

New York State Junior Grange Handbook 2024/2025



The Junior Grange provides young people with the tools and resources to help them prepare for a more promising future.

Junior Grange is:

Develop self-confidence

Leadership skills

Fostering the traits of accountability and responsibility

Respect for self and other

Understanding of agriculture

Opportunities to improve the communities where the children live and play.

Junior Grange Pledge

I solemnly promise that I will obey all the rules of the Order.

That I will never reveal any of its words or signs,
nor tell any secrets of the Order.

I further promise that I will endeavor to follow the advice of my parents and teachers
and will not knowingly wrong a brother or sister of the Order.

I will try to avoid bad company, intemperate habits, the use of tobacco, illegal drugs, and
all intoxicating drink; and will guard against the sinful habit of taking the name of God
in vain.

We will help each other to keep the pledge.



New York State Grange Director of Junior Activities

Sherri Horner

164 County Route 14

Fulton, NY 13069

(315)380-2294

kidsbreak1@yahoo.com

Special Junior Deputies

Linda Kesby
4763 Maple Springs-Ellery Rd
Bemus Point, NY 14712

Kelly Frost
43451 SR 37
Redwood, NY 13679
nknfrost@hotmail.com

Theresa Fallon
350 Lake Mills Road
Freehold, NY 12431
tidzerda2655@gmail.com

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Junior Deputy's Duties

- Promote organization and recognition of Junior Granges by working with the Pomona Junior Committee. The goal is a Junior Grange in each Community Grange. Promote Junior Grange parent membership.
- Upon invitation, visit and report to any Pomona/Community Grange requesting Junior Grange information.
- Show ENTHUSIASM. Talk about Junior Grange and tell its part of the total Grange program.
- Keep Director informed of changes and potential problems you may become aware of.
- Promote the Junior Crafts. One in each age category from each Junior Grange for State Judging.
- Communicate with the Junior Granges; keep them informed of changes and offer praise and encouragement when needed.
- Duties at State Session: Serve under the direction of the State Steward as needed; provide other such services as the State Junior Director may direct.
- Act as a "trouble shooter" for the State Director and the State Master. Work with Junior Granges to improve their program, solve problems, help with membership development, etc.

Junior Grange Leader Duties

- Ask your Community Grange to appoint a Junior Committee and work with them so activities do not cease if you must be absent.
- Make a yearly or half yearly calendar of events in cooperation of your Community Grange. Use State Programs as a guide.
- Encourage payment of membership dues and report for the next year. Set a good example by paying your annual dues to the State Secretary for the coming year.
- Membership report (2 copies) due to State Secretary.
- Hold at least one business meeting a month; teach and encourage good ritualistic work, including memorization of parts.
- Set aside time to work on projects, teaching crafts, community service, as well as incorporating other parts of the State and National Program in your activities. Don't forget Passport pages.
- Hold special meetings/programs when appropriate. Confer the Junior Degree at least once a year and have an award program and Graduation annually. This may also be a county wide effort, coordinated by the Pomona Junior Committee or Special Junior Deputy.
- Keep your Community and Pomona Granges informed of your progress, plans, and problems. Have the Juniors present a Lecturer's Program at your Community and Pomona Grange.
- Participate in county events planned by the Pomona Junior Committee and/or Special Junior Deputy. Attend state conferences for Junior Leaders or send a representative(s).
- OJAY's Remember to use your Older Juniors and Youth in participation and leadership roles.
- Submit the National Grange

Membership Building

Every Junior Grange should have a membership Program. More Junior Grange members means a stronger and more active Junior Grange. Membership Building in the Junior Grange will be a valuable tool when the Junior Grange members become Community Grange members.

Recognizing present Junior Grange members is also an important part of Membership Building. All Junior Granges are urged to graduate eligible members using the Graduation Ceremony found in the Manual. Graduation Certificates are available.

Tips for Membership Building

- 1) Appoint a Membership Committee and report at each meeting.
- 2) Ask New York State Grange Headquarters in Cortland for Junior Grange brochures and applications, they will be supplied at no charge.
- 3) Junior Grange members should encourage their parents to join the Community Grange.
- 4) By securing new members, we are helping to build and strengthen our organization.

Junior Grange 1+ Program adopted at the 2013 National Grange Session

Allows children aged 5-14 to become an individual Junior Grange member within a Community Grange structure when no Junior Grange exists. This allows the Grange to build a Junior Grange program one member at a time, by removing the minimum membership requirements to charter a Junior Grange. The child does not have a vote in the Grange, but is able to earn passports, participate in all State and National JG programs, and activities on an equal status with members of a chartered Junior Grange. These individuals become the core group from which a chartered Junior Grange program can potentially be built.

Sponsorship for the 1+ Program, the Subordinate/Community Grange will:

- Appoint a Junior Leader
- Provide a meeting place
- Provide financial assistance as necessary
- Granges may dedicate specific fund raising projects for the Junior Grange program
- Occasionally provide meeting time for the individual JG member to report on their projects
- Organize a chartered Junior Grange when there are sufficient individual members to meet that requirement.

How to become a 1+ Program Junior Member

- Individual child will complete a Junior Grange application and submit it to the sponsoring Community Grange.
- The Junior Grange applicant shall be obligated by the Master of the Sponsoring Grange by using the Junior Grange Obligation Ceremony.
- Once obligated, the Community Grange Secretary will enter the new Junior Grange member on the rolls of the Grange.
- Annual dues for NYS Junior Grange members are \$1.00, plus \$1.00 donation to the Junior Fund

Reporting Membership Status

The Junior Grange member is to be reported by the Community Grange on a separate line on the quarterly reports, which are then submitted to the State Grange. **Note:** If a Community Grange has 1+ program Junior members, please also submit the Junior Reports (dues and membership) with your report to the State Secretary, who will forward to the State Junior Director.

JUNIOR GRANGE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name of applicant _____ Date of Birth _____ / _____ / _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Name of parent/guardian _____ Phone (_____) _____ - _____
Parent email _____
I respectfully petition to enroll my child as a member of _____ Junior Grange # _____
OR as a Junior 1+ member affiliated with _____ Grange # _____
and hereby give my child permission to participate in Grange Activities.
Applicant signature _____ Date _____ / _____ / _____
Parent/Guardian signature _____ Date _____ / _____ / _____
Application fee \$ _____ Annual Dues \$ _____ Please return application to _____

New York State Junior Grange Member of the Year

A Junior Grange Member in good standing will be selected as the New York State Junior Grange member of the year. A letter of recommendation must be submitted by the Junior Grange Leader. This letter should include the reason(s) why they believe the Junior member should be honored. The member's accomplishments, projects, community service, and school activities from the past twelve months may be considered. The letter of recommendation is to be sent to the State Junior Director by September 1. The JG member of the year will be announced at the Junior Program at the New York State Grange Session and will receive an award of \$25.

Kelley Farm Project

The Kelley Farm in Minnesota is the home of the founder of the Grange Order and is part of the MN Historical Society. Our donations, large or small, help with the feed costs. To see pictures of the animals online go to kellyfarm@mnhs.org. Make your check payable to "The Grange Foundation" marked "Kelley Farm" on the subject line and send it with this form to: the National Grange Office 1616 H Street NW Washington D.C, 20006-4999

Junior Grange _____ # _____ State _____ Number of members _____
Amount of donation _____ Junior
Leader/Address _____

Community Service – "Kids Helping Kids"

The Junior Grange Community Service Program in New York State continues to give Junior Grange members recognition for showing their concern for their community and its citizens, in particular, other children. Junior members, along with the Junior Grange Leader, perhaps along with the Community Grange, are asked to select a project(s) utilizing the theme, "Kids Helping Kids". The project must benefit other children up to the age of 18. It could benefit one particular child with a particular need, or a group of children with a specific need.

Take pictures; include the activity on your JG report. We encourage publicity in the news media (newspapers, radio, TV, etc.) about your project. It is important that the public know of the efforts of your Junior Grange. Also remember to send publicity to the NYS Grange Empire State Granger.

“Kids Helping Kids” Community Service Project Ideas

- Book Giving” program – collect children’s books and donate them to a homeless shelter, local service agencies for foster children, day care centers, churches, or anywhere that will make books available to children to have access to them.
- Provide “emergency” items for foster care children through your local/county Social Services.
- Dictionary Project – conduct a fund raiser, then purchase dictionaries for every third grade student in your local elementary school(s). Help teachers who want to see all their students become good writers, active readers, and creative thinkers. www.dictionaryproject.org
- Plan and carry out a fund raiser for a local/regional/county child who may be seriously ill/in need of surgery/etc. You could work with other groups (scouts, 4-H club, etc.) to plan the fundraiser
- If there is a sudden death of a local child from disease or accident, organize an activity to provide funds to a nationally known charity such as Cystic Fibrosis, Leukemia, Cancer, MADD in that child’s memory.
- If a child has become disabled due to an accident/disease, and can no longer leave his/her home to actively “play” outside, arrange with the parents to visit them to act as a companion for an hour or two. Spread the visit among Junior members so the homebound child can still enjoy other friendships.
- Junior Grange Shoe Boxes This is a sample of a “Kids Helping Kids” community service project your Junior members (individually) or Junior Grange (collectively) can do. This project can help children in your own local area (i.e. cheer for you, welcome to the neighborhood, get well, fires, first day of school supplies, illness, birthdays, holidays, etc.). Complete at least one shoe box as part of our Statewide Community Service Project of “Kids Helping Kids”. Include JG Grange logo/business card; let people know where the shoe box came from.

April is GRANGE Month

New York State Juniors will continue to celebrate Grange month in some significant way. This is an excellent time to pay tribute to and publicize our great rural-urban family orientated organization. Honor our great organization by advertising it! Promote Junior Grange! Let the community know what Junior Grange does. THE ITEMS/PROGRAMS/ACTIVITIES YOU CAN DO FOR GRANGE MONTH TO PUBLICIZE YOUR JUNIOR GRANGE ARE ENDLESS. DO WHATEVER BEST FITS YOUR JUNIOR AND COMMUNITY GRANGE. THE WHOLE POINT OF THIS PROGRAM IS TO PUBLICIZE JUNIOR GRANGE AND WHAT WE DO – DO YOUR PART FOR GRANGE MONTH!!!

Agri-Connection

Junior Grange Leaders and Junior Grange members can help promote Agriculture in their communities in variety of ways, such as community gardens, food shelf, etc. New York Agriculture in the Classroom has many programs and resources to help Junior Grangers and the community learn more about a variety of agriculture topics. Materials and information can be gotten through New York Agriculture in the Classroom at www.agclassroom.org/ny or your local county coordinator/cooperative extension.

Agricultural Awareness Project

Each year, the National JG Director will select an area of Agriculture. There will be activities concentrated in the area to develop interest and awareness. Refer to the National Handbook each year for current topic.

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 programming 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. 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.

The program is broken down into five categories:

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

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

New York State Grange Camp Program

Campers are accepted without regard to sex, color, religion, or national origin.

The Grange Camp program was initiated in 1964 and has been continuous since then. We strive to provide a balanced program of education and fun by combining Grange heritage, crafts, recreation, leadership development, and other camp activities. Grange Camp's "Kids' Day Out" provides a unique opportunity to make new and lasting friendships.

New York State Grange Camp is taking on a new look, "Kids' Day Out". The Camp Directors will choose five locations around New York State to host one day camp sessions. Each "Kids' Day Out" will be 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM with lunch provided. Any child ages 5 – 18 years of age may attend these events. The child does not need to be a Grange member to attend. Information for every location is sent to each Grange in the Spring so children may start making plans to attend. Many activities are offered each year including but not limited to: Grange Leadership, community service, arts and crafts, rocketry, and games.

Camp Directors: Sherri Horner and Ryan Orton

Health & Safety: All campers attending must be in good health. Campers with health impairments/injuries must have written restrictions at the time of registration.

Cost: \$10.00 per child

Registration forms may be requested from NYS Grange Headquarters or the Camp Directors.

Other Grange Departments

Junior Grange members have the opportunity to participate in contests and activities of the other Grange departments. Please refer to each of the different departments at nysgrange.org or in the New York State Grange Handbook for the contests, dates, rules, etc. Some contests include:

Lecturer - Art and Photography, Talent
Youth – Public Speaking, Sign-A-Song
Sports Program
Family Activities – Needlepoint, Quilt Block, Baking

Refer to the National Junior Grange Program/Handbook Book for information on:

Junior Mentor Award	Grange Baseball	Ambassador Program
Junior Grange Passport	Quilt Block	Public Speaking
Fun and Games	AG Awareness Projects	Creative Art
Cape of Honor Award	DC Experience	Creative Writing
Deaf Awareness	Sign-A-Song	Hearing Awareness
Grange in Action	Grassroots Activism	Local Advocacy Project
Community Service Project	Community Service Reporting	

JUNIOR GRANGE LEADER REPORT

Due Date: October 1st

Mail to: National Junior Grange Director,
Samantha Wilkins
21578 Pleasanton Rd, San Antonio, Texas 78264

Who should file report: ALL JUNIOR GRANGE LEADERS

Junior Grange Name/Number _____ State _____

Junior Grange Leader _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (____) _____ E-mail _____

Number of Junior Grange Members as of June 30th _____

Number of Adult Leaders working with your Junior Grange as of June 30th _____

Number of meetings held this year _____

Average attendance per meeting _____

Please attach these items:

- 1) PROGRAMMING – Outline the planning for the participation in any local, regional, State or National Junior Grange Program
- 2) MEMBERSHIP – Outline membership promotional efforts by the Junior Grange members and leaders.
- 3) List of adults working with minors with current background checks.
- 4) COMMENTS – Provide comments or suggestions for the betterment of the Junior Grange Program.