published short story or poem of their choosing. The contestant must meet a minimum of 1 minute with no more than 3 minutes for their story.

Prepared- Deliver a prepared speech written by the contestant. The contestant must meet a minimum of 3 minutes with a maximum of 5 minutes for their prepared speech. This speech must be on one of the following topics: How I can be a difference in my community, what makes a good leader, or Why the Junior Grange is important to me.

Judging Criteria: The contestant will be judged in the following areas:

Text: Content: Information gathered and included in speech. Composition: the speech was compiled in a manner that was easy to understand. Topic: Topic was clearly researched, and personal connection was made.

Delivery: Voice: spoke clearly and was easy to understand. Command of Audience: speaker can engage and captivate the audience with the message of the speech. Stage Presence: speaker is dressed neatly and appropriately, poised, and reduced nervousness. Expression: speech delivered with enthusiasm and emotion. Mannerisms and Gestures: Does not have any distracting mannerisms or gestures that are not purposeful and effective.

Impromptu Question and Answer: Response thought out and delivered without much hesitation.

Time: 1 point deducted for every 30 seconds under/over the time limit.

Outline: A copy of speech or the outline was presented to the judges.

National Competition Winners:

1st-3rd place winners in each age category will receive cash prizes. A Best of Show winner will also be announced and given the opportunity to present their speech at the Grange Night of Honors.

Note no funding will be provided to attend the National Grange Session



WASHINGTON DC EXPERIENCE

Washington DC Experience: March 2023

Your National Youth, National Junior and National Grange Legislative Departments have worked together to develop a legislative experience to teach our young members about the legislative process of our grassroots organization and develop relationships with representatives and departments from around the country.

Registrations Due by February 1

Registration available online www.nationaljuniorgrange.org.

Youth, Young Adults and Juniors are invited to join us in Washington, DC in March of 2023 for the Washington DC Experience. The purpose of the Washington DC Experience is for Junior and Youth/Young Adult aged Grangers from across the country to come together and learn about how the Grange functions on the legislative side. Youth and Juniors will be educated on the many ways in which Grangers and citizens alike can advocate on issues they feel important to shape public policy and communities in which they live.

During the Washington DC Experience, Grangers are invited to get an up-close and behind the scenes look at what government is and how it operates in Washington, DC. Junior and Youth members, along with their leaders/parents, are invited to attend the Washington DC Experience. Junior and Youth Leaders accompanying must adhere to the National Grange Child Protection Policy.

Grangers will attend briefings with important information pertaining to the Grange Legislative Department. Plans will also include meeting with governmental departments (such as Department of Agriculture and Department of Education) meeting with Congressmen and Senators from your state and a tour of DC.

Just as our Grange Declaration of Purposes suggests, we will ensure that our Grange Youth, Young Adults and Juniors “take a proper interest in the politics of one’s country” so they might become the informed and involved citizens required to move America forward and to guarantee a better society for future generations.

Make plans to join us now. Travel and lodging costs are the responsibility of the attendees with registration fee TBA to cover some meal costs and tours.

See application for the Grange Grassroots Activism Scholarship opportunity.



WASHINGTON DC EXPERIENCE cont.

The purpose of getting Junior Grangers involved in this Legislative experience is for Junior Grangers from across the country to come together to learn about how the Grange functions on the legislative side.

Junior Grangers will learn to Stand UP and SPEAK Out for the Junior Grange.

During the Washington DC Experience Junior Grangers and Youth alike are invited to come and get an up close and behind the scenes look at what Government is and how it operates in Washington DC.

Junior Grangers, their leaders, and parents are invited to attend.

WE will attend briefings with important information pertaining to the Grange Legislative departments. Plans will also include meeting with different legislative departments (such as the Department of Education, the Department of Agriculture, etc.), meeting with congressmen and senators from your state or their representatives, possibly take a tour of the capital, and visit a museum or two.

PLAN ON JOINING US TODAY!

CONTACT YOUR NATIONAL JUNIOR GRANGE DIRECTOR FOR MORE INFORMATION:

JUNIOR@NATIONALGRANGE.ORG

ONCE YOU CONTACT Samantha Wilkins a schedule of events and more information will be sent to you regarding the Washington DC Experience.

You may also contact National Grange Legislative Director, Burton Eller at BEller@nationalgrange.org

Dates for the WASHINGTON DC EXPERIENCE are set for March 2023

Tentative Schedule will include:

- Saturday: Meet and Greet at Grange HQ
- Sunday: Travel to National Grange Headquarters- Learn about the NG Legislative department and how it works in DC- Tour-
- Monday: Briefings at National Headquarters- Mock Interviews and Tour
- Tuesday: Meetings with Representatives

Grange Grassroots Activism Scholarship

Deadline: February 1 - Sponsored by Potomac Grange #1, Washington, DC

Any Youth, Young Adult, or Junior that has applied to attend the Washington DC Experience is eligible to apply for the Grange Grassroots Activism Scholarship. The scholarship application with supplemental materials will be submitted to the National Grange Junior Director and will be passed along to the National Grange Legislative Director and Potomac Grange #1 for selection. Two travel/lodging scholarships, not to exceed \$500 each, will be awarded.

Applicants must submit ALL of the following:

1. The completed application form.
2. Junior Members:
 - a. Submit an Op-ed you wrote advocating on behalf of the Grange for a specific issue that is affecting your home, school, or community.
 1. Include the following in your statement
 - a. What the issue is
 - b. Use your words to give your opinion on the topic
 - c. Decide how the issue can be resolved with the Grange's help
 - d. Convince me to help you resolve the issue
3. An essay about what you want to gain by attending the Washington Experience
4. Two letters of reference; one from your State Master/President, State, Subordinate/Community, or Pomona Legislative Director or State Youth Director or from a National Grange Officer demonstrating your character, ability for engagement and activism and interest in Grange policy. The second letter can be from anyone outside of the family unit
5. If selected as a winner of the scholarship- the awardee will be required to submit travel expenses and a written or verbal report of their experience of why it was a valuable experience to them as a Granger and a young person. *zoom teleconferencing will be available* These submissions must be given to Potomac Grange #1.

Grange Grassroots Activism Scholarship Application

Deadline: February 1

State _____ Subordinate/Junior Grange & No. _____

Applicant Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Circle One: Junior (5-13) Youth (14-21) Young Adult (22-35)

General Biographical Information: (education, years in the Grange, etc.) and other information of relevance.

Have you held any Grange offices or served on any committees, etc? If so, please indicate these below.

Have you worked or volunteered for any local, state or national political campaigns or offices? If so, please indicate these below.

I certify that the above information is correct.

Signature

Date

Parent/ Guardian Signature (if under 18)

Date

Please indicate the name of your references whose letters you have attached to this application.

Name: _____ Position _____

Name: _____ Position _____

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Agricultural Awareness

Quarter 2 Focus Point
April-June

In this section you will find information on the Ag Awareness Project and the Creative Writing Contest.

2023 AGRICULTURAL AWARENESS PROJECT

2023 AG Awareness Theme:

Reduce, Reuse, & Recycle

Complete the following tasks to receive your 2023 AG Awareness Award!

1. **RESEARCH:** Define each of the following words:
Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle.
2. **RESEARCH:** Visit your local library and find at least three books to help you better understand the three R's.
3. **RESEARCH:** Learn how reducing waste, reusing items, and recycling can help you, your community, and the environment around you.
4. **IDENTIFY:** 10 ways that you can increase reduce/reuse/recycle in your life.
5. **Pick at least two of the following:**
 - A. **ACTIVITY-** Create an art project using recycled items.
 - B. **BUILD-** Build a recycling station for your home or Grange Hall
 - C. **CHALLENGE-** Go 10 days or longer without creating waste
 - D. **BUILD-** Build a composting station at your home or Grange Hall

6. **SHOW WHAT YOU KNOW:** Create a poster to encourage other people to Reduce, Reuse, & Recycle.
7. **TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE:** Create an activity that can be used as a Lecturers program to test people's knowledge about what can be reduced, reused, or recycled.

8. **SHARE WHAT YOU KNOW:** Take all of the things you learned about Reduce, Reuse, & Recycle and make a plan on how you are going to inform your family, friends and community.

Submit the following information:

- A brief synopsis (no longer than 1 page) of your research
- Copy of your poster
- Pictures of your two activities
- Pictures of your efforts to bring awareness! (Talking to neighbors, at your Grange meeting, hanging flyers, etc...)

The Awareness Awards will be presented during the National Grange Convention. If you are unable to attend National Session, we will send your certificate home with your State President or another representative. Awards will be given to either Individuals or Junior Granges.

Individual Junior Submissions MUST HAVE

- Name
- Age
- Grange Name & Number
- State
- Mailing Address
- Email/ Phone Number

Junior Grange Submissions MUST HAVE:

- Junior Grange Name & Number
- Junior Leader's Name
- State
- Mailing Address
- Email/Phone Number

SUBMISSIONS FOR AWARD MUST

BE MADE BY September 1

CREATIVE WRITING CONTEST

Topic: Using the Agricultural Awareness theme of **Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle** tell us how doing those three things can make an impact in the community and world around you.

RULES:

- 1) Must be a Junior Grange Member
 - 2) Length- Each entry must be a minimum of 1 page long and a maximum of 4 pages. Double spaced, typed or handwritten.
 - 3) Each entry must be labeled on the back with an index card stating, in clear handwriting or typed, the following information
 - a. Name
 - b. Age (and birthdate)
 - c. State
 - d. Grange name and number
 - e. Mailing address
- Submissions may be sent via e-mail as PDF documents by September 1st.
 - Mailed submissions must be postmarked by September 1st of current year.

AGE: Will be broken down into 3 age categories:

Group 1: 5-7

Group 2: 8-10

Group 3: 11-14

Judging will be based on creativity, originality, and use of theme.

Awards:

Cash prizes for 1st-3rd place winners in each age category will be awarded during the National Grange Session. Winners not present will have their awards mailed to them.

Deaf/Hard of Hearing Awareness

Quarter 3 Focus Point
July-September

In this section you will find information on the Creative Art-Poster contest, Sign-A-Song Contest, and the deaf awareness service project.

CREATIVE ART POSTER CONTEST

THEME: Deaf Awareness

The National Junior Grange is working to help bring awareness about the deaf and hard of hearing community to your community by creating a poster on deaf/hard of hearing awareness.

Rules:

- 1) Must be a Junior Grange Member
- 2) Maximum Art size is 8.5 x11
- 3) May use any medium they choose (i.e., crayons, pencil, markers, paint, etc.)
- 4) Each entry must be labeled on the back with an index card stating, in clear handwriting or typed, the following information:
 - a. Name
 - b. Age (and birthdate)
 - c. State
 - d. Grange name and number
 - e. Mailing address

Submissions must be postmarked by September 1st of current year to be entered into National Competition.

AGE: Will be broken down into 3 age categories:

Group 1: 5-7

Group 2: 8-10

Group 3: 11-14

Judging will be based on creativity, originality, and use of theme.

By entering this contest, you are giving the National Grange/National Junior Grange/Grange Foundation, full rights to use your art for promotional purposes and other projects as the organization deems necessary

Awards:

Cash prizes for 1st-3rd place winners in each age category will be awarded during the National Grange Session. Winners not present will have their awards mailed to them.

NATIONAL JUNIOR GRANGE SIGN-A-SONG CONTEST

The National Junior Grange Sign-A-Song Contest will be held during the National Grange Convention every November. This contest will be open to all State and Regional Junior Grange Sign-A-Song winners and will be judged during the contest time at National Session. Winners will be announced during the Grange Night of Honors and the Best of Show winner will present their sign a song that evening.

Requirements:

- **AGE-** 5- 14 years of age
- **CATEGORIES:** Novice, Hobbyist, Group
- All National Junior Grange competition participants must have achieved First Place in their State Junior Competition, or Best of Show at their Regional Competition. One participant from each category may represent their state at National Convention and the Best of Show winner may represent from their region.
- Name, age, song title, and state must be turned in by November 1st to the National Junior Grange Director at juniors@nationalgrange.org

Judging Criteria: The contestants will be judged in the following areas:

Communication: Utilization of total communication, Sign Language Ability, Signs clearly with correct interpretation.

Expression: Body expression/Displays Emotion. Expresses Key thoughts with body movements. Mouths words for lip reading.

Overall Presentation: Dressed appropriately. Confidence. Timing/Uniformity

Signer must have a song selection that is appropriate with a clear meaning and one that is appropriate for the participants signing ability. Participant must sign their own name, the title of the song, and inform the judges and audience of the type of sign being used.

National Competition Winners:

1st-3rd place winners in each age category will receive cash prizes. A Best of Show winner will also be announced and given the opportunity to present their Sign-A-Song at the Grange Night of Honors.

Note no funding will be provided to attend the National Grange Session

Deaf Awareness Service Project

Through the deaf awareness service project your Grange/Junior Grange will have the opportunity to choose one or more of the following events to support the deaf community and serve as a committee to help bring awareness to deaf culture within your own communities.

You may work together with your Subordinate and/or Junior Grange to host one of the following events.

- Start a Sign-Language Club in your school/Grange/Community to teach children about sign-language and encourage them to learn the language.
- Host a silent dinner where the patrons are only allowed to sign and there is no talking allowed without sign during the dinner.
- Host a deaf movie night- there are several ASL films all in sign-language or other movies about deaf culture. Gather to watch these movies with only closed captioning and no sound.
- Host a deaf coffee chat at a local coffee shop, restaurant, or Grange Hall and invite the deaf to come and have a sign-language social.
- Host a fund-raiser event to raise funds for the Grange Foundation Deaf Activities fund.

Community Service

Quarter 4 Focus Point
October-December

In this section you will find information on the National Junior Grange Community Service Project, Cape of Honor, Grange in Action, and Community Service Report.

National Junior Grange Community Service Project

Teaching our children about community service is more important than ever. Community service has been a foundational piece for the Grange since its beginning. This year Junior Grangers across the country are encouraged to take part in a service project together. The basis of this project will be the same across all Junior Granges, but each Grange is encouraged to make the project unique and mold it to fit within their communities.

The goal of the 2023 Junior Grange service project is to teach kids how businesses and community organizations work. Juniors are encouraged to learn how to plan and carry out a plan of action. They are taught within service projects how to communicate with others, accomplish a task, and learn the process and rules of carrying out a service project.

2023 Junior Grange Service Project: Local Food/Supply Drive

Step 1: Identify a need within your community. Where are the supplies you collect going to go? While organizing a food/supply drive- Juniors are to figure out what the most needed items for their drive should include- this can be toiletry items, non-perishables, or more specific items such as just peanut butter

Step 2: Locate a local organization/company that you can partner with- is your local grocery store or food service facility willing to partner with you or help you in your event

Step 3: Develop a plan in order to have a successful event. This includes deciding on how you are going to advertise the event, if you need a budget for the event, and how long you want the event to run.

Step 4: Do the project- put your plan into action

Step 5: Reflect- discuss with your group the good, the bad, and how you can improve the next service project. Discuss what you have learned and identify who you may have helped in this project.

BE A SUPER JUNIOR

Cape of Honor Award

Do you have a Junior Granger who has gone above and beyond for the Grange and their community? Now it is the time to honor them in a special recognition during the National Grange Session. Junior Grangers who plan, participate, and serve their communities will have the opportunity to be honored for their hard work.

Juniors are challenged to put on their capes and get out into their communities.

CONTEST PURPOSE:

The purpose of the Cape of Honor award is to spotlight our Junior Grangers that are doing the work of true Grangers and going above and beyond our expectations. Every Junior that submits an application and meets the tier requirements will be recognized during the Night of Honors at National Session; however, the Junior Granger with the most community service hours served in a 1-year time frame will be named as the Junior Granger of the Year. **Submissions must be postmarked by September 1.**

All Applicants are required to meet the following criteria:

- 1) Must be a Junior Grange member in good standing
- 2) Must be between the ages of 5-14 at time of submission and not yet received the obligation into the Subordinate Grange.
- 3) Junior Granger is expected to keep track of community service hours August 1 of the current year through July 31 of the following year. (Example August 1, 2021- July 31, 2022)
- 4) Junior Granger must keep track of their projects throughout the year.

All Applicants must submit the following:

- 1) Application form (found on next page)
- 2) A letter from the Junior applicant stating "Why they have a passion to serve their communities and what their favorite service project was from the last year"
- 3) A list of service projects done throughout the year- along with how many hours each project took from start to finish.
- 4) The number of community service hours completed.
- 5) A headshot of the applicant.

TIERS FOR AWARDS:

WHITE TIER: Junior must complete between 10-100 community service hours to complete this tier

RED TIER: Junior must complete between 101-200 community service hours to complete this tier

BLUE TIER: Juniors must complete between 201-300 community service hours to complete this tier

GOLD TIER: Juniors must complete over 301 hours of community service to complete this tier

**The Junior Granger with the MOST community service hours will be named
JUNIOR GRANGER OF THE YEAR**

JUNIOR APPLICANTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND NATIONAL GRANGE SESSION BUT ARE NOT REQUIRED.

IF Junior is not in attendance the award will be sent with the State Junior Director or State Master.

****At this time applicants are invited to attend National Convention and all Junior activities at their own cost****

National Junior Grange CAPE OF HONOR Application

Junior Member Name	Date of Birth:	Age	Date Joined Jr. Grange
Address	City	State	Zip
Subordinate Grange	Number	State	Presidents Name
Junior Grange Name	Number	State	Type of Membership: Jr Grange Member: o 1+Member o
Junior Leader	Phone	Address	City, State, Zip
Parent/Guardian Name	Phone	Address	Email

Requirements	Requirements Met/Certified by: -Leaders Signature-	
1. Is a Junior Granger in good standing-		
2. Number of Service Hours Completed:		HOURS: _____
3. Junior has competed the following Tier:_____		Circle one: White Red Blue Gold
SUBMIT FOLLOWING ITEMS	CHECK WHEN ATTACHED	
1. Letter from Junior Granger		
2. List of Projects Completed		
3. Headshop of applicant		

Parental Permission: I _____ certify that my child, _____, has met all of the above requirements for the Cape of Honor Award and I give permission to the National Grange to publish my Child's name and/or picture in future publications produced by the National Grange.	
X _____ Phone: _____	Date: _____

National Grange

Junior Grange Community Service Contest

Through the National Grange Community Service Department

The intent of this collaborative program between these two departments is to bring attention to the community service projects Junior Granges are doing. We know that some Junior Granges either perform C/S projects on their own or in conjunction with their sponsor Granges. This would also be a way to enhance the 1 Plus program by drawing attention to what a single Junior is doing in their community and hopefully pique the interest of other children in that age range.

Each Junior Grange or 1 Plus member would enter a short report/booklet not to exceed **3** pages (front and back). These should include an information page about the submitting JG, which would mirror what the Subordinate Grange submits for their State Grange report book. The report would be for just a single project to make it easier for the JG's to put together the report.

REPORT TO INCLUDE:

1. Short paragraph about the project
2. Newspaper article
3. Pictures
4. Paragraph from the JG Leader about how this impacted the community and what the JG's learned.

PRIZES/AWARDS

TBD

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: NOW

Any projects completed after 10/1/2022 can be entered for this year's contest

Program Information

1. The Junior Grange leaders throughout each state should submit their reports to the state community service director or person within state that collects subordinate CS books. Judges for the CS books should also be the judges for the Junior reports.
2. Each winning report should be brought to National Grange Convention and given to National Grange Community Service Chairman, Pete Pompper no later than **Monday November 13, 2023**
3. Getting the word out. National Grange will send out information through Good Day! magazine and Patrons Chain.
4. **NG Point of Contact** will be Pete Pompper, National Grange Community Service Director.

National Grange
Junior Grange Community Service
Project Report

This page should be the cover page for your report.

Junior Grange Name: _____ State: _____

JG Leader's Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone Number _____

Name/Type of project: _____

Total # of JG members: _____ Total # JG members involved with this project _____

Important information to include in your report: report should be no more than 3 pages (front and back) not including this cover page.

Date and location of the project, number of people impacted, names of other groups who helped, number of non-Grangers who helped, no more than 4 photos, 1 or 2 newspaper articles about event, no more than 3 thank you letters.

Report must be submitted to National Community Service Director Pete Pompper at National Convention by Monday November 13, 2023

Grange In Action

The Grange In Action program is designed to encourage all Granges to be active in their communities and complete events or projects, no matter how small. Any Grange that does not complete the application for Distinguished Grange can participate in this program. Granges who wish to be recognized at the 2023 National Convention as a “Grange In Action” should complete the following requirements:

- Submit a 1-page letter size with color pictures and brief caption of at least 3 various events/activities and no more than 6 pictures of the event/activities/meeting that the Grange either sponsored or assisted with from Sept 1, 2022 to Aug 31, 2023 - anything over 1 page will be disqualified.
- The Grange Name, number and state must be on the front of the page.
- On a separate page please include the name, address, phone and/or cell number, and email address of who submitted the Grange In Action.
- Granges that qualify for the 2023 Distinguished Grange award are not eligible for this recognition.
- If one of your events/activities/meetings is on Mental Health, you will qualify as a **“Golden Grange in Action”**
- Deadline to submit the 1 page to National Grange is postmark or electronic by midnight on September 1, 2023.
- Mail to National Grange, Attn. Loretta Washington – 1616H Street, NW, 11th Fl. Washington, DC 20006.
- Email to Loretta Washington @ lwashington@nationalgrange.org please put in the subject line for the email: Grange In Action 2023 report.

To be named a “State Grange in Action,” a State Grange must have at least 6 Granges recognized as “Grange In Action.”

Some of the entries will be on display at next year’s National Convention.

Those Granges that submitted a entry will receive a certificate with the National Grange President’s signature.



Other Contests and Programs

In this section you will find information on Grange Baseball, National Junior Grange Ambassador Contests, Junior Mentor Award, and the Passport program.

GRANGE BASEBALL

Grange Baseball

Individuals have the opportunity to gain knowledge about the Grange and Junior Grange, its history, and impact on rural America.

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

Age: 5-14 years of age by December 31 of the competing year.

- 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 homerun question.
- Junior Baseball players may request help from a pinch hitter (help from the audience) no more than 3 times over the total length of the game.

- Once the teams have been decided, the teams will need to come up with 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 Session. 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 and Junior Departments.

-Anyone is able to participate at a regional level, only Juniors/Youth/Young Adults will be able to participate at National session.

The top 3 contestants with the highest scores in the national contest within the Junior Category will win a cash prize.

Contestant's information must be submitted no later than Nov. 1 to the National Junior Grange Director at junior@nationalgrange.org.

Name

Age

State

Junior Grange Name and Number

Mailing Address

NATIONAL JUNIOR GRANGE AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

The purpose of the National Junior Grange Ambassador program is to provide an opportunity for outstanding Junior Grangers, selected by their State Grange, to attend the National Grange Convention and build their leadership potential. They will be given the opportunity to build relationships with other Junior Grangers and Grangers across the Nation. They will receive vital training that will be instrumental in developing the Junior Grange programs within their state, as well as preparing them for their future in the Grange.

A maximum of 2 Junior Grangers per state may be chosen to represent their State at the National Convention. No more than two candidates will be chosen through a process of interviews and observations made by a council of judges. The candidate(s) that are chosen will serve as the National Junior Grange Ambassador and will be a representative of the National Junior Grange program for a one-year term.

Applicants are only permitted to apply and run for National Junior Grange Ambassador one time in their Junior Career. Applicants running for Ambassador are to attend the National Grange convention and attend meal functions and activities determined by the National Junior Grange Director, at the costs of the applicant.

All applicants are required to meet the following criteria:

1. Must be a Junior Grange member for a minimum of 3 years.
2. Must be between the ages of 11-14 years, having observed their 11th birthday, but not their 15th by December 31st of the year they attend National Session.
3. Applicants must be able to attend National Convention to represent their state during Junior Grange activity days (Thursday-Saturday) at their own costs.
4. Applicants must have a parent or guardian attend National convention with them.

Applicants must submit the following:

1. Four letters of recommendations from:
 - a. State Master/President
 - b. State Junior Director (if applicable)
 - c. Junior Leader (if applicable)
 - d. Educational Leader (i.e. teacher, Sunday school teacher etc.)
2. Headshot- a professional photograph containing only yourself
3. 1-page biography telling about yourself, your family, and your Junior Grange Achievements.
4. Attach a 1-page essay on "Why you would like to represent the National Grange as the NJGA."

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT APPLICATION: September 1

Each State Grange may send two representatives.

****At this time all Ambassadors must be able to attend National Convention and all Junior Activities at their own cost****

****If named National Junior Grange Ambassador, you may be required to attend certain activities and events at your own cost.****

National Junior Grange Ambassador Application

Member Name	Date of Birth:	Age and T-Shirt Size	Date Joined Jr. Grange
Address	City	State	Zip
Subordinate Grange	Number	State	Presidents Name
Junior Grange Name	Number	State	Type of Membership: Jr Grange Member: o 1+Member o
Junior Leader	Phone	Address	City, State, Zip
Parent/Guardian Name	Phone	Address	Email

Requirements	Requirements Met/Certified by: (leader signature)	Date completed
1. Meets membership requirement. 3 year member and between 11-14 years old.		
2. 4 Letters of Recommendation		
3. Attached Biography and headshot		
4. Attached Essay "Why would you like to represent the National Grange as NJGA?"		

Parental Permission: I certify that my child, _____, has my permission to apply for the position of National Junior Grange Ambassador. We will be able to attend National Grange Convention and will be able to cover any costs associated with attending convention. I also give my permission for my child's photograph to appear in publications for the National Grange. I also understand that if my child is selected for NJGA there may additional expenses throughout the year that may not be covered by the National Grange.	
X _____ Phone: _____	Date: _____
Junior Leader Certification I Certify that _____ qualifies for the National Junior Grange Ambassador Program and has met all the program requirements for participation.	
X _____ Phone: _____	Date: _____

Junior Mentor Award

in conjunction with the National Youth Department

Grange youth and young adults can have a powerful impact on the Grange experience with our youngest members. These youth invest into our Junior Grangers at multiple levels – at the community, Pomona and state levels. This award is designed to recognize the Grange youth and young adults that go above and beyond to guide and mentor Junior Grangers.

State Masters, State Youth Committees and/or State Junior Grange Committees can nominate a Grange youth/young adult, between the ages of 14 and 35. Application deadline is September 1.

State winners will receive a certificate and be recognized at National Session during Youth Leadership Days. The Junior Grange and Youth Departments will organize a committee to select one overall winner. The overall winner will receive a plaque in recognition of their achievements.

If you have questions, contact National Grange Youth Development Director at youth@nationalgrange.org or National Junior Grange Director junior@nationalgrange.org.

Please mail the applications to youth director.

Junior Mentor Award Entry Form

Due: September 1

Nominee(s) Name: _____

Nominee(s) State and Subordinate Grange: _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Please tell us why this person should be selected:

How has this youth/young adult impacted the lives of Junior Grangers?

Please list some specific tasks, projects or initiatives that this youth has led to inspire Juniors

Give some examples of how they have gone above and beyond to help Junior Grangers and/or a Junior Grange Department

Feel free to use additional pages if necessary

Name of Grange submitting nominee: _____

Chairperson's Name: _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

PASSPORT PROGRAM

The Junior Grange *Passport* is designed to be an exciting and innovative way for Juniors to learn more about *their world, their country, their state, their community, and their Grange*.

The *PASSPORT* program is an online digital format, so leaders will now have easier access to stamps that will not require a purchase, and thus save on programing costs within your state. This format will allow us to have constant changes and additions, which will grant us the ability to spotlight important issues or events throughout history. This transition will be beneficial to all Junior Grangers, Leaders, and Educators. Junior Grangers will now have an easy to handle notebook that will allow them the ability to keep track of their accomplishments and utilize them as resources for outside studies. Educators will be able to utilize the Passports as part of their curriculum, encouraging their students to learn more about the Grange and other educational entities that will be offered. Leaders will appreciate the ability to have immediate availability of the downloadable stamps, making it easier to plan and award Juniors with a stamp in their *PASSPORT*.

The program is broken down into five categories:

- 1. Grange Adventures**
- 2. United States**
- 3. Career Readiness**
- 4. American History**
- 5. World Discovery**

It is highly encouraged that each Junior Director promotes the use of the *PASSPORT* program. The completion of these stamps not only gives each Junior a sense of accomplishment, it also provides a challenging educational foundation. Through the *PASSPORT* program Juniors will gain knowledge about the Grange and the world around them that will last beyond the time they spend in the Junior Grange, laying the path for a strong future leader.

Be sure to check the Junior Grange website where you will be able to download the current *PASSPORTS* and be sure to check back often as there may be new Stamps introduced throughout the year!

PASSPORT IDEA SUBMISSIONS

Any ideas can be submitted to the National Junior Grange Director for consideration as an entry in the National Junior Grange Passport Program. Ideas can be submitted from any member of the Grange as well as outside idea resources. The entire form must be filled out to be considered for an entry in the Passport.

Please send submissions to: Samantha Wilkins, National Junior Grange Director

The National Grange

1616 H St. NW, Washington DC 20006

Please fill out the following information:

Submitter's Information:

NAME: _____ GRANGE NAME/STATE: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____ EMAIL: _____

Passport Information

Category (circle one): Grange Adventures United States Career Readiness
American History World Discovery

Name of Passport Stamp: _____

Difficulty Level: ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Target Audience: _____

Necessary Resources: (ie colors, internet, paper etc...) _____

Learning Objectives: _____

Learning Outcomes: (Upon completion, Junior Grangers will be able to.....)

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

How many steps does your entry take to complete? (please limit to no more than 12 steps) _____

List Steps on Back: (example: Step 1: Define Endangered Species)

State Director Information

In this section you will find information on Background Checks, Junior 1+ program, and State Director Reports.



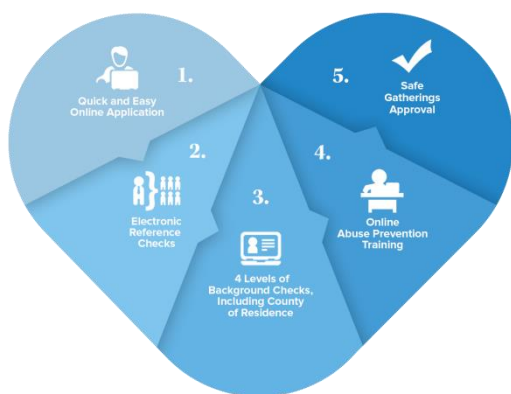
The National Grange and National Junior Grange and Youth Departments encourage you to follow the National Grange Child Protection Policy and obtain a background check through the company "Safe Gatherings"

www.safegatherings.com as an alternative for having to obtain and find your own background check company.

It is highly encouraged to have every person in our organization that is working in a supervisory position with our Juniors and Youth under 18 years of age to undergo this background check through Safe Gatherings as it is a National Background Check program that covers many levels of security checks as well as providing a training on working with vulnerable youth and adults.

The benefits of utilizing Safe Gatherings for the Grange is:

- A No Hassle system: State Masters, Directors, and Leaders now have the pressure taken off them to make sure these critical steps are taken appropriately in accordance of their state laws.
- Everything is handled from the National Grange office and your information is kept 100% safe and secure through the Safe Gatherings Network. (No personal information is held with the National Grange)
- Safe Gatherings provides 4 levels of background checks: Local, State, National, and Sex Offender.
- Safe Gatherings provides Professional Reference Checks
- Safe Gatherings provides training for abuse prevention and ideas on how to appropriately work with minors who are at their most vulnerable time in life.
- LOW COST- the break down cost for the 2-year clearance through Safe Gatherings is less than \$2.00 a month.



BEGIN YOUR BACKGROUND CHECK TODAY:

www.safegatherings.com

Search "Grange" to register under our organization

Our vision is for a world in which all children, youth, and vulnerable adults are protected and feel safe.

Unfortunately, that's not the world we live in, which is why Safe Gatherings has created a comprehensive system that screens and educates staff and volunteers – to help

prevent abuse and make the world a safer place for those among us who are most vulnerable.

For more information: Please contact National Junior Grange Director Samantha Wilkins at 210.838.7892 or junior@nationalgrange.org

National Grange Child Protection Policy

The National Grange is committed to providing an environment that is safe for Juniors and Youth during National Grange activities. This policy is designed to protect our young people, instill confidence in those entrusting us with their children, and protect adult volunteers and staff from allegations that may be unwarranted.

Any individual age 18 and above, in a leadership position working directly with Juniors and Youth under 18, must obtain a clean and clear **national background check** through a company approved by the National Grange Executive Committee. It is highly recommended that the online service Safegatherings.com be used. All reports are kept confidential by Safe Gatherings and are not in possession of the National Grange, and are valid for two years.

Any individual age 18 and above, in a leadership position working directly with Juniors and Youth under 18 must obtain a clean and clear background check before their participation in any National Grange sponsored event. These events include but are not limited to: National Grange Session, Regional Conferences, Camps (i.e. Revival), and any other National Grange sponsored events.

The costs to obtain these background checks will be borne by the individual unless they are National Grange Staff, Directors, or members of the National Grange Youth Team, when the cost will be paid from their National Grange budget.

If an individual fails the background check they will not be permitted to work with Junior Grangers and/or Youth age Grange members.

Guidelines

Two deep leadership – there should always be at least two leaders age 21 or older at all Junior or Youth functions.

No one-on-one contact – One-on-one contact between adults and Juniors or Youth under 18 is not permitted. If the necessity for one-on-one interactions between adults and children arises, the interaction should occur in an unenclosed area and with the knowledge of another adult.

Adopted August 20, 2019

Junior 1+ Program

1+ Program- Individual Junior Membership Class

At the 2013 Annual Session of the National Grange, in Manchester New Hampshire, the delegates adopted changes to the By-Laws allowing an individual membership class for Junior Grange age children (5 to 14) to become members of a Subordinate/Community Grange when no chartered Junior Grange exists.

Purpose of the 1+ Program

The 1+ program allows your Grange to build a Junior Grange program one member at a time. These individual members become the core group to build a chartered Junior Grange Program. Many children have not had the opportunity to participate in the Junior Grange program because of the number of children required to charter a Junior Grange.

The 1+ Program allows children (age 5-14), the opportunity to become an individual Junior Grange member within a Subordinate/Community Grange. The children do not have a vote in the Grange, but are eligible to participate in all Regional, State, and National programs, contests, and activities on an equal status with members of the chartered Junior Granges. This would also include the National Youth Fair program where it has been adopted within a State.

Sponsorship

For the 1+ Program, the Subordinate/Community Grange will:

- Appoint a Junior Grange Leader
- Provide a meeting space
- Provide financial assistance as necessary
 - Granges may dedicate specific fundraising projects for the Junior Grange Program
- Occasionally provide meeting time for the individual Junior Grange member(s) to report on their projects
- Organize a chartered Junior Grange when there are sufficient individual members to meet that requirement. The individual members shall automatically become members of the newly organized/reorganized Junior Grange. (Please refer to National Grange By-Laws, section 4.6.2 for complete details)

How to become a 1+ Program Junior Member

- An individual child, age 5-14, will complete a Junior Grange membership application and submit it to the sponsoring Grange.
- The Junior Grange applicant shall be obligated by the Master/President of the Subordinate/Community Grange. This is completed by using the Obligation Ceremony for Individual Junior Grange Membership, printed in this program book.
- Once obligated, the Subordinate/Community Grange secretary will enter the new Junior Grange member on the rolls of the Grange.
- Minimum dues for Junior Grange members are \$1.00 and are subject to change per individual State Grange policies.

Administration:

Leaders

- Qualifications
 - Subordinate/Community Grange member, in good standing

- Background clearances
 - Check with your State Grange Office for current requirements
- Leaders will need:
 - National Junior Grange Program Book
 - State Program Book(s)
 - Access to Junior Grange Passport programs
 - To be in constant communication with State Junior Leaders regarding activities and individual Junior Grange membership within the Subordinate/Community Grange

Reporting Membership Status

- The Junior Grange member is to be reported by the Subordinate/Community Grange on the provided lines within the quarterly reports and then submitted to the State Grange having jurisdiction.

Obligation Ceremony for Individual Junior Grange Membership-1+ Program

National Junior Grange 1+ Program

Adopted: September 2014

Upon submission of a Junior Grange application, and election to membership by the Subordinate/Community Grange members, the individual Grange member will be obligated to membership using the following procedure:

Subordinate Officers Participating: Master/President, Lady Assistant Steward, Assistant Steward

During the appropriate agenda item for Obligating new members, the President will say"

Master: *(from their Station)*

"Worthy Assistants, please escort our newly elected Junior Grange candidate(s) to the Altar for the Junior Grange obligation"

LAS and AS will conduct the Junior Grange candidate(s) to the Altar, asking the candidate(s) to stand in the center, facing the Altar and the Master. The assistants stand next to the candidate(s), forming a semi-circle with the candidate(s) in the center. The Master will approach and stand between the Altar and his back to the Graces stations.

Lady Assistant Steward:

"Worthy Master, it is my pleasure to introduce to you, (give names of candidates), who have been elected to the Junior Grange membership in our Grange. They are presented here to receive the Obligation and words of counsel from you."

Master:

The Grange is a family organization, welcoming all generations in its Halls and meetings. My young friends, is it your wish to join us as members of this Grange? If so, please say 'It is.'"

Candidates:

"It is."

Master: *(Direct these words to the parents/guardians of the Junior Grange member(s) facing where they are seated in the Hall)*

"To the parents and guardians of our Junior Grange candidates, your support and guidance is most important of all. We commend you for your foresight in allowing your children to become Grange members. We ask for your continued encouragement and assistance in their participation and growth in the Grange"

Master: *(Face the Candidates at the Altar)*

"With your election to membership in this Grange, it is my pleasure to give you the Junior Grange Pledge. The Pledge is a simple promise which you freely give to become part of the Grange Family and to live a good life. In turn, the members of this Grange promise to help and support you as you grow into future leaders in your schools and communities."

"Please place your right hand over your heart. I will give the Pledge so that you may clearly understand it"

(Master gives the entire Pledge slowly and distinctly)

"I Promise – that I will obey – all the rules of the Order, -- and will treat – my fellow members – with respect. – I will try to follow – the good advice – of my parents and teachers – and will do my best – to avoid bad company – and harmful habits."

Master:

"I welcome you as members of this Grange. Remember, promises are an important commitment. As part of your Grange Family, we promise to encourage you as you continue to grow and learn. We ask you to contribute to our meetings by sharing your discoveries with us. In this way we may learn from you. We want you to know about the Grange; its past, its present, and, most of all, how you can influence its future."

"When you turn 14 years old, you will graduate from the Junior Grange Program and once again stand at this Altar, taking the next Pledge as a Subordinate Grange member. From this time until then, you have our promise to encourage you along life's journey."

"We extend to you a heartfelt Welcome to our Grange."

"Worthy Assistants, please escort our new members to their seats, introduce them and return to your stations."

The Assistants will pass by the Master, who will shake each members' hand as they pass. After the last member has passed by, the Master will return to his Station.

The Assistants will escort the new members to their seats, introduce them, and return to their Stations.

State Directors Report

Due Date: September 1st

Mail to: National Junior Grange Director,
Samantha Wilkins
1616 H ST NW WASHINGTON DC 20006

State Junior Director:	State:
Address:	
City, State, Zip	
Phone: ()	E-Mail:
Number of Junior Grange Members (Including 1+ Members) in your state as of June 30th:	1+Members _____ Junior Members _____ Total Number of Members _____
Number of Chartered Junior Granges in your state as of June 30th:	
Number of Subordinate/Community Granges with 1+ Program in place:	
ATTACHMENTS: Please attach additional information:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. List of Junior leaders to include names, addresses, phone numbers, and e-mails. 2. PROGRAMMING: Send a copy of your current Program Book or submit an outline that is planning for the participation in any local, regional, State, or National Junior Grange Program. 4. MEMBERSHIP: Outline membership promotion efforts by the Junior Grange members and leaders. 5. Comments or suggestions for the betterment of the Junior Grange Program.