The National 4-H Hall of Fame

To: State 4-H Program Leaders, Development and Foundation Directors and State Association Presidents

From:

Lena D. Mallory, Chairperson National
4-H Hall of Fame lmallory@uky.edu

Re: 2027 National 4-H Hall of Fame Nominations

Date: November 1, 2026

The National 4-H Hall of Fame Committee of NAE4-HYDP, in cooperation with National 4-H Council and USDA/NIFA Division of Youth and 4-H, is pleased to announce Class of 2027 nominations are being accepted from now until **February 28, 2027**.

The National 4-H Hall of Fame honors 4-H volunteers, Extension professionals and staff employees, donors and others who have made a significant impact on the 4-H program and/or 4-H members through the contribution of time, energy, financial resources, etc.

Current employees of 4-H, Cooperative Extension, the Federal Extension System or National 4-H Council and those with 4-H or Extension administrative responsibilities including Land-grant universities and colleges, USDA/NIFA or National 4-H Council responsibilities will **not** be considered until three years following retirement. The three-year rule also applies to deceased employees.

4-H Volunteers, donors, and others who impact the 4-H system can be nominated within their careers. They do not have to be retired.

Land-grant institutions are encouraged to nominate an outstanding individual who has had a significant impact on the 4-H program. This is inclusive of 1862, 1890, 1994 and territories within the Extension System.

The Hall of Fame Committee anticipates that 14-16 laureates will be inducted into the Class of 2027. The ceremony is tentatively scheduled for October 25th along with the NAE4-HYDP Conference in Buffalo, New York.

Questions concerning the National 4-H Hall of Fame can be directed to Lena Mallory at lmallory@uky.edu. We look forward to receiving your organization's nomination as we celebrate two remarkable milestones: the **25th Anniversary of the National 4-H Hall of Fame** and **125 years of 4-H!**

NOTE - Wisconsin nominations are due January 31, 2027! Nominations can be emailed to pydadminteam@extension.wisc.edu or mailed to address on website. Do NOT submit your nomination in the electronic form linked below!

National 4-H Hall of Fame Nomination Process

As part of the 4-H Centennial (2002), the National Association of Extension 4-H Agents, National 4-H Council and Division of Youth and 4-H USDA/NIFA entered a partnership to create the National 4-H Hall of Fame. The purpose of the National 4-H Hall of Fame is to recognize and celebrate 4-H volunteers, faculty and staff, pioneers, donors, and others who made a significant impact on 4-H at the local, state and/or national levels.

Guidelines:

1. Land-grant colleges and universities may nominate one candidate per year. (Inclusive of 1862, 1890, 1994 and territories.)
2. NAE4-HYDP, National 4-H Council and USDA/NIFA Division of Youth and 4-H (founding partners) may nominate up to three candidates per year.
3. State and/or partners nominations are submitted via **online form** (click here to access application). The form will close on March 1, 2027, at 12:01am.

Laureate Qualifications:

1. 4-H volunteers, Extension professional or staff employees, donors and others who have made a significant contribution of time, energy, financial resources, etc. to the 4-H program and/or 4-H members.
2. Current employees of 4-H, Cooperative Extension, the Federal Extension System or National 4-H Council and those with 4-H or Extension administrative responsibilities including Land-grant universities and colleges (including 1862, 1890, 1994 and territories), USDA/NIFA or National 4-H Council responsibilities will **not** be considered until three years following retirement. The three-year rule also applies to employees who passed away before retirement.
3. Candidates not selected may be re-nominated for future consideration. Forms must be updated and resubmitted.

Criteria *(asked in the application process)***:**

1. **Citizenship** as exemplified by participation in civic, community, state, regional and national public service-related activities evidencing concern for the welfare of others, especially as related to 4-H.
2. **Leadership** as exemplified by qualities of leadership and acceptance of leadership responsibilities in civic, community, professional and business-related activities that directly or indirectly benefit 4-H.
3. **Career Accomplishments** as exemplified by accomplishments and success in his/her chosen career or volunteer service as a mentor or role model.
4. **Character** as exemplified by evidence of the influence of 4-H involvement (if a 4-H alumni or volunteer) in the nominee's life and/or his or her commitment to 4-H.
5. **Other beneficial information** that would be helpful to the Selection Committee.

Nominators Roles:

1. Gather, write, and submit the nomination via online form by deadline, **February 28, 2027**.
2. Following the deadline if nominee's contact information and/or status changes notify the Hall of Fame Committee Chair as soon as possible.
3. If nominee is selected, assist the Laureate with collecting biographical information and digital photographs. **The last day to submit the Laureate's info is July 1st.**
4. Assist with press release and invitations **submissions by the July 1st deadline**. Information not received by the deadline cannot be included in the program.

5. The laureate may also need guidance with travel and room arrangements. (States encouraged to provide scholarships.)
6. Serve as the State and/or Partner contact with the National 4-H Hall of Fame Chair.
   If the nominator is not the contact for the institution or Partner, please include the information for who will be the contact if the person being nominated is selected as a laureate.