

Colorado State Grange Program Handbook

September 1, 2025 – August 31, 2026



Guide To Contests And Programs

Contact State Directors Or Subordinate Chairmen
For Information On All Contests And Programs.

*Please Save This Handbook, Pull Out And Fold.
Or See It Online At coloradogrango.org*

National Grange Office
1616 H St. NW, Suite 300
Washington, DC 20006
1-888-447-2643

Colorado State Grange Office
7629 County Road 100
Hesperus, CO 81326
719-748-5008

Youth And Young Adult

Gary Wardle, Director

8606 Holman Circle, Arvada, CO 80005
303-349-7390 • cograngepresident@gmail.com

The Colorado State Grange is adopting the National Grange Youth and Young Adult Program as our official Youth Program. We encourage you to take advantage of the opportunities provided by the National Grange. Information and applications are available at NationalGrange.org in the National Grange 2026 Youth and Young Adult Program Book.

These programs are open to Grange Youth Members ages 14-20 and Grange Young Adults ages 21-30. Unless indicated otherwise, the deadline for these applications will be due September 1, 2026. Not all programs listed in the National Program Book are listed here but Colorado Youth and Young Adults may participate in all the programs listed in the National Program Book.

John Trimble Legislative Experience

This program provides youth and/or young adults with an opportunity to see and participate in the inner workings of committees and the grassroots legislative policy development efforts at the National Grange Convention. As a guest of the National Grange, participants' room costs will be paid for and certain meal functions will be paid for. Transportation to and from the convention is at the expense of the participant.

National Grange Youth Officer Team

The National Grange Youth Officer Team is a group of Youth and Young Adults, ages 14-30, from across the nation who have the opportunity to serve as a National Grange Youth Officer at the National Grange Convention. Transportation and rooming costs will be paid for by the participants.

Youth and Young Adult Ambassador Program

Youth and Young Adults have the opportunity to become a representative of Colorado State Grange. The Colorado State Ambassador will receive a small stipend to offset expenses to attend the following year's National Grange Convention. National Grange will also award a small stipend to each Ambassador who attends the National Grange Convention. Ambassadors may run for the National Leadership Team.

National Public Speaking Competition

Best of Show winner from Colorado (a video of the speech or, preferably, a presentation at State Session after the Final Banquet on Saturday evening, will determine the state best of show) will compete at National Session. Only one state winner will be allowed to move on to the National competition. Cash prizes will be awarded to the 1-3 place winners. Details are in the National Youth and Young Adult Program Book. Participants will need to pay their expenses.

National Sign-A-Song Competition

There are three categories in the competition: novice, hobbyist, and group. The contestant must be a Best of Show winner from their State (Colorado). The Colorado Sign-A-Song competition will be held after the Final Banquet on Saturday evening at State Session. A video presentation in lieu of an in-person presentation will be given consideration. Details of the competition are in the National Grange Youth and Young Adult Handbook. Participants will pay their own expenses.

Community Service

Lisa Mittan, Director

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Watch for Community Service suggestions in *The Colorado Granger* throughout the year. The first suggestion here is to keep a notebook at your Grange for any member to record their volunteer activities and hours since they were last there. At each meeting, as you go through reports from each of your areas (Legislative, Agriculture, Community Service, etc.), have the members talk about their own volunteer activities since the last meeting, in addition to any reports your Community Service person has to share.

Participation in the State programs: Deaf Education, Mandy Project, P.I.C.K, Emergency Relief Program, Family Activities, Junior Grange, and Youth Grange projects will certainly count toward Helping Hands.

Completing the three forms below will be helpful when reporting on your Granges' Community Service activities — the first is required to be considered for Community Service awards.

September 3, 2026

DEADLINE FOR CONTEST REPORTS.

Community Service Report

(after Lecturer Stars section of the combined report form)

A combined contest report form will be emailed to each Grange. It is also available on the Colorado State Grange Website, so it can be filled out on a computer. A paper copy will be mailed to any Grange requesting one. Please refer to the instructions in the Lecturers' Star Awards section of this Handbook, and on the form itself, for more details on how to complete and submit the combined report form. Please reach out to me if you have any questions or would like any clarification at all.

Helping Hands – The Helping Hands form is for you to report your Grange members' projects and totals of hours spent volunteering on them. Everyone helps someone at some time. Everything you and your Grange do to help your community or individuals qualifies. Examples are: helping at Church, the Library, the Museum; helping your neighbor cut wood, fix a door, feed their pets; visiting a nursing home or hospital; and time you spend at the Grange Hall for community service events. Although the hours you spend doing a project are not nearly as important as the project itself, sometimes it is enlightening to see how much time you actually spend helping others. This report is the place to put those hours you've tracked throughout the year. **Time spent on maintenance or cleaning of your own Grange Hall is not considered hours to be counted for Helping Hands.*

Empty Plate – Feeding the hungry and helping others through food can be an ongoing project for each Subordinate Grange. Did you start, or do you have an ongoing community cupboard; did you adopt families during the holidays; did you designate your Grange as a location for a food distribution program; do you go to a food kitchen and feed the hungry/homeless; do you sponsor Free meals at your Grange? When reporting on projects under the Red Star or any of the other Community Service-related Stars, make a note if you have the project as applying to either Empty Plate or Helping Hands (or both).

Junior Grange

Gary Wardle, Director

8606 Holman Circle, Arvada, CO 80005

303-349-7390

cograngepresident@gmail.com

The National Grange has created Junior Grange programming that state and local Granges can take and run with. Colorado State Grange is proud to promote the National Junior Grange Program as our Junior Grange Program for children 5-14. Please note that the National Grange Child Protection Policy is also the policy of the Colorado State Grange Junior Department.

The National Junior Grange Program Book can be downloaded at nationaljuniorgrange.org or from the National website: nationalgrange.org, and will provide complete details on each National Junior Grange program. Colorado State Grange will also continue to offer several craft and photography contests open to children ages 1-14 with requirements listed in this handbook.

Please note that there are more opportunities for National recognition, National community service project awards, community advocacy awards, and a scholarship listed in the National Junior Grange Program Book that you are invited to participate in too. Plus, the Grange Baseball contest may be a fun activity for your subordinate Grange. If I can be of any help, let me know.

Junior 1+ Program: The 1+ Program allows children (age 5-14) the opportunity to become an individual Junior Grange member within a Subordinate/Community Grange. Children who are 1+ members are eligible to participate in all state, regional, and national programs, contests, and activities on an equal status with members of the chartered Junior Granges. To participate, the child should be obligated, entered on the rolls of the Grange, and pay the Junior Grange dues (minimum dues are \$1).

Public Speaking Contest

(Details in the National Junior Grange Program Book)

Participants will compete on the Colorado State Grange level. Participants achieving best of show awards in each style category may represent Colorado at the National Convention. * Note: no funding to attend the National Grange Session will be provided. Style Categories: 1. Impromptu; 2. Short Story; 3. Prepared (see topics in National Program Book).

State Public Speaking Contest: Age categories: 5-7, 8-10, 11-14. Participants may compete at State Session following the Final Banquet on Saturday evening OR a video of the speech may be sent to cograngepresident@gmail.com. Live presentations are requested if possible. Deadline for Video: August 15, 2026.

2026 Agricultural Awareness Project: Project materials will be submitted directly to National Grange Junior Department at juniors@nationalgrange.org by September 1, 2026. Certificate of Award will be presented. See complete details in the National Junior Grange Program Book.

Creative Writing Contest – Both a Colorado State and National contest. Submissions may be sent via email as PDF documents. National deadline is September 1, 2026. Send

national entries to the National Junior Grange Director at juniors@nationalgrange.org. State entries may be brought to State Session. There are 3 Age categories: 5-7, 8-10, 11-14. National Winners will receive a cash award and so will Colorado State winners. Theme: Corn (history, cultivation, uses, and description of corn). 1-4 pages long. Double spaced, typed. Include name, age (birthdate), state, Grange name and number, and mailing address (for national submission). **See complete details in the National JG Program Book.**

Sign-A-Song Contest. National participants must be a state winner in one of the categories (novice, hobbyist, group). Note: no funding will be provided to attend the National Grange Session.

State contestants will be able to perform after the Final Banquet on Saturday evening of the State Session. Ages 5-14. Videos may be submitted for state contestants; however, live presentations are requested if possible.

National Junior Grange Ambassador Program:

A maximum of two Colorado Junior Grangers may be chosen to represent their state at the National Convention. The purpose is to provide an opportunity for outstanding junior Grangers, selected by their states, to build leadership potential. No more than two candidates will be chosen as national junior Grange ambassadors and will represent national Grange for a one-year period. Applicants must be between the ages of 11 and 14 and able to attend National. State applications are due August 15, 2026, to cograngepresident@gmail.com. Complete application details are in the National Junior Grange Program Book.

Cape of Honor Award: The purpose of the Cape of Honor Award is to spotlight junior Grangers that are extraordinary in their commitment to community service. Junior Grangers are asked to keep track of their community service hours and projects in a 1-year period (Aug-July). Awards will be given for 10-100 hours of service (white tier), 101-200 hours (red tier), 201-300 hours (blue tier), and over 301 hours (gold tier). Every entrant that meets the qualifications will be recognized at the National Grange Night of Honors. Nationally, the junior Granger with the most hours will be named Junior Granger of the Year. Details are in the National Junior Grange Program Book. National submissions must be postmarked by September 1, 2026. State entrants may send their submission materials to the State Session.

State Junior Grange Photo and Craft Contests

Age categories:

1. Under 5; 2. 5-9; 3. 10-14

Photography: Prints only.

Categories:

1. Scenes; 2. Animals; 3. People

Crafts:

Categories:

1. Holiday Decoration
2. Work of Art: made with paint, pencil, markers, crayons, charcoal, pastels etc.
3. Nature craft: any item made from natural materials like rocks, seeds, pinecones, vegetables, etc.
4. Miscellaneous
5. Special Gift
6. 250th Celebration theme: Any project that depicts the 250th anniversary of the U.S. (Writing, photo, craft...)

Lecturer's Star Awards

B.J. Bushman, Colorado State Lecturer
8033 Sabino Lane, Castle Rock, CO 80108
303-550-7901
bushman.bj@gmail.com

Lecturer's Star Awards

Lecturers completing the Star Report Form and returning the form to the State Lecturer by September 3, 2026, will be eligible for the following Star Awards listed below. Reports should be emailed by this deadline to allow time for evaluation and preparation for awards. Please send the completed form to the Lecturer and the Community Service Director. Star certificates will be awarded to each Grange with qualifying activities in any of the Star sections. Granges completing programming in all of the Star categories will earn recognition as a Star Achievement Grange. Outstanding Lecturer and Program

Leadership Scholarship Foundation

The Colorado State Grange Leadership and Scholarship Foundation is a private, non-profit foundation that provides college and vocational school scholarships as well as financial support for individuals enrolled in qualified leadership development programs. The Foundation is eligible to receive tax-deductible donations from individuals and other entities. Applicants of all ages are welcome provided they are or will be enrolled in an accredited institution of higher education, a licensed vocational school, or a recognized program to develop leadership skills.

Scholarships are awarded once each year to individuals who are regular members of a Grange in Colorado or who are children or grandchildren of Colorado Grange members. Applicant must be a Colorado resident. Applications must be submitted to the Foundation, by April 15.

Applications should be submitted by email to grangescholarshipfoundation@gmail.com. To obtain an application visit www.coloradogrango.org/scholarship. For more information call the State Grange Office.

The Foundation welcomes donations of funds or property. Donations made in memory of a deceased Grange member will be noted in the Grange Book of Memories held by the Colorado State Grange Office. Donations should be directed to the Secretary of the Colorado State Grange, 7629 County Road 100, Hesperus, CO 81326.

Please submit the donation along with the name of the deceased Granger and the name of the Grange to which he or she belonged, along with an address where a memorial appreciation note can be mailed.

To become a board member requires a donation of \$1,000. Individuals, Subordinate or Pomona Granges are eligible to become a member with a \$1,000 donation.

Awards will be awarded based on the Star Report Form.

Submit Star Awards applications via email copied to both the Lecturer and the Community Service Director at: bushman.bj@gmail.com and mittan42@msn.com.

- **Gold Star – PROVIDE INFORMATION:**
Programs/activities providing education or information on issues pertinent to your community.
- **Red Star – COMMUNITY:**
Programs/activities specifically planned for the community.
- **Silver Star – COOPERATION:**
Sponsor programs/activities cooperating with other community groups. These programs could be sponsored by your Grange or by another community group and you participate in the project or program.
(The Gold Star, Red Star, and Silver Star sections will be used to award community service recognition in addition to Star Awards. If your Grange is active in Community Service, you are encouraged to format these sections to align with the National Community Service Awards. Please see the Community Service section at www.nationalgrange.org for further details.)
- **Blue Star – ENTERTAINMENT:**
Programs/activities involving traveling outside your hall or meeting place for an event, special meal, art exhibit, play or show, etc. or a program planned around an outside entertainment group that comes to your Grange Hall to perform.
- **Green Star – GROWTH:**
Programs/activities promoting membership and recruiting new members.
- **Orange Star – FAMILY:**
Programs/activities oriented around the family or providing opportunities that are focused on the family.
- **Purple Star – MEDIA:**
Creating publicity using social media or traditional media to promote Grange programs/activities and the Grange. Suggested media includes a website, e-blasts, Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn, plus traditional brochures, posters, news releases, newsletters, and PowerPoint presentations about your Grange, etc. Working with **three or more** media types qualifies for this award.

Grange Yearbook/Scrapbook

- This is a separate Lecturer opportunity.
Note: Granges do not need to create a yearbook/scrapbook to be eligible for the Lecturer's Star Awards. Scrapbooks need to be brought to the State Session. Each Grange is encouraged to create a scrapbook, as this is an important historical record for your Grange and is a useful informational tool to use for recruitment or to show what your Grange does. Achievement awards will be presented to Granges that submit their scrapbook at the State Session. Books will be judged on completeness, creativity, and craftsmanship.

Performing Arts

Each Grange is encouraged to participate in the State Talent Showcase. There will be two categories. The State-wide Showcase will be held at the State Convention during the

Gala (Friday evening celebration).

Classes:

- Poetry/Short Stories (to be read aloud by author)
- Open

Lecturer Contests

HOBBY CORNER

Judging Criteria: Originality/Neatness/Creativity/Workmanship

Categories:

1. Holiday Items
2. Miscellaneous

WORK BENCH

Judging Criteria: Originality/Neatness/Creativity/Workmanship

Categories:

1. Wood Crafts (any submission created with wood)
2. Leather Crafts, Metal Crafts, Recycled Materials Crafts
3. Art (painting, drawing)

PHOTOGRAPHY

Guidelines:

- Photos should be mounted or on a photo mat.
- Framed photos will not be accepted.
- An image may be entered in only one category.
- Participants may enter all categories.
- Participants may have multiple entries in one category.
- Photos/images may be made by a commercial processor, but must have been taken by the entrant.
- Photos must not be less than 4x6 or larger than 11x14.
- Caption/title about photo is optional.
- Only prints (color, black/white, digital) will be accepted; no slides.
- Professional photographers (those making a living through photography) may not enter the contest.

Judging Criteria: Composition and arrangement, Presentation, Technique.

Categories (Colorado State Categories independent of National Grange Categories):

- Windmills
- Helping Hand
- Fenceline
- Miniature/Gigantic (contrast in size)
- **WITH PEN IN HAND:** SEE PERFORMING ARTS
(*Poems and Short Stories will be read aloud during the Gala as a combined writing/performing arts contest category. Written submissions due to Lecturer September 3, 2026.*)
- Creative Writing Topics:
 1. Granny's Grange
 2. Grange Gaiety
 - Short Stories – Maximum 500 words.
 - Poetry – Maximum 300 words.
- As with Photography, the Colorado State Categories are independent of the National Grange Categories.

Food Sustainability Program

Subordinate and Pomona Granges completing any ONE category and reporting on the Community Garden Program Form (to be mailed to Subordinate Granges and due to the State Lecturer by September 3, 2026) will receive a Food Award.

Categories (Complete one of the following):

1. **Share the Harvest**

- a. Grange members and friends donate excess crops to local food bank, pantry, or deserving family OR
 - b. Plant or sponsor a community garden.
2. **Community Produce Classes or Contests**
 - a. Sponsor an agricultural oriented contest for your community. Establish your own judging criteria. OR
 - b. Sponsor a class on an agricultural topic.
 3. **Community Food Preservation Demonstration or Classes**
 - a. Sponsor a food preservation demonstration for your community. OR
 - b. Present a program on Food Waste. According to the National Grange, food waste is one of our world's biggest issues, and one where we can make a huge difference.

Health Awareness

Louetta Phelps, Director

10676 State Hwy. 151, Ignacio, CO 81137

970-749-1747

louettaphelps@aol.com

The Purpose of the Health Awareness department is to educate Grange and Community members about major health issues and prevention

What Health Issues are prominent in your Grange and Community? Do you have Grange or Community members that are affected by Cancer, Heart Disease, Hearing Loss, Alzheimer's, etc.? Subordinate and Pomona Health Awareness chairmen are encouraged to explore what issues are affecting their community and see if there are any needs your Grange can meet. Does someone need a sitter, ride to an appointment, a hot meal, a listening ear, groceries picked up...? Chairmen are encouraged to work with the Community Service Chairmen in deciding how you can best serve your members and community.

Activity Ideas include:

- Sponsor a family in need. Schedule members to take turns.
- Assist with a benefit for a local individual who is facing a major health issue.
- Sponsor or assist with a local Health Fair.
- Sponsor a health screening event.
- Sponsor a Team and/or participate in Relay for Life or other Health Awareness Events.
- Encourage members and non-members to participate in a Walk-A-Thon, 5K, etc.
- Support legislation that promotes prevention of health issues and hearing impairment.
- Assist your Lecturer with a program educating members and non-members about major health issues and how they can be prevented.
- Create a container to collect Campbell's product UPC labels and donate labels to a local school or the Colorado School for the Deaf and Blind.
- Create a container to collect Aluminum Tabs for the Ronald McDonald House.
- Post and encourage healthy habits or other health related issues.
- Host a Disease Prevention
- Be creative.

Mandy Project

Cindy Greer, Director

7629 C.R. 100, Hesperus, CO 81326

970-588-3386 or 970-749-8108

hcrdgreer@gmail.com

The purpose of the Mandy Project is to help children with hearing loss to become productive citizens and to provide assistance to a family experiencing hardship due to a child's hearing loss.

As many children will be helped as possible and as funds are available. Families with a child who has a hearing loss will be chosen through the application process to receive funding assistance to help cover costs of hearing aids, speech therapy, surgery, or other related expenses.

Brochures can be obtained by contacting the State Director.

Granges who sponsor a special fundraiser or make a donation to the Mandy Project will receive a special certificate at State Convention.

Every Grange should have a "Do You Know the Signs" poster up in their hall or in the building where they meet if at all possible. Brochures with the same information are available and should also be available for distribution at your meeting place.

Granges are encouraged to give these posters and brochures to their local schools, pre-schools, and Kindergarten classes. Early intervention is important to a child's learning when hearing loss is involved. Posters and Brochures can be obtained through the Mandy Project Director.

Granges are encouraged to collect Campbell's product UPC Symbols for the Colorado School for the Deaf and Blind. Bring the symbols to the State Grange Convention and we will pass them on to the school.

Granges might also sponsor sign language classes in their halls.

Subordinate and Pomona Grange Activities and Suggestions

- A. Sponsor, host, or promote Sign Language classes or a Sign a Song contest for the community.
- B. Support legislation and encourage assistance for the hearing impaired.
- C. Sponsor a special fundraiser for the Mandy Project flyers and brochures.
- D. Promote Hearing Testing
- E. Assist Lecturer with a program educating members and non-members about deafness or hearing loss.
- F. Write articles about Grange Deaf Activities Projects and send to local news media during May, which is a special month for deaf awareness.
- G. Each Grange should have posters up on signs of deafness or hearing loss for
 1. Adults;
 2. Children
- H. Promote Finger Spelling Bees, Sign Language Challenges, and Sign a Song Competitions.

National Grange Deaf Awareness Grant Program

For many years the National Grange conducted an active Deaf Awareness Program which led to many valuable projects that enabled our members to learn more about deaf people and their challenges. In many cases, great relation-

ships were also built with the deaf community. A fund was developed within the National Grange Foundation for the purpose of supporting deaf activities within the Grange. Because funds are still available, this grant program is being offered to assist states with funding various deaf awareness activities.

Grant application is available on the National Grange web site. They are due to National by May 1. Community Granges can apply through their State Grange. Any state Grange is eligible to apply for a grant to assist with a worthwhile project that may be planned within the state. The State Mandy director should receive the applications by April 15 in order to review the application.

Grants up to a maximum of \$1,000.00 will be awarded to each approved application, and will be awarded to the State Grange. The State Grange will have the option of transferring those funds to the Community or Pomona Grange conducting the deaf activity included in the grant application. A maximum of two grants will be awarded each year.

Grants may be awarded for any project that enhances deaf education. Preference will be given to high-quality activities that involve significant numbers of individuals. Creativity and uniqueness of the projects will also be factored into the selection process.

The application should be in document form and include the following information:

Name of State Grange - Name and Address of Contact Person - Date of Application - Name of the Project - Description of the Project - Anticipated number of people involved - Anticipated impact on the Grange (State and/or Local) - Anticipated impact on the Community or State - Other anticipated results of the project.

Membership Program

Elizabeth Hiner, Director

1156 South Truckee Way, Aurora CO 80017

970-403-4592

elizabeth.natlgrange@gmail.com

The Colorado State Grange membership program will offer recognition and rewards to Granges for new members joining September 3, 2025-August 31, 2026. The Subordinate/Community Grange with the most net members will be recognized, as well as the top recruiters. The report form will be included in the Combined Report Form for this year. Please fill it out completely and return it according to the directions on the form.

- If you are only submitting for Membership, you can email or mail that page to me directly or at the address above. It will be due on or before September 3, 2026.

To summarize, you may be recognized in three ways:

- 1) Granges that have at least 7 new members for the year,
 - 2) The Subordinate/Community Grange with the most net members,
 - 3) The top recruiters in the state will be honored.
- *Remember, ask someone to join your Grange. You can make a difference. New members make your Grange stronger.*

Family Activities

Idella Lewis and Karen Baxter, Co-Directors

Lewis: 11615 W. 32nd Ave., Wheat Ridge, CO 80033

303-233-3393 • idellamlewis@gmail.com

Baxter: 14857 C.R. 240, Bayfield, CO 81122

970-259-1595 • kbquiltin@gmail.com

In all categories you may enter only one entry per class.

Baking, Food Preservation, and Needlework, Quilting, and Sewing entries must be a Grange member.

Entries will be judged at State Session.

Label baking entries with the following:

- Recipe printed on recipe card
- Contestant's name, address, Grange
- Class

All baking entries are to be exhibited on a sturdy disposable base and placed in a Ziploc bag. All items will become the property of the State Directors and will be sold following judging at the State Session.

BAKING

Class A – Cakes (Butter Cake frosted)

Class B – Altered Cake Mix

Class C – Yeast Bread (1 loaf or 7 rolls per plate)

Class D – Sweet Rolls (7 rolls made with yeast)

Class E – Bar Cookies (7 per plate)

Class F – Drop, Rolled, Shaped Cookies (7 per plate)

Class G – Quick Breads (Fruit or nut containing no yeast)

Class H – Fudge (7 pieces per plate)

Class I – Other Candy (7 pieces per plate)

Class J – Gluten Free Cookies (7 per plate)

Class K – Gluten Free Cakes

Class L – Gluten Free Breads

FOOD PRESERVATION

Canned items should be entered in standard glass canning jars and sealed with new lids. Headspace for jams/jellies is $\frac{1}{4}$ " and canned foods is $\frac{1}{2}$ ". Canned items will not be opened for judging. Canned foods must be picked up before the end of State Session.

Entries should be labeled with the following:

- Name of item and Class
- Method of processing
- Month and year processed
- Contestant's name, address, Grange

Class 1 – Canned Foods

Class 2 – Jams, Jellies, Syrup

Class 3 – Juices

Class 4 – Salsas, Tomatoes, Relishes

Class 5 – Pickles, any kind

Class 6 – Dried Foods including leathers and jerky $\frac{1}{2}$ C. in a plastic bag

NEEDLEWORK, QUILTING, AND SEWING

All entries must be made by a Grange member and finished within the current Grange year.

Entries should be labeled with the following:

- Class
- Name, address, Grange

All items should be picked up before the end of State Session.

NEEDLEWORK

Class A – Crochet or Knit Afghans (any size)

Class B – Crochet or Knit Sweater (any Size)

Class C – Crochet (miscellaneous)

Class D – Hand Embroidered items, Cross stitch, Counted

Cross Stitch (any item – back must be uncovered)

Class E – Machine Embroidered Item

Class F – Decorator Pillows

Class G – Recycled Items

QUILTING

Entries in this category are judged based on their piecing rather than the quilting, as the quilting may not have been done by the entrant.

Class H – Machine Quilted Quilt (any size)

Class I – Hand Quilted Quilt (any size)

Class J – Quilted Table Runner

Class K – Wall hangings (not to exceed 36"x54")

SEWING

Class L – Adult Garment

Class M – Child's Garment

Class N – Aprons

Class O – Stuffed toys

Class P – Quilt Block Contest, **Open to Members and**

non-members. Individuals may enter as many blocks as desired. Instructions will be printed in the *Granger* and posted on the State Grange Website.

1. National quilt block pattern. Same as National. Directions will be printed in the *Granger*.
2. Quilt of valor – Split rail block (red, white and blue) Directions will be printed in the *Granger*.
3. Block of your choice, any colors. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ " unfinished.

Class Q – Miscellaneous includes anything with fabric, thread or yarn.

Outstanding Granger Award

Any initiated Colorado Grange member may be nominated for the Outstanding Granger Award. This award is presented at the Final Banquet of the State Convention to the deserving person or persons.

- Nominations can be made by any Grange member.
- The nominations should be in booklet form about the nominee for the judges to use to make their decision. The booklet should contain:
 1. Letters of Recommendation
 2. Information about the person's Grange activities and achievements.
 3. Articles
 4. Pictures
 5. Other supportive material (involvement with organizations other than Grange)
- Entries are due in the **State Grange office** by September 3. The State Master will appoint a committee to judge the entries. The winner is not announced until the banquet, and may be kept a surprise if the sponsor so wishes.
- An award is given to the winner, as well as a special name badge that will denote that the person received this special honor.

P.I.C.K.

People Improving Communities And Kids — The Heart Of The Grange

Cindy Greer, Secretary/Treasurer

7629 C.R. 100, Hesperus, CO 81326

970-588-3386 or 970-749-8108

hcrdgreer@gmail.com

P.I.C.K. helps expand the vision and explores new avenues of funding which will enable the members to create interest in the Grange. PICK is a 501c3 organization. All Donations to PICK are Tax-exempt.

PICK can partner with your Grange when you need a 501c3 status to accomplish a project. Contact the secretary for details.

Specific areas of interest to PICK are as follows:

- **Mandy project** – We supplement applications received by CSG as needed.
- **Youth and Juniors** – we support educational camps, seminars, workshops and retreats focusing on leadership, strengthening community involvement, developing and enhancing awareness of cultural and social unity specifically for Youth. Granges desiring to start a program needing some financial assistance can apply to PICK.
- **Community improvement** – We encourage Granges to continue to bring community Improvement Projects to their community. This includes keeping their building up to date and useable, thus a need for capital improvement projects is in order and we will assist Granges in seeking grants for Capital improvement projects. An emergency project fund has been established. Contact PICK secretary for details.
- **Women's Resources** – Educating the community about safe and proper methods of food preservation is quickly making a comeback. The Grange can be a leader in making sure men and women who are interested in food preservation are educated and well informed. We encourage each Grange to sponsor a food preservation program using a reliable source to conduct the workshop. If funds are needed to obtain a reliable source and your Grange does not have funding you can apply for partial assistance. Proof of completion of the workshop is required. If funds are requested the following information must be included:

Grange Name and Number, Contact person, Address, Date of workshop, Name of workshop expert, qualifications of workshop expert. Thirty days following the workshops completion the Grange seeking funding must report the outcome of the workshop and provide one photo. This report can be sent via email. We would like to know how many



attended the workshop. Funding must be returned if the Grange fails to report within the 30 days.

Women's Health issues are unique and we encourage you to consider hosting an educational program on a health issue that is important to your community.

Creative and Performing Arts – In preparation for our national 250th celebration and Colorado's 150th celebration we will be sponsoring the following contests in **April** of 2026. Open to non-members.

Purpose: To help Americans show their pride and love for our country during the Semiquincentennial/ Bisesquicentennial of the United States of America and Colorado state's 150th.

Age divisions:

1. Adults: 24 to 55
 2. Seniors: 56 and up
 3. Youth: 14-18, 19-23
 4. Children: 5-7, 8-10, 12-14
 5. Entries may be emailed to: peopleimprovingcommunities andkids@gmail.com or mailed or delivered to 7629 County Road 100, Hesperus, CO 81326.
- A. Poetry – Theme: American Pride
B. Essay – Theme: What does America Mean to you? Or Why is the Constitution important?
C. Art – (could be a collage, a painting, a drawing , etc.).
- Entries will be photographed and utilized to help Granges publicize events they hold during 2026 in celebration of the US 250th anniversary and Colorado state's 150th.

Prizes for each category will be as follows:

First Place \$25 Second Place \$15 Third Place \$10

2026 – Grants available to Granges who choose to hold a special celebration for the US 250th and Colorado's 150th in 2026. PICK will grant subordinate or Pomona Granges that present a program and report in 2026 up to \$250. Preference will be given to those Granges who match the potential grant. A detailed plan must be submitted, along with a proposed budget for the project. Matching Grants will be given based on the need the Grange presents for the project.

Publicity Program

Elizabeth Hiner, Director

1156 South Truckee Way, Aurora CO 80017

970-403-4592

elizabeth.natlgrange@gmail.com

Granges are encouraged to become more visible in your publicity efforts. Every Grange should develop their own brochure promoting their Grange. A membership application should be included. The Publicity Department will be offering recognition and rewards to Granges who submit a current brochure. The brochure needs to be emailed or sent via mail to me at the address above and received by September 3, 2026.

If you have a webpage or need help creating one, please contact Larry Corman, the State Grange's webmaster. The webpage can be linked to the State Grange website. Please contact him at Larry_Corman@hotmail.com. He is also available for any of your technology needs.