



March 2025

# 4-H Family News

## WAYNE COUNTY



### February Newsletter Contents:

- Wayne County Upcoming Events
- Wayne County Announcements
- 4-H Volunteer Spotlight
- 4-H Club Spotlight
- Success Story
- Statewide Calendar of Events
- Statewide 4-H News

### CONTACT US

[Richard Wooten](#)

MSU Extension – Wayne County  
District Director

[Diane Wisnewski](#)

4-H Supervisor

[Laurie Rivetto](#)

4-H Educator

[Ashleigh Klein](#)   [LaToya Jones](#)

4-H Program Coordinators

[Waverly Eubank](#)   [Holly Sysol](#)

4-H Program Instructors

### PHONE & EMAIL:

(734) 721-6576  
(Western Wayne)

[msue.wayne@msu.edu](mailto:msue.wayne@msu.edu)

### WEBSITE:

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/wayne/>

<https://www.facebook.com/MI4HWayne>



**Youth Presenters from  
4-H Recognition Event**



MSU is an affirmative-action, equal-opportunity employer, committed to achieving excellence through a diverse workforce and inclusive culture that encourages all people to reach their full potential. Michigan State University Extension programs and materials are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, religion, age, height, weight, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, family status or veteran status. Issued in furtherance of MSU Extension work, acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Quentin Tyler, Director, MSU Extension, East Lansing, MI 48824. This information is for educational purposes only. Reference to commercial products or trade names does not imply endorsement by MSU Extension or bias against those not mentioned.



# Wayne County Upcoming Events

## Beginner Horse 4-H Club: Intro to Horses

### Sundays

April 13 – June 8

1:00 – 3:00pm

### Sign Up for 4-H:

<https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-up>

Do you love horses or want to learn more about them? The 4-H Beginner Horse Club is the perfect opportunity for youth ages 10- 19 to dive into the world of horses—no riding and no experience required! Over six fun-filled weeks, you'll get hands-on experience learning how to safely interact with horses, care for them, and understand their behavior. From grooming and feeding to handling tack and leading, you'll build confidence and skills alongside other horse-loving youth. No horse? No problem! All you need is curiosity and a willingness to learn. Spaces are limited—sign up today and take your first step into the exciting world of horses!



## Beginner Horse 4-H Club: Intro to Horses



Join the 4-H Beginner Horse Club – No Experience Needed!

Do you love horses or want to learn more about them? The 4-H Beginner Horse Club is the perfect opportunity for youth ages 10-19 to dive into the world of horses—no riding and no experience required!

Over six fun-filled weeks, you'll get hands-on experience learning how to safely interact with horses, care for them, and understand their behavior. From grooming and feeding to handling tack and leading, you'll build confidence and skills alongside other horse-loving youth.

No horse? No problem! All you need is curiosity and a willingness to learn. Spaces are limited—sign up today and take your first step into the exciting world of horses!

### What You'll Learn

- April 13<sup>th</sup>: Horse safety & behavior
- April 27<sup>th</sup>: Grooming & daily care
- May 4<sup>th</sup>: Tack & equipment basics
- May 18<sup>th</sup>: Groundwork & leading
- June 1<sup>st</sup>: Horse nutrition & feeding
- June 8<sup>th</sup>: Intro to riding concepts and club showcase!

Show off your new skills to family and friends as we celebrate your accomplishments with a fun club showcase and certificate ceremony.

Come for the horses, stay for the fun!

### CONTACT US:

Club Leader: Diane Sloan (734-330-3888 or [dsloan@msu.edu](mailto:dsloan@msu.edu))  
4-H Program Coordinator: Ashleigh Klein ([asklein@msu.edu](mailto:asklein@msu.edu) or 734-727-7408)

### CLUB DETAILS:

Dates and time: Sundays, April 13<sup>th</sup>-June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025, from 1pm-3pm

Location: 48036 Willis Rd, Belleville, MI, 48111

### REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Open to youth ages 10-19 as of Jan 1, 2025. Youth must pre-register to join. Spaces are LIMITED!

Sign-up in 4-H Online:

<https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-up>

Select SPIN Club Beginner Horse 4-H: Intro to Horses at time of registration.

MSU is an affirmative-action, equal-opportunity employer, committed to achieving excellence through a diverse workforce and inclusive culture that encourages all people to reach their full potential. Michigan State University Extension programs and materials are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, genetic identity, religion, age, height, weight, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, family status or veteran status, issued in fulfillment of MSU Extension's act of May 1 and June 30, 1914 in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Justin T. York, Director, MSU Extension, East Lansing, MI 48824. This information is for educational purposes only. Reference to commercial products or trade names does not imply endorsement by MSU Extension or bias against those not mentioned.

## 4-H STEM-Tastic Spring Break Day Camp

Are you looking for something fun to do during Spring Break? Are you interested in learning more about the world around you? MSU Extension presents the 4-H STEM-Tastic Spring Break Day Camp! This one-day camp will allow youth in grades 4th-8th to explore the world around them through STEM! This is a free event that takes place on March 26th from 10am-4pm and lunch will be provided.

Registration is required and spaces are limited!  
Registration will be open from March 1st-March 23rd.

Click the link to register or Scan the QR code!

<https://events.anr.msu.edu/STEMCamp/>

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY Extension

JOIN US FOR

4-H STEM-TASTIC  
SPRING BREAK DAY CAMP

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26, 2025  
FROM 10 AM - 4 PM

AT JEFFERSON BARNES COMMUNITY  
VITALITY CENTER (32150 DORSEY ST,  
WESTLAND, MI 48186)

REGISTRATION REQUIRED!  
OPENS 3/1/25

SCAN QR CODE

## WAYNE COUNTY 4-H HORSE & PONY PROUDLY PRESENTS OUR 2025 TACK SALE

- **WHEN:** Saturday, March 1
- **TIME:** 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM
- **WHERE:** Wayne County Fairground Dining Hall: 10871 Quirk Road, Belleville, MI 48111
- **Cost:** \$3 Door Charge, per person

**\$35 reservation fee for tack booth (includes admission for 2 people, 1 Table & 2 Chairs)**

There will also be a concession stand and silent auction.

**For more Info: Please TEXT Melissa LaForest at 734-751-1022 or Email at [heyli529@yahoo.com](mailto:heyli529@yahoo.com)**



# Wayne County Upcoming Events

## Wayne County 4-H Dog Club

This project is for youth ages 8-19, who are interested in learning more about dogs, how to care for a dog, and how to train a dog in basic or advanced commands. Any kind of dog may be used in this unique project, which is not designed to conform to the American Kennel Club or other organization standards. Members without dogs may wish to participate in quiz bowls, educational sessions, and other activities that do not require dog ownership.

### 4-H Dog Project Inspires Youth To:

- Learn what kind of dog would be best for you and your family
- Learn basic K-9 care, handling, and management
- Learn about goal setting
- Evaluate project with leader
- Learn how to keep records
- Learn how to assume responsibility
- Obedience training
- Gain knowledge of sound management practices
- Develop sportsmanship
- Develop public speaking skills
- Explore dog related careers



JOIN THE WAYNE COUNTY 4-H  
**Dog Club**



**Who Can Join?** Anyone interested in dogs ages 8-19. The dog club is hosted by Ribbon Farms 4-H club; however, you are not required to be a member of their club to participate! 4-H'ers from other clubs are welcome!



**RIBBON FARMS  
4-H CLUB**



**DOG CLUB SPRING 2025**

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension

**Reminders for Participants:**

- Attendance is required
- Parent must be present
- Proper collar and leash
- Clean up after your dog



**SPRING  
EVENTS**

Registration for the 4-H Dog Program is Required, space is limited. Serious and committed participants only due to limited number of spots in the program.

**March 1: First Club Meeting 12pm at Full Circle Resale Shop**

**March 15: First Dog Training Session 1pm at Grosse Pointe Sportsman Dog Training Club**

**Contact Information:** Ribbon Farms 4-H Club Leader: Wendy Jerome (jewe0011@umn.edu) or Wayne County 4-H Program Coordinator: Ashleigh Klein (apelashl@msu.edu or 734-727-7408).

<b>SAT</b> 8 FEBRUARY, 2025 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM Full Circle Resale Shop	<b>INFORMATIONAL MEETING</b> Pick up Informational Materials Schedule Calendar   Club Requirements   4-H Enrollment	<b>DOG TRAINING</b> General Obedience Dog A&P Lessons   Crafts/Activities   Fundraising	<b>SAT</b> 27 MAR 2025 12:00 - 2:00 Full Circle Resale Shop
<b>CLUB MEETING</b> Paperwork is Due Lessons   Crafts and Activities   Fundraising Ideas	<b>SAT</b> 1 MARCH 12:00 PM - 2:30 PM Full Circle Resale Shop	<b>CLUB MEETING</b> Dog Health and Wellbeing Lessons   Crafts and Activities   Fundraising Ideas	
<b>SAT</b> 15 MARCH 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Sportsman Dog Training Club	<b>DOG TRAINING</b> Introductions with General Discipline and Obedience Training	<b>DOG TRAINING</b> General Discipline and Obedience Training	<b>SAT</b> 12 APRIL 2025 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Full Circle Resale Shop
<b>SAT</b> 28 APRIL 2025 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Full Circle Resale Shop	<b>DOG TRAINING</b> General Discipline and Obedience Training	<b>DOG TRAINING</b> General Discipline and Obedience Training	<b>SAT</b> ____ MAY (TBD) 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM Sportsman Dog Training Club
<b>CLUB MEETING</b> Dog Nutrition and Treat Recipes Lessons   Crafts and Activities   Fundraising Ideas	<b>SAT</b> 3 MAY 12:00 PM - 2:30 PM Full Circle Resale Shop	<b>SAT</b> 7 JUNE 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM Full Circle Resale Shop	<b>CLUB MEETING</b> Working Dogs and Dogs with Jobs Lessons   Crafts and Activities   Fundraising Ideas
<b>SAT</b> ____ MAY (TBD)	<b>DOG TRAINING</b> General Discipline and Obedience Training	<b>DOG SHOW &amp; AWARDS</b> Dog Club Progress Showcase Paper/Pet's Awards and Mini "Banquet"	<b>SAT</b> 14 JUNE 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM Location TBD

Wendy Jerome: (313) 806-3358  
Jewe0011@umn.edu  
Go in our Facebook Page for more information





# Wayne County Upcoming Events

## Smart Money Mission GooseChase

💰 **Smart Money Mission: GooseChase Game!** 💰 Hey Michigan teens (13-19)! Ready for an EPIC scavenger hunt that tests your money smarts? 🚀💡 Join the Smart Money Mission on the GooseChase app for a month of exciting challenges, trivia, and puzzles—all designed to boost your budgeting, saving, and investing skills.

### 🔥 Why Join?

- ✅ Fun, interactive money challenges
- ✅ Win 1 of 10 \$50 Amazon gift cards 🎁
- ✅ Learn \$\$\$ skills for life

📅 **When?** All through April!

📱 **How?** Download GooseChase, create a username (your full name)

**Register at:** <https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/smart-money-missions>



## Marketing Your Livestock Project Workshop

📣 **Attention Youth Market Livestock!** 📣 Join us on March 19 at Camp Rotary (20505 29 Mile Rd, Ray, MI 48096) for a hands-on Marketing Your Livestock workshop! 🐄🐑🐷 Learn how to effectively market your animals using top marketing tools, the 5 P's of marketing, target market strategies, and communication techniques for sales and auctions.

📅 **Date:** March 19

📍 **Location:** Camp Rotary, 20505 29 Mile Rd, Ray, MI 48096

🕒 **Check-in & Food:** 6:00 PM

🕒 **Workshop:** 6:30 - 8:00 PM

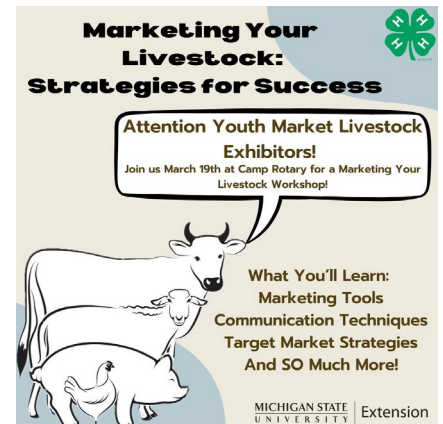
💰 **Cost: FREE!**

Don't miss this opportunity to sharpen your marketing skills and boost your livestock sales!

🔥 Tag your friends and RSVP today here:

<https://events.anr.msu.edu/Marketyourlivestock/>

**Questions contact: Laurie Rivetto @ [rivettol@msu.edu](mailto:rivettol@msu.edu)**



## Junior MANRRS Leadership Symposium

CANR will be hosting the second annual Jr. MANRRS Leadership Symposium from March 14-16. The purpose of the Jr. MANRRS symposium is to expose 7th-12th graders to the Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Related Sciences sector. The youth will have the opportunity to network with their peers and collegiate MANRRS members from MSU, the University of Kentucky, and Langston University, learn about the programs in CANR and support resources at MSU, attend interactive workshops, and participate in contests! All youth eligible to participate, Jr. MANRRS membership is not required.

**Location:** MSU Campus

**Cost:** Free (not including lodging)

**Contact:** Ayodele Darem @ [dareayod@msu.edu](mailto:dareayod@msu.edu)

**Registration Required:** <https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/jr-manrrs-leadership-symposium>





# Announcements

## Save the Date for the Wayne County 4-H Livestock Clinic

### Small Animals

Friday, May 16: 5:00 – 9:00pm

### Large Animals

Saturday, May 17: 9:00 – 3:30pm

### Both Days:

Wayne County Fairgrounds  
10871 Quirk Rd.  
Belleville, MI, 4811



## Save the Date for 4-H Exploration Days!

June 18th-20th, 2025.

- ❑ **Registration opens March 20th at 7:00 pm and closes April 25.** Don't wait until the deadline though, because popular sessions fill up fast!
- ❑ **The 2025 cost is \$250.** For more information, please see the [Registration Information \(https://www.canr.msu.edu/4\\_h\\_exploration\\_days/registration\\_information\)](https://www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_exploration_days/registration_information) page.
  - ❑ The fee includes meals, a shared room in a dorm, sessions and a t-shirt.
  - ❑ Wayne County is offering scholarships to attend this event. To apply you will need to complete a Scholarship application here: <https://forms.gle/4V8ZLTFxP23o4Dz98>.
- ❑ Session Descriptions are now available at: [https://www.canr.msu.edu/4\\_h\\_exploration\\_days/uploads/files/2025-4HEXD-Sessions\\_2025-02-20-AA.pdf](https://www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_exploration_days/uploads/files/2025-4HEXD-Sessions_2025-02-20-AA.pdf)
- ❑ Contact Ashleigh Klein for more information: [apelashl@msu.edu](mailto:apelashl@msu.edu) or 734-727-7408





# Volunteer Spotlight - Diane Sloan

## Where do you volunteer, and how did you get started?

I volunteer in Wayne county. I got started in the 1980's when I was a child in 4-h myself. Being a member in my youth inspired me as an adult with children of my own to become a leader and stay involved.

## What has been your favorite or most fulfilling part of volunteering with 4-H?

Teaching kids and keeping them busy, whether be arts, crafts , horses, or animals . 4-h offers so much. Their sure to find something that interests them.

## What volunteer projects do you most like to be a part of?

Equine

## Do you have any advice for other 4-H volunteers?

Get involved and learn as much as you can. Take every opportunity offered to you.

## Is there anything else you want to share about yourself, 4-H, or recent experiences that we may include?

It's great to meet lifelong friends, builds self confidence and I feel that 4- h is just a positive experience in so many aspects.





# 4-H Club Spotlight

## The 4-H Club at Oakland Avenue Urban Farm

*At The 4-H Club at Oakland Avenue Urban Farm, we're dedicated to nurturing a holistic approach to youth development through a combination of art, agriculture, and technology. Our club blends these diverse fields to offer young people a well-rounded experience, empowering them with both creative and technical skills that will help them excel in many areas of life.*

Our mission is to provide a space where youth can explore, create, and grow. We believe in fostering curiosity and innovation by offering unique opportunities that bridge the worlds of art, agriculture, and robotics. Through hands-on learning, we aim to build skills in sustainable farming, creative expression, and cutting-edge technology while empowering members to be leaders in their communities. Our goal is to inspire young people to think critically, work collaboratively, and pursue their passions with confidence.

**Why Become a 4-H Club:** Joining the 4-H Club gives our youth the chance to experience and contribute to community growth, as well as to engage with youth development programs that emphasize leadership, citizenship, and life skills. By becoming part of the 4-H family, we give our members access to a network of resources, mentorship, and opportunities to connect with others who share similar interests in a supportive environment.

Our Robotics Program is an essential component of the club, allowing youth to blend technology with the themes of

sustainability and agriculture. By teaching robotics, coding, and engineering skills, we equip students with the knowledge and tools to solve real-world problems. For example, they may design robots that help with farm maintenance or create systems to monitor and optimize plant growth. This program connects the dots between creative engineering and environmental care, offering participants a chance to innovate while benefiting their local community.

### **Skills and Projects:**

- ❑ **Art Skills:** Visual design, sculpture, creative expression, mural painting, photography, and sustainable art practices.
- ❑ **Agricultural Skills:** Urban farming techniques, crop cultivation, sustainable gardening practices, soil science, and permaculture principles.
- ❑ **Robotics & Technology Skills:** Designing and building robots, coding with Scratch or Python, using sensors and motors, and applying robotics to agricultural challenges.

### ❑ **Interdisciplinary Projects:**

- **Urban Farm Robotics:** Designing robots that help maintain or manage the farm, such as automated watering systems or crop monitoring devices.
- **Art for Agriculture:** Creating art installations that educate the community about sustainable agriculture or designing artistic signage to make the farm more engaging.
- **Agri-Tech Projects:** Exploring the integration of technology and agriculture, such as developing apps for urban farmers or using robotics to assist with food production.





# Success Story

## 4-H Recognition Event

On January 25, 2025, the Wayne County 4-H community came together at the Wayne County Community College District Ted Scott Campus to celebrate the accomplishments of 4-H members and volunteers during the 2023-2024 program year. The Wayne County 4-H Recognition Event was a day of reflection and appreciation for the dedication and hard work that fueled another successful year of 4-H programming.

The event was planned by a dedicated committee comprised of MSU Extension staff, 4-H volunteers, and 4-H youth. This team met monthly from October 2024 through January 2025, ensuring that every detail—from awards and decorations to food, activities, and fundraising—was thoughtfully organized. Their collective efforts culminated in a vibrant celebration that honored the shining stars of Wayne County 4-H.

The event followed the theme "Golden Clovers on the Red Carpet," setting the stage for a glamorous and heartfelt celebration. A panel of 15 youth presenters took the lead in hosting the program, supported by committed adult volunteers and MSU Extension staff. This youth-led approach highlighted the leadership, confidence, and teamwork fostered within 4-H.

Before the awards ceremony, attendees enjoyed an open house featuring a variety of interactive activities, including bingo, Jenga, GooseChase, line dancing, and a photo booth. Firehouse Subs provided a delicious lunch, allowing guests to enjoy a meal together while reflecting on their shared experiences in 4-H.

A silent auction was held to support future recognition events, raising \$638, with an additional \$200 donation from a generous 4-H volunteer. The silent auction featured items generously donated by The STEM 4-H Club, MSU Extension staff, Sourdough Belleville, and Bliss Beauty. This fundraising effort demonstrated the power of community support and collective investment in the future of 4-H celebrations.

The 2023-2024 Wayne County 4-H Recognition Event was more than just a celebration of awards; it was a tribute to the passion, commitment, and growth of our 4-H family. Throughout the year, members participated in club meetings, community service projects, livestock clinics, camps, and competitions, each contributing to the program's success. Volunteers played a crucial role, dedicating their time and expertise to mentor and guide youth, while parents and supporters provided the encouragement that makes 4-H thrive.

We honor members with 4-H membership year pins each year and recognize Cloverbud participants for their enthusiasm and dedication. Additionally, we celebrate our volunteers by acknowledging their years of service and thanking them for their continued commitment to the program. In addition to these annual awards, youth and volunteers have the opportunity to apply for county awards. This year, we were honored to present a variety of county awards to outstanding individuals who have demonstrated excellence in leadership, community service, and project work. Their dedication and hard work exemplify the spirit of 4-H.





# Success Story Continued

## 4-H County Award Winners:

- Sportsmanship Award:** Isabella Kruk – Recognized for consistently demonstrating fairness, generosity, and consideration in competitive settings while serving as a positive role model for younger 4-H members.
- Leadership and Personal Growth Award:** Sophia Sloan – Honored for exceptional personal growth and leadership through participation in projects and activities over the past year.
- Project Area Awards:**
  - Simran Adnani – Excellence in Community Service
  - Gabby Cumbo – Excellence in Beef Cattle
  - Amelia Harris – Excellence in Dairy Cattle and Horses
  - Andrew Harris – Excellence in Goats
- Volunteer of the Year:** Lin Harris – Recognized for demonstrating exceptional involvement, dedication, and support for the Wayne County 4-H program during the 2023-2024 year.
- Leader of the Year:** Diane Sloan – Honored for outstanding leadership and commitment to mentoring and guiding 4-H youth.
- Outstanding 4-H Club Achievement Award:** STEM 4-H Club – Awarded for excellence in programming, engagement, and contributions to the Wayne County 4-H community.
- Friend of 4-H Award:** Wayne County Farm Bureau – Honored for their outstanding contributions and support to the Wayne County 4-H Program.

The impact of the 2023-2024 Wayne County 4-H Recognition Event was felt deeply by all who attended. Youth members expressed how meaningful it was to be recognized for their hard work, with one award recipient stating, "Receiving this award made me realize how much I've grown through 4-H and how supported I am by this community." Volunteers also shared how much it meant to be appreciated, with a long-time leader commenting, "Seeing the youth take center stage in planning and presenting this event shows how 4-H truly empowers young people to lead."

Event Planning Committee



Some of our Wayne County Volunteers that were in attendance.

Graduating Cloverbuds



STEM 4-H Club accepting the Outstanding 4-H Club Achievement Award



Diane Sloan accepting the 4-H Leader of the Year Award



Lin Harris accepting the 4-H Volunteer of the year award.



# STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## 4-H Youth in Action Program applications open



Apply now for the 2026 4-H Youth in Action Awards! Each year, the program recognizes four confident young leaders with diverse backgrounds and unique perspectives who are making a difference in their communities.

Winners will have the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to share their stories along with unforgettable experiences, celebration on the national stage, recognition in the media and a \$5,000 college scholarship.

This opportunity is open to youth ages 14-19. The deadline to apply is March 31. Learn more and apply at <https://4-h.org/programs/4-h-youth-in-action-program/application/>.

### March 3: Adulting 101 – Get It Together: Tim and Organization Tips to Thrive

*Online*

Learn practical tips to tackle schedules, beat procrastination and organize spaces to help you be successful now and in the future.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/get-it-together](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/get-it-together)

### March 11: 4-H Give Green Day

*Online*

Help us reach our goal of raising \$5,000 in a 24-hour period on Give Green Day to support learning experiences for Michigan 4-H youth.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/4h-give-green-day](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4h-give-green-day)

### March 11: Wild Spartans

*Online*

Join 4-H staff for the "Wild Spartans" series for a look into life working with fisheries and wildlife! This month's session will explore conservation efforts in zoos with Seth Magle, director of the Urban Wildlife Institute at the Lincoln Park Zoo in Chicago.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/wild-spartans-monthly-wildlife-fisheries-webinar-series-march-2024-2025](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/wild-spartans-monthly-wildlife-fisheries-webinar-series-march-2024-2025)

### March 15: Michigan 4-H Hippology Contest

*East Lansing*

Youth aged 5-19 are eligible to demonstrate their comprehensive equine knowledge and skills in an engaging setting.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/2025-michigan-4-h-state-hippology-contest](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/2025-michigan-4-h-state-hippology-contest)

### March 18: Mich. 4-H Volunteer Webinar - Cultivating Developmental Relationships with Youth

*Online*

Explore how to build impactful connections with youth through developmental relationships. This series will provide volunteers with a variety of learning opportunities to help them grow as a volunteer and support Michigan 4-H'ers. This session will be offered twice:

- **12 p.m. session:** [www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-the-heart-of-4-h-cultivating-developmental-relationships-with-youth-noon](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-the-heart-of-4-h-cultivating-developmental-relationships-with-youth-noon)
- **7 p.m. session:** [www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-the-heart-of-4-h-cultivating-developmental-relationships-with-youth-7pm](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-the-heart-of-4-h-cultivating-developmental-relationships-with-youth-7pm)

### April 1: 2025 Michigan 4-H State Awards application deadline

*Online*

This program provides 4-H members a learning experience where they can develop career skills by using their 4-H experiences to compile a portfolio similar to a professional application while receiving recognition for their 4-H involvement.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/2025-michigan-4-h-state-awards-application-deadline](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/2025-michigan-4-h-state-awards-application-deadline)





# STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

## Open your home to a student with the 4-H International Exchange Program!

Michigan 4-H will have 10 Japanese youth and one chaperone arriving in 2025; we are looking for families interested in opening their homes and hearts by hosting these individuals. Consider sharing the clover this summer and giving a lucky Japanese youth and your family the experience of a lifetime by hosting!

The Japanese delegation is scheduled to arrive in Grand Rapids in mid-July and depart in mid-August, meeting host families for a 3.5-week stay. Online applications to host can be found at:

<https://www.states4hexchange.org/apply/host/>.

For more information, contact Michigan 4-H International Exchange Program Coordinator Jan Brinn at [brinn@msu.edu](mailto:brinn@msu.edu).



## MSU Extension launches 2025 Global Voices Essay Contest with MSU Global Youth Advancement Network

The Global Voices Essay Contest offers a platform for young people around the world to advocate for their communities and share their opinions and stories about local and national challenges. Michigan students in grades 9-12, and young adults ages 18-24, are invited to share their own stories, reflections and visions by writing and submitting a 600-900-word essay focused on community (defined as the rich tapestry of cultures, experiences and ideas that shape our state). Sub-themes for the essay contest include shared natural resources, heritage and home, bridges of unity, innovation for the future and other.

A panel of MSU, MSU Extension, and Michigan 4-H judges will review and select the winning essays, which will be published on the MSU Global Youth Advancement Network website and receive cash prizes!

The deadline for youth to submit their essay online is May 2. For more info please visit: <https://globalyouth.isp.msu.edu/programs-projects/global-voices/essay-contest/call-submissions-2/>

## Michigan 4-H needs your input!

Michigan 4-H is conducting a survey to better understand the topics and educational approaches that best meet community needs. Your feedback will help us improve and enhance how Michigan 4-H serves families across the state.

Visit [https://msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_bqmeT5Dxtthvja](https://msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bqmeT5Dxtthvja) or scan the QR code to share your input and help shape the future of the Michigan 4-H program. If you have questions regarding this survey, please reach out to Kathy Fischer at [fisch226@msu.edu](mailto:fisch226@msu.edu).

