

Produced by the National 4-H Hall of Fame Task Force



National 4-H



Hall of Fame

Induction Ceremony

October 9, 2015

National 4-H Youth Conference Center

Chevy Chase, Maryland

Partners:



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food and
Agriculture



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**The National 4-H Hall of Fame was established in 2002
as part of the Centennial Project of the
National Association of Extension 4-H Agents
in partnership with National 4-H Council and the
National Institute of Food and Agriculture, USDA.
It recognizes and celebrates those people who
have made an extraordinary impact on 4-H
and the lives of millions of members.
The National 4-H Hall of Fame may be viewed on the web at
www.nae4ha.com/hof/.**

Thank You to the National 4-H Hall of Fame Donors:

Terril Faul

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4-H National Headquarters, NIFA, USDA

National Association of Extension 4-H Agents

National 4-H Council

Master of Ceremonies: Johnelle Simpson, Georgia 4-H Member

NATIONAL HALL OF FAME TASK FORCE

Jeannette Rea Keywood, Chair
Travis Burke, North Carolina
Bryan Chadd, Arizona
Mary Jean Craig, Idaho
Jeff Holland, Indiana
Mitch Hoyer, Iowa
Jim Kahler, 4-H National Headquarters
Earl McAlexander, Iowa
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Pam Van Horn, Kansas
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Casey Mull, Vice President, NAE4-HA Marketing & Outreach Team
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NATIONAL 4-H HALL OF FAME SELECTION COMMITTEE

David Benedette	Nancy Bull
Kristin Cook	Tom Davis
Terril Faul	Steve Fisher
Virginia Gobeli	Kia Harries
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Sara Rockow	Lynn Schmitt-McQuitty
Wayne Schroeder	Arch Smith
Steve Wagoner	Shannan Waits
Bonita Williams	

PROCESSIONAL

MUSICAL SELECTION

Hannah French, Georgia 4-H Member

WELCOME

Jeannette Rea Keywood, National 4-H Hall of Fame Task Force Chair

OPENING REMARKS

Lisa Lauxman, Director, Division of Youth and 4-H, Institute of Youth,
Family and Community, NIFA, USDA

Kimberly Gressley, President, National Association of Extension 4-H Agents

Jennifer Sirangelo, President and Chief Executive Officer, National 4-H Council

PRESENTATION OF 2015 LAUREATES

Dorothy A. Calimer, New Jersey
Mary Jean Craig, Idaho
Clarence J. Cunningham, Ohio
M. Lloyd Downen, Tennessee
*Christine Holcombe, Texas
Dr. Alma C. Hobbs, 4-H Headquarters
*Clyde Franklin Jackson, NAE4-HA
Sharon K. Junge, California
Dr. Joe Kurth, Kentucky
Linda Kustka, Wisconsin
Erika (Ricki) Leal, NAE4-HA
Lindy Richardson Lindquist, Kansas
Ruth Ann Messick, Delaware
Dr. Norma O. Roberts, Louisiana
Dr. B. Alan Snider, Pennsylvania
James P. Tobin, National 4-H Council

**Deceased*

RECESSIONAL

RECEPTION

A reception honoring the Class of 2015 National Hall of Fame Laureates will be held following the ceremony.

Entertainment provided by: Lauren Leonard, Arkansas 4-H Member

The National 4-H Hall of Fame

Laureates were nominated by the state listed after their name.

Dorothy A. Calimer
New Jersey



"Looking back on my 47 years as a volunteer, the 4-H Youth Program has been the most important and rewarding experience that has impacted my life.

Teaching and training young lives to be more productive citizens from an early age for the future has benefited both of us. Over the years the youth have learned how to get along together, work as a group, learned patience, meet deadlines, be competitive, model and exhibit their project work, acquire time management skills and aim for larger goals. My hope has been that I have prepared them for their future."

Mary Jean Craig
Idaho



"4-H taught me many skills, including public speaking which led to my career in Extension. Over the years I have enjoyed watching 4-H members grow from the timid demonstrator to the accomplished public speaker serving as an officer at a statewide event.

One of the highlights of my career was coordinating the first National 4-H Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony and getting to meet so many people important to the establishment and continuation of the 4-H program. I am honored to join the ranks of those 4-H pioneers and giants that I admired as a member and 4-H professional."

Clarence J. Cunningham
Ohio



"Professor Cunningham is being honored for his ability and determination to influence others to reach their full potential. Both as an administrator and educator he guided and encouraged extension professionals to create successful youth programs throughout the country and world. His colleagues admired and respected his leadership skills as he served as president and chair of many national organizations and committees across the extension spectrum. Dr. Cunningham's dedication and commitment to 4-H and his community never stops as he continues to make our world a better place to live. His students and colleagues cherish his lifelong friendship."

Shared by: Dr. Joel Soobitsky, Retired National 4-H Program Leader, USDA

Dr. B. Alan Snider
Pennsylvania



"Over the past years I feel very fortunate to have worked with outstanding, dedicated and competent Land Grant University professionals with 4-H. Many opportunities were provided me in leadership roles with 4-H Youth and adult programs."

James P. Tobin
National 4-H Council



"4-H reaches young people and their leaders where they are and helps them to expand their skills and experiences in new and many times unexpected ways. Members are challenged early and often by dedicated leaders to speak up and get involved. 4-H'ers and their leaders learn and grow together, helping to make their community and the world a better place. It is a simple concept that really works."

Lindy Richardson Lindquist
Kansas



"Watching youth develop their interests and skills is a positive experience and certainly reinforcement for working extra hours and weekends. I think the kids captured my heart."

Ruth Ann Messick
Delaware



"Ruth Ann is not only an excellent role model for 4-H members, but she also sets the bar very high for other 4-H volunteers in Delaware. She always goes well beyond what is expected and the standards in her 4-H life and personal life are a beacon for all who know her. To say she "bleeds green" would be an understatement as she continues to live by the 4-H Motto of "Making the Best Better" and she has definitely done this for the Delaware 4-H Program!"

Shared by: Doug Crouse, Delaware Interim 4-H Program Leader

Dr. Norma O. Roberts
Louisiana



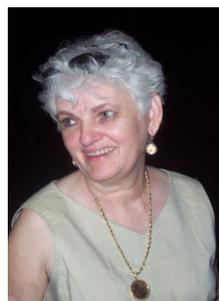
"My favorite saying is that "luck is when preparation meets opportunity". 4-H prepares young people with life skills which help to prepare them for opportunities that will come their way in life. That makes the 4-H Clover truly a "Lucky Clover". I take great pleasure in seeing former 4-H'ers serving in various leadership roles in their communities and businesses."

M. Lloyd Downen
Tennessee



"In retrospect, I did not know my 4-H pig project in 1933, at age 11, would be far more important to me in the future than learning to care for my pig. The other 4-H club members and I were learning responsibility, integrity, leadership, citizenship and other life skills through our 4-H projects and activities. Those experiences as a 4-H member were invaluable to me as I served as Dean of the University of Tennessee Extension."

Christine Holcomb
Texas



"Chris was fond of the Dr. Seuss book, *Oh the Places You Will Go*. She gave me one at my graduation, not all that long ago. How fitting that book now seems, looking back into the past. The basic lessons contained therein, are those designed to last. Like a professional scout, Chris Holcombe had an eye to find your talent. However, unlike a scout, her goal in mind was far away much different. She could unlock those hidden skills, which each person possessed, and help them cultivate and grow, which made her truly blessed. There was no agenda for Chris, aims to reach her place atop, she simply wanted to help each child, to make them cream of the crop."

Shared by: Trey Felton, Former Milam County (Texas) 4-H Member

Dr. Alma C. Hobbs
4-H Headquarters



"Throughout my career I had a keen interest in 4-H and I channeled my endeavors toward making a difference in the lives of youth and families. My mission in life is to approach everyone with love, dignity and respect, making that which I touch better than I found it.

It does not matter what degrees, honors or accomplishments I achieve, all that matters is that I made a positive difference in the lives of youth and families thus, changing hearts and minds to reach their full potential. I have been truly blessed by all the magnificent individuals that touched my life."

Clyde Jackson
NAE4-HA



"Clyde was a positive role model for youth and adults. His talents included making people feel at ease, finding common ground, and forming partnerships. Clyde reminded us to remain flexible and to watch for opportunities to help people grow. He said that if you try to plan everything, you'll miss some great opportunities that just happen to come by. Clyde is remembered as a pioneer and as a champion for youth from all walks of life. He is also remembered for his gentle leadership style and his ever present smile."

Shared by: Cathy M. Sutphin, Virginia 4-H State Program Leader

Sharon K. Junge
California



"Our family has always held to the belief that if you don't do a good job raising your children, nothing else you do matters. As a nation, I feel, we should hold our children and youth in the highest regard... nurturing them to reach their greatest potential. And I believe the 4-H Program provides that important groundwork for our youth, families and communities to thrive and create a better tomorrow."

Dr. Joe Kurth
Kentucky



"The 4-H Youth Development Program is focused like a laser on the developmental needs of youth. After ten years as a youth myself in the Illinois 4-H program, I experienced that same program in different forms in Missouri, Idaho, Washington State, Iowa and Kentucky at the county, state and administrative level, and all 34 of those years were a joy. We believe in 4-H that every child deserves the chance to live a good life regardless of his or her circumstances, and I am so grateful to have had the opportunity to work alongside hundreds of dedicated volunteers and professionals who made that belief their guiding light every day. My sincere thanks and appreciation to all of you."

Linda Kustka
Wisconsin



"4-H has been important to four generations of my family. Unable to secure bank loans, my mother Violet Pederson received a personal loan that enabled her to start a successful business of 40+ years based on her 4-H work/accomplishments. My children benefited from Westquesters, a wonderful Madison club.

I'm privileged to have partnered with caring and dedicated volunteers and staff, sharing the vision of making the world better through lives of service. The amazing partnerships between the land grant universities, local/state government, USDA, and National 4-H Council make the magic of learning fun for youth, family and community benefit."

Erica (Ricky) Leal
NAE4-HA



"4-H shaped my life and led to a fulfilling career. Working with the Youth at Risk Initiative was especially rewarding; creating the opportunity to bring 4-H into neighborhoods where life was difficult and involvement welcome. The experience was successful due to the support from 4-H people with whom I worked and the many others who guided and taught me throughout my entire career. It has truly been a privilege to be part of the 4-H movement in this country. There is no end to the rewards and benefits of 4-H."