

4-H Youth Qualify for National Awards

UNH Cooperative Extension, 4-H Youth Development held its 2009 resume review, and state and national award interviews on January 17, 2009 at the Belmont High school in Belmont, NH. 26 of NH's top 4-H youth from 6 counties gathered to interview for the opportunity to attend one of three national trips sponsored by the 4-H Foundation of NH; National 4-H Congress held in Atlanta, Georgia; National 4-H Conference held in Washington DC; and National 4-H Dairy Conference, held in Madison, Wisconsin. The New Hampshire delegates, age 15-18, will meet with youth from all over the country to tackle issues of importance, participate in educational workshops, community service and cultural tours and gain inspiration from the outstanding national speakers the conferences offer. The conferences also allow them a venue to debate issues, network with peers from around the country, and practice leadership. Selected candidates will also receive a State Achievement Award, acknowledging achievement in leadership, community service and personal development through the 4-H program

The applicants from Merrimack County were: Carlyn Reep and Jocelyn Tanner. These outstanding youth have been active in their county 4-H programs, and after writing a resume have been recommended by the county for participation at the national level. The participating youth tell us that the resume process is difficult; however, they are pleased that they now have a resume they can build on and use for other opportunities. They are also excited at the prospect of winning a national trip and report that the interview wasn't as "scary" as they thought it would be!

The judging panels consisted of teams of adult volunteers as well as youth who had previously attended the national conferences. All of the judges were duly impressed with the achievements of all the outstanding youth who submitted resumes. Many of the applicants were brave enough to submit to more than one interview as they were applying for multiple awards. It was a difficult decision for the judges; however, they determined that the national delegates will be as follows:

National 4-H Congress: Christopher Humber, Hillsborough County; Jackie Janigian, Rockingham County; Grace Magnusson, Rockingham County; Alexandra Patch, Grafton County; and Lillian Zimmerman, Hillsborough County. Alternates: Ashley Chase, Cheshire County; and Jamie Wojtkiewicz, Hillsborough County.

National 4-H Conference: Ashley Chase, Cheshire County; Christopher Humber, Hillsborough County; Grace Magnusson, Rockingham County. Alternates: Kourtne Flanders, Cheshire County; Joslin Goss, Grafton County; Jackie Janigian, Rockingham County.

National 4-H Dairy Conference: Suzanne Chickering, Cheshire County; Kourtne Flanders, Cheshire County; Laura Thompson, Cheshire County.

State Achievement Awards will go to: Peter Attisano, Strafford County; Mark Chase-Cook, Hillsborough County; Ethan Craggy, Hillsborough County; Kourtne Flanders, Cheshire County; Allison Fortin, Hillsborough County; Joslin Goss, Grafton County; Connor Humber, Hillsborough County; Mackenzie Pratt, Hillsborough County; Carlyn Reep, Merrimack County; Brianna Stoye, Hillsborough County; Jocelyn Tanner, Merrimack County; Paige Tuttle, Hillsborough County; Ashley Winslow, Hillsborough County; Jamie Wojtkiewicz, Hillsborough County.