



# 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\\_bqmeT5Dxtthvjca](https://msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bqmeT5Dxtthvjca) 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).

