



4-H Family News

Oakland County



2022-2023 Achievement Awards Recap!



Every year since April of 1979 Oakland County 4-H sets a day aside to celebrate. At the 4-H Achievement Awards, we honor the many efforts and accomplishments of 4-H members and the volunteers who work with them. It is their commitment and dedication that encourages each individual to grow, helps make our communities stronger, and contributes to shaping the future. This past award ceremony was nothing short of amazing as we honored our amazing youth and volunteers. We hope you see you at the 45th Oakland County Achievement Award Ceremony happening in **October!** Date coming soon!

A special thank you to Oakland County Farm Bureau for sponsoring this event!

[Click here to see all the photos from the Awards Ceremony](#)

[Click here to for Awards Program](#)

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4-H Horse & Pony Programs & Events

The Oakland County 4-H Horse Council and 4-H staff are busy planning and coordinating the 2024 horse program. If you are interested in any of the following programs, or need more information about the Oakland County 4-H horse program, please contact Debbie Morgan at morga194@msu.edu

- **Oakland County 4-H Horse Council meetings are open to all** – 6:30 pm, 2nd Wednesday of each month in the Fair Community Room, (with the exception of July - no meeting and October - 3rd week-10/16)
- **Bloomfield Open Hunt Club Proud Equestrian Program** – therapeutic riding program includes three 8 week sessions: 4/1-5/20, 6/3-7/29 (no class 7/1), 8/12-10/7 (no class Labor Day).
- **Horse Protégé Program** – novice/mentor program (April-August) for horse project members and horse enthusiasts
- **MSU Tollgate beginner horse camps:** 6/24-28 – Equine Science, 8/5-9 – Western Riding, 8/19-23 – English Riding
- **Oakland County 4-H Horse Camp**, 6/16-20, Springfield Oaks County Park
- **Counselor-in-Training Program** for youth 16-19 at horse camp
- **Horse Shows hosted by Oakland County 4-H Horse Council at Springfield Oaks:** 5/10 & 5/11, 5/17 & 5/18, 6/7 & 6/8, 8/9 & 8/10.
- **State 4-H Horse Show**, 8/16-18/2024



4-H Livestock Novice/Mentor Program



The 4-H Livestock Novice/Mentor Program is for youth ages 5 to 7 (as of January 1, 2024) OR inexperienced livestock project members in their 1st or 2nd year. Matching the inexperienced youth with experienced livestock project members (from the same club) provides an impactful mentoring and learning opportunity for all. Program participation is a large commitment by the novice, mentor, and their families. **For more info and registration details, please contact Debbie Morgan at morga194@msu.edu 248-347-3860, ext. 279 by 4/1/2024.**



Save the Date - Discovery Day 2024

Mark your calendars for **April 27th 2024!** Discovery Day is a FREE family event open to the public providing fun and educational activities for the whole family! There will be information about joining 4-H and exhibiting at the Oakland County Fair. Stay tuned for more information to come out soon!



Don't Forget to Re-enroll in 4-H Online

It's important to enroll in 4-H through the 4-H Online system for a few reasons. It's where contact info lives in case it is needed, and ensures youth are eligible for the American Income Life supplemental insurance to help cover medical bills if anything happens at a 4-H activity. For leaders, it is what allows you to act on behalf of 4-H and be covered by under MSU's liability insurance umbrella. It's also how 4-H staff keep track of participation for awards and scholarships. Lastly, 4-H is a publicly funded entity, registering as an active participant in our program helps staff to tell the 4-H story and ensure the program continues for youth in Oakland County. Parents do not have to enroll unless they are a screened volunteer

<https://v2.4honline.com>

Mark Of Excellence Award!

Are you a young person ages 11-12? Apply for the Mark of Excellence Award. The essay theme is "Because of 4-H, I can..." Tell us how [#MI4H](#) has made an impact on your life for a chance to be recognized!

Submission Details:

- Contestants are asked to create either a video or a journal reflection focusing around the theme of "Because of 4-H I can..."
- Entries should be legible, readable or easily viewable.
- Video submissions must be no more than 2 minutes in length. Videos should be in mp4 format or provide a YouTube Channel link.
- Journal reflections must be 500 words or less and can be handwritten or typed.
- Submission can be either video OR journal.
- Must include first name and county.

[Due to County office by April 1st!](#)



Exploration Days – June 19 - 21, 2024

Join 1,000 youth from across Michigan on MSU's campus to explore YOUR future! Live like a college student and learn about future careers at 4-H Exploration Days. This three-day pre-college program is designed to help you explore careers, build skills and envision your future. Choose from more than 100 fun learning sessions on a variety of topics that are led by MSU faculty, 4-H staff and volunteers, and other experts! You'll stay in and eat at MSU residence halls, attend sessions in buildings throughout campus, and of course have fun at free-time activities across the university!

Registration opens in March. Scholarships are available!





FAIR FIESTA

Charity Auction

March 2, 2024



**Admission: \$10 Adults, \$5 Kids 6-14
5 and under FREE!**

**Doors open @ 5 pm Dinner 5:30-6:45 pm
All you can eat Taco Bar**

**Live Auction-6:30 pm
Silent Auction bidding closes 7:00-8:00 pm**

**Proceeds will support the Fair award money for our exhibitors
at the 2024 Oakland County Fair, July 5-14, 2024.**



**The event will be held at
Springfield Oaks County Park Activity Center
12451 Andersonville Rd., Davisburg, MI 48350**

**Auction preview, registration and bidding
at OakFair.org**

**Please contact the Fair Office for auction donations and any other
information @ 248-634-8830 or info@oakfair.org
Oakland County 4-H Fair Association is a 501(c)(3) and donations are
tax deductible.**

Thank you to our 2023 Donors

Alibi Express, Altered Designs, Carrie Barkham and Josh Myers, Barkham Family, Bearss Fitness, Bechler Family Concessions, Kathy Bell, Big Rock Amusements, Patty Blackmer, Blumz, Boat Bar, Bosetti Family, Bower 4-H Club, Brandon Chiropractic Center, Bright Line Custom Engraving, Scott & Kathy Bruning, Bullfrogs, Calabrese's Pizzeria, Canine Designs, Ceramics by You, Holly Cheyne, Ck's Mexican & More, Clarkston Hair Design, Color Street- Deb Kayga, Cowgirl Café, Creative Fashions, Cupcakes and Kisses, Curtis Farm, Dave and Amy's, Daisy's Pet Shop, Davisburg Busy Bees, Emily Nett Eventing, Everything Equine, Fitzpatrick Financial Services, Fox Lake Equestrian, Kelly & Steve Fuller, Gage Family Chiropractic, Deb Gallo, Get N Bigger Charters, Cindy Gorecki, Great Lakes Vet Clinic & VetEx Mobile, Hamilton's Pet Food & More, Jan & Mel Hagar, Ryan & Mindy Hart, Holly Antiques, Hotchkiss Farm, Loren Hotchkiss, Jay's Big Bass Outdoors, JNK Sirloin Tip Dinners, Ken's Coney Family Dinner, Ted & Christa Kenyon, Kerton Lumber, Kidz Energy Zone, Jim and Dianne Kitson, McKay Farms, Lango, Lets Roam, LMA Interior Cleaning Service, Mane 2 Tail Connection 4-H Club, Holly Martin, Michigan Antique Festival, Michigan State Fair LLC, MJR Digital Cinemas, Moby Dick Pet Store, Bonnie Moore, Mt. Holly, My Hero Dog Training, Oakland County 4-H, Oakland County 4-H Horse Council, Oakland County Farm Bureau, Oakland County Livestock Club, Oakland Yard, Oakland Youth Rabbit & Cavy Club, Ol Tex BBQ, O'Malley's Galley, Pampered Paws of Highland, Pasteiner's Auto Zone, Polk Around Farm, Melanie Peterson, Raggs Boutique, Rainforest Café, Richardson's Meat Processing, Ray & Renee Roos, Scramlin Feed, LC & Jackie Scramlin, Matt & Jennifer Scramlin, Shuck and Ladder, Square One, Soggie Doggie, The Dance Project, The Henry Ford, The Holly Café, The Homesteading Free Rangers 4-H Club, Tractor Supply, Triple B's 4-H Club, United Producers, Unique Motor Sports, Urban Air, Katy Vartanian, Michele Viviano, Nancy vonKoehnen, Waterfall Jewelers, Wines for Humanity,

Your generosity helped us raise over \$16,000 for our youth!



STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Get free tickets for Michigan 4-H Day at the Breslin!



Make plans for a fun day in East Lansing on February 24! Join with other members of the 4-H community for Michigan 4-H Day at the Breslin. This fun family event will be held at the Jack Breslin Student Events Center as the MSU women's basketball team takes on the Rutgers Scarlet Knights.

Attendees will also enjoy 4-H games and activities around the concourse. Tickets are free to 4-H youth and their families as well as 4-H volunteers and their families. In addition, Michigan 4-H will be showcased during the halftime show as a group of 4-H youth will lead the crowd in reciting the 4-H pledge.

Doors will open at 12:30 p.m., with tip-off scheduled for 2 p.m. Participants are encouraged to show their pride and wear green and white 4-H or MSU Extension apparel.

For more information and to get tickets, visit www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-day-at-the-breslin.

February 7: Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar - Engaging 4-H Youth in Animal Science Education

Online

Explore ways 4-H volunteers can utilize curriculum and resources to engage 4-H youth in animal science education. 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, once as a daytime option and once as an evening option.

- **12 p.m. session:** www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-engaging-4-h-youth-in-animal-science-education
- **7 p.m. session:** www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-engaging-4-h-youth-in-animal-science-education7pm

February 12: Fostering Happy and Healthy Relationships

Online

The 4-H Adulting 101 series helps young people prepare for college or life on their own through free online sessions. Join this session to explore healthy relationship models that can enhance your future and current bonds.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/relationships-1

February 13: 4-H Wild Spartans – Seeing the Forest for the Wildlife

Online

This month's 4-H Wild Spartans Series will wade with waterfowl and explore forests. Meet Jeremiah Heise, ecosystem program manager with the U.S. Forest Service, learn about his field work, and the education and career path he followed to get there. This free series is open to 4-H and non-4-H youth ages 12-19.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/wild-spartans-series-2023-2024feb

March 2: Michigan 4-H Spring Livestock Workshop

Anthony Hall, East Lansing

This one-day workshop is designed for 4-H teens and volunteers in beef, sheep, goats and swine project areas. Youth will learn about different aspects of their livestock projects throughout a variety of sessions.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-spring-livestock-workshop-2024

March 6 and 9: Michigan 4-H Animal Science Skillathon

Online

This competition tests both youth and adult competitors' knowledge of market livestock, animal science, and management practices in various categories. Competitors can choose to compete during the week or on the weekend. Registration closes Feb. 29.

www.canr.msu.edu/otsego/4-h/2024-Skillathon





STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS



Register today for Michigan 4-H Capitol Experience!

At Michigan 4-H Capitol Experience, teens learn how to change the world for the better through engagement in Michigan's state government and public policy process. The program is scheduled for March 17-19, in Lansing. The three-day event, open to high school-aged youth, includes tours of the Michigan Capitol, interactions with state legislators, meetings with state agency staff, lobbyists and state-level experts, and learning how policy is made. During the program, youth work in small teams to draft legislation on agriculture, civil rights and youth advocacy, crime and law enforcement, education and teacher retention, environment and natural resources, health, or jobs and the economy/infrastructure.

The cost to register in 2024 is \$365, which includes meals and lodging at the Quality Inn University in Lansing. Contact your local 4-H program coordinator to inquire about local funding opportunities. Scholarships may also be available through your local Farm Bureau office. To register or learn more, visit www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_capitol_experience/.

Make a difference for food security with World Food Prize Michigan Youth Institute

As millions across the globe deal with food insecurity, the World Food Prize Michigan Youth Institute (WFP MIYI) offers young people an opportunity to be part of the solution. Held May 9 in East Lansing, or by participating from anywhere else using Zoom video/web conference technology, the event seeks to inspire and prepare the next generation of global leaders to end world hunger.



To participate, youth should be in grades 7-12 and register by the March 15 deadline. As part of the registration process, youth are required to prepare and submit a 2-to-5-page research paper about a developing country and one of 20 key factors that affect food security. At the event, youth present and discuss their papers with other attendees and research and industry experts. The top performing students at the WFP MIYI will be selected to attend the World Food Prize Global Youth Institute in Des Moines, Iowa, in October.

There is no cost to participate in the WFP MIYI. For more information, visit www.canr.msu.edu/wfpmiyi/.



Apply for a Michigan 4-H State Award!

Michigan 4-H true leaders ages 11 and older have an opportunity to be recognized for the great work they do in 4-H and develop their career skills by completing a state award application. A Michigan 4-H State Award is the highest honor bestowed on a Michigan 4-H member and provides an opportunity to receive recognition for their engagement in rich learning experiences that result in outstanding knowledge and life-skill development.

State award applications are divided into four categories: Mark of Excellence essay contest (11-12 years), junior state award (13-15 years), senior state award (16-19 years) and group awards (13-19 years). Each application and selection process varies, dependent on the age of the 4-H member. Additional details about the Michigan 4-H State Award process can be found at <http://bit.ly/stateaward>.

Applications are due April 1. For more information, contact your 4-H program coordinator or email Betty Jo Krosnicki at nashbett@msu.edu or Janice Zerbe at rajzerj@msu.edu.