ORANGE COUNTY 4-H AWARDS PROGRAM

HANDBOOK & APPLICATIONS

All applications and forms are due to the extension office by 5pm on the last Monday in the month of July.

All forms and applications can be accessed on the Orange County AgriLife website:

http://orange.agrilife.org

The Orange County 4-H Awards Program is designed to recognize the accomplishments of 4-H members for their project work, leadership skills, personal growth and development, and participation in various 4-H sponsored activities. The Orange County 4-H Awards Program is coordinated in conjunction with the Texas 4-H Awards Program. All three groups (county, district, and state) provide donors or funds for various scholarships, trips, medals, and other awards. The Orange County 4-H Program and the Orange County 4-H Awards Committee oversee the awards and reserve the right to solicit nominations for any award in which there is a lack of nominations on the due date. All of these awards are due the last Monday in July of each year.

MEMBERSHIP

1. The Texas 4-H year is defined as September 1 through August 31.
2. Age requirements: Youth are eligible to participate in the 4-H year if they are in the third grade as of September 1 of the current year through the completion of the twelfth grade with a maximum age of 18 (as of August 31.) Youth who are between the ages of 5 and 8, but are not yet in the third grade are also eligible to participate in the 4-H year at the club and county level. They are known as Clover kids.

4-H AGE DIVISIONS

Juniors - School grades 3, 4, and 5; Intermediates - School grades 6, 7, and 8; Seniors - School grades 9, 10, 11, and 12

4-H CLUB ACHIEVEMENT EVENTS

Each 4-H club is encouraged to plan and implement their own 4-H achievement event at the end of each 4-H year. A publication entitled "The Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program Management Guide" contains a section regarding 4-H recognition that provides excellent guidelines and ideas.
The National 4-H Supply Service catalog or 4-H Mall online has numerous items available for awards and recognition for 4-H club members. Certificates for members are available to print off the Orange County AgriLife website: http://orange.agrilife.org. Each 4-H club is responsible for the expenses incurred. Each year, each club will be given time during the county awards program to recognize their 4-H members.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Orange County 4-H Program awards a graduating high school senior… That application is due in mid-March. Application is available on the Orange AgriLife website: http://orange.agrilife.org.

ORANGE COUNTY 4-H AWARDS PROGRAM

A County 4-H Awards Program, usually a banquet, is held in September of each year to honor 4-H members and leaders for their accomplishments and leadership and supporters for their contributions. The awards listed below are presented during the County Awards Program:

Project Pin 🍀	Unsung Hero	Club Secretary 🍀
Year Pin	Council Officer Recognition	Club Treasurer 🍀
Gold Star 🍀	Contest Recognition *	Club Scrapbook
Danforth "I Dare You" 🍀	Paper Clover Campaign	Club Community Service
Silver Star 🍀	Outstanding 4-H Adult Leader (1 male and 1 female)	
Bronze Star 🍀	Friend of 4-H	

*County, district, state and national 4-H competitions.

A Record Book must be completed in order for a 4-H member to be eligible for the awards denoted with a 🍀.

AWARDS BY AGE DIVISION

Junior	**Intermediate**	**Senior**
Project Pin	Project Pin	Project Pin
Year Pin	Year Pin	Year Pin
Bronze Star	Silver Star	Gold Star
Unsung Hero Award	Unsung Hero Award	Danforth "I Dare You"
Council Officer	Council Officer	Unsung Hero Award
Contest Recognition	Contest Recognition	Council Officer
Paper Clover Campaign	Paper Clover Campaign	Contest Recognition
Club Secretary	Club Secretary	Paper Clover Campaign
Club Treasurer	Club Treasurer	Club Secretary
Rookie of the Year	Rookie of the Year	Club Treasurer
		Rookie of the Year

PROJECT PIN

Project pins will be awarded to 4-H members who complete and submit a 4-H project record book for the County 4-H Record Book Contest. 4-H members may submit only one 4-H project record book per year and receive only one project pin per year. Project pins will be presented at the annual Orange County 4-H Awards Program. Project pins are provided by The Orange County 4-H Adult Leaders Association.

YEAR PIN

Each 4-H member will receive their yearly year pin for each year of membership if they complete the following three requirements. Year pins will be presented at the annual Orange County 4-H Awards Program.

1. 50% attendance to main club meetings
2. Actively participates in a 4-H Community Service Project
3. The Application for Year Pins is completed and approved by club manager. Name must be submitted on the 4-H year pin request form.

4-H GOLD STAR AWARD GUIDELINES

The Gold Star Award is the highest County 4-H Achievement Award and intended to be received only once in a member's 4-H career. The following criterion is based upon the state guidelines as stated in the current Texas 4-H Opportunities Handbook. Any 4-H member not meeting criteria will not be considered for this award. Counties have award quotas based on the number of senior 4-H members. This award will be presented to the most deserving young people without regard to sex. The following requirements must be met:

Criteria for selection:

1. The member must be at least 15 years of age as of the date of the application (per State guidelines) of the current 4-H year.
2. The 4-H member must have completed at least three years in 4-H, including the current year.
3. The 4-H member must submit a 4-H record book in the year he or she is to be considered for the award.
4. The 4-H member must have completed projects in three different project areas, have submitted appropriate record forms on those projects and have participated in one or more activities in at least three of the following areas:

Educational Presentations, Citizenship activities, projects, project exhibits, camps, leadership labs, public relations (speeches, poster displays, radio, TV, newspapers), other (including exchange programs, fund raising, State and National Congress, etc.)

Note: It is not expected that the requirements for projects and activities all be completed in the current year. They may have been accomplished over the entire period of time the 4-H'er has been in the program.

During his or her years in 4-H, the member must have exhibited leadership skills by serving as a 4-H officer or committee chairman (club, county, district, or state,) and/or Junior or Teen leader in an activity or project with, or under the supervision of an adult volunteer leader. The 4-H member must have participated in one or more community service activities. Examples are working or counseling with junior 4-H members; participating in community service projects (individual, group, or club-type); and motivating other 4-H members through participation in demonstrations, projects and/or exhibits. County Gold Star allotments are determined by the State 4-H Office. These allotments are sent to the District Office for approval.

DANFORTH - "I DARE YOU" AWARD GUIDELINES

The Danforth - "I Dare You" Award is the second highest award given on the county level. The award guidelines are the same as those for the Texas 4-H Gold Star Award. There will be a maximum of two

Danforth - I Dare You Awards given each year in Orange County 4-H. The actual number of Danforth awards given will be decided by the selection committee, based on the merits of the applicants. This award may be received only once.

HISTORY OF THE DANFORTH - "I DARE YOU" AWARD
Mr. William H. Danforth's book, "I Dare You," was first published in 1931. It is still considered one of the most influential books in the area of personal motivation. The book is published and distributed by the American Youth Foundation through its I Dare You Committee. The award is offered as recognition of excellence in character and well-balanced development, as well as demonstrated leadership.

SELECTION PROCESS FOR THE GOLD STAR AND DANFORTH - "I DARE YOU" AWARDS

1. An application form for the award must be completed and submitted by the due date. The current 4-H Record Book must accompany the form.

2. All qualified applicants will be considered. A non-biased panel of judges will review the form and Record Book, and conduct a personal interview with the applicant. All applicants' interviews will be conducted on the same date unless there is an unexpected situation and the applicant can't make the interview, a phone interview will take place.

3. The same person may not receive both the Gold Star Award and the Danforth Award in the same year.

4. Once awarded the Gold Star Award, a 4-H member is ineligible to receive the Danforth Award. However, after receiving the Danforth Award, a 4-H member may apply the following year for the Gold Star Award.

5. The decision of the judges will be final.

6. The awards given for Gold Star and Danforth - "I Dare You" are as follows:

DANFORTH AWARD - Engraved plaque and "I Dare You" book
GOLD STAR AWARD – Certificate and a Gold Star Pin

SILVER STAR AWARD

The Silver Star Award will be presented each year to a maximum of three outstanding intermediate members. The actual number of Silver Star Awards given will be decided by the judges, and based on the merits of the applicants.

The selection is based on quality of project work, involvement in club programs and activities, and future goals for the member's 4-H career.

1. An application form for the award must be completed and submitted by the due date.

2. A non-biased panel of judges will review the application and record book. Interviews will be conducted with each applicant. The decision by the judges will be final.

3. A 4-H member may receive the Silver Star Award only one time.

4. The recipient of this award will receive an engraved plaque.

BRONZE STAR AWARD

The Bronze Star Award will be presented each year to a maximum of three outstanding junior members. The actual number of Bronze Star Awards given will be decided by the judges, and based on the merits of the applicants.
The selection is based on quality of project work, involvement in club programs and activities, and future goals for the member's 4-H career.

1. An application form for the award must be completed and submitted by the due date.

2. A non-biased panel of judges will review the application and record book. Interviews will be conducted with each applicant. The decision by the judges will be final.

3. A 4-H member may receive the Bronze Star Award only one time.

4. The recipient of this award will receive an engraved plaque.

4-H UNSUNG HERO AWARD

The 4-H Unsung Hero Award will be given to one 4-H member in each age division (junior, intermediate, senior) who has worked hard, particularly in helping others, but has received little recognition on the county level.

1. A club manager or project leader may submit a nomination on one 4-H member in each age division. The nomination form is available at the 4-H Office. The nomination form is to be completed and turned in to the 4-H Office.

2. The nominations will be judged by a panel of judges selected by County Extension Agents. Judges decisions will be final.

3. This award can be received only once per age division.

4. The recipient of this award will be presented with a plaque.

ORANGE COUNTY 4-H COUNCIL OFFICERS AWARD

The Orange County 4-H Council Officers completing the year in the office in which they held will be awarded an officers pin.

COUNTY, DISTRICT, STATE AND NATIONAL CONTEST RECOGNITION

The 4-H members who have participated in 4-H contests at county, district, state, and/or national level contests will receive an award to recognize their participation.

PAPER CLOVER CAMPAIGN AWARD

Any 4-H member that sold paper clovers for two hours or more at the Orange Tractor Supply store, and whose name is on the documentation form, will receive a Clover Pin. The form must be turned in by the club manager.

OUTSTANDING 4-H ADULT LEADER AWARD

The Outstanding 4-H Adult Leader Awards will be presented to two leaders (one male and one female) each year. The recipients must be enrolled in 4-H and actively providing leadership in some capacity with the Orange County 4-H Program. Applications must be submitted to the 4-H Office.

1. Any adult may nominate adult leaders. Nominations should be based on leadership involvement in county, district, and/or state 4-H activities.

2. The award will be given to two individuals (one male and one female) or one husband and wife team and another individual. A husband/wife team will be considered as one nomination.

3. Applications will be reviewed by a panel of judges.

4. This award may be received only once.

5. The recipients will be presented with a gift award.

FRIENDS OF 4-H

A business that has been a supporter of 4-H throughout the year will receive recognition at the awards program. The award will be a plaque and may be received more than once.

4-H CLUB SECRETARY AND TREASURER AWARDS

All 4-H club secretaries and treasurers are encouraged to submit their 4-H club Secretary Book and Treasurer Book for competition for this award. The book is due in the 4-H Office by the due date.

1. Entries will be judged on completion and neatness by a panel of judges selected by County Extension Agents.

2. The recipient of the Club Secretary Award and The Club Treasurer Award will be presented with a writing pen, engraved with the 4-H'ers name.

3. For resources and help: visit the Texas 4-H Website at **http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/**

4-H CLUB SCRAPBOOK AWARD

The 4-H Club Scrapbook Award will be given to one club which has submitted a 4-H club scrapbook to the 4-H Office by the due date. The scrapbook will be judged on completion, neatness, attractiveness, and creativity.

1. The scrapbook must include a list of names of those who completed the scrapbook.

2. The County Extension Agents are responsible for obtaining judges.

3. The winning club will receive an engraved name plate of the club to be displayed at the Orange County Extension Office.

4-H CLUB COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

The 4-H Club Community Service Award will be given to the top 4-H club who has completed the most community service. The application will be judged on the amount and quality of community service and also the percentage of members, leaders, and/or parents involved. Finance Committee has added a $100 incentive to the 1st place club. Community service is service you do for organizations outside of 4-H.

1. The County Extension Agents will be responsible for obtaining non-biased judges.

2. Complete the form.

3. The winning club will receive a pizza party at their next club meeting.

ORANGE COUNTY 4-H AWARDS

APPLICATION FORM

Please select the award for which you are applying:

GOLD STAR ☐ I DARE YOU ☐ SILVER STAR ☐ BRONZE STAR ☐

Add an additional page with a 100 word script that can be used when presenting the award at the banquet.

APPLICANT'S FULL NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PARENTS' NAMES: _____

NUMBER OF YEARS IN 4-H: PRIMARY 4-H CLUB: _____ AGE AS OF AUGUST 31 OF CURRENT YEAR: _____

GRADE AS OF AUGUST 31 OF CURRENT YEAR: BIRTHDATE: _____4-H CLUB NAME: _____

1. What project(s) do you consider to be your primary area(s) of involvement over the past one to four years?

2. What life skill (i.e. record keeping, public speaking, etc.) have you learned through this/these project(s)? What did you enjoy most about the project(s)?

3. What influence has your 4-H involvement had on your family?

4. What do you consider to be your most meaningful 4-H experience?

5. Has 4-H helped you in making future plans and goals? If so, what are your plans and goals at this time? (Example: school, career, family, project goals)

6. What is the most meaningful award recognition you have received as a result of your 4-H involvement?

7. How have others gained from your leadership experiences?

8. What suggestion(s) would you make to change your county's 4-H program and what would you be willing to do to help make the change?

Write a short script that could be used when presenting the award, if selected. Include your most outstanding accomplishments in 4-H (150 words maximum, add a page, if needed.)

_____ _____

(Signature of applicant) (Date)

ORANGE COUNTY 4-H UNSUNG HERO AWARD

NOMINATION FORM

One junior, one intermediate, and one senior 4-H'er from each 4-H club may be nominated for this award. Form to be completed by 4-H Club Manager.

NAME OF 4-H'ER: _____

AGE AS OF AUGUST 31 OF CURRENT YEAR: BIRTHDATE: _____ NUMBER OF YEARS IN 4-H: _____

ADDRESS: _____

NAME OF PRIMARY CLUB: _____

(Note: When completing the sections below, please be specific and show numbers when possible.)

1. Volunteer leadership - List what the 4-H'er did to assist others, including other 4-H members.

2. Community service and citizenship - List all activities related to 4-H.

3. List 4-H projects, workshops, demonstrations, and educational activities of the 4-H'er.

4. Write a paragraph as to why this 4-H nominee should be chosen for the 4-H Unsung Hero Award.

_____ _____

Signature of Club Manager Date

ORANGE COUNTY 4-H CLUB COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

APPLICATION FORM

1. List the Community Service Projects that your 4-H club has completed during this past Texas 4-H year. Tell (approximately) how many 4-H members and adults participated, and estimate how many volunteer hours were provided for each activity. Only include projects that helped organizations outside of 4-H.

Project Date	Description & Impact	Number of 4-H members participating	Number of adults participating	Total Number of Hours Provided

2. What did the 4-H members learn from these activities?

3. How did the activities benefit others?

4. What future community service activities does the 4-H club have planned?

Signature of Club Manager

Date

FRIENDS OF 4-H AWARD

NOMINATION FORM

Form to be completed by 4-H Club Manager.

NAME OF BUSINESS/INDIVIDUAL: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CONTACT: _____ PHONE NUMBER: _____

NAME OF CLUB: _____

CLUB MANAGER: _____

1. _____

_____

_____

_____

2. _____

_____

_____

3. _____

_____

4. _____

_____

_____

_____ _____

Signature of Club Manager Date

ORANGE COUNTY 4-H ROOKIE-OF-THE-YEAR
NOMINATION FORM

One junior, one intermediate, and one senior 4-H'er (that joined for the first time ever) from each 4-H club may be nominated for this award. Form to be completed by 4-H Club Manager.

APPLICANT'S FULL NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PARENTS' NAMES: _____

AGE AS OF AUGUST 31 OF CURRENT YEAR: _____GRADE AS OF AUGUST 31 OF CURRENT YEAR: _____

1. Volunteer leadership - List what the 4-H'er did to assist others, including other 4-H members.

2. 2. Community service and citizenship - List all activities related to 4-H.

3. List 4-H projects, workshops, demonstrations, and educational activities of the 4-H'er.

4. Write a paragraph as to why this 4-H nominee should be chosen for the 4-H Rookie-Of-The Year.

_____ _____

Signature of Club Manager Date

COUNTY 4-H SECRETARY BOOK CONTEST

SCORESHEET

JUDGING CRITERIA *REQUIREMENT*	*POINT VALUE*	
Club goals for the year	15	
Club membership and attendance roster (roll)	15	
Minutes of all meetings complete with appropriate signatures	20	
Club correspondence and communications	15	
Officer team and adult leaders listed	10	
Copy of club bylaws	10	
Texas 4-H Club Standards of Excellence Report	5	
Clean and neat presentation	10	
Possible Total Points	100	

COUNTY 4-H TREASURER BOOK CONTEST

SCORESHEET

JUDGING CRITERIA *REQUIREMENT*	*POINT VALUE*	
	15	
	15	
	20	
	15	
	10	
	10	
	5	
	10	
Possible Total Points	100	

4-H Year Pin Request

Club Name _____

Leader Requesting Pin: _____Project Year_____

The 4-H year pin is an award earned by the 4-H member for completing the 4-H year. As the Orange County 4-H Adult Leaders Association purchases these pins, the council has established guidelines for earning a year pin. The 4-H member must complete all three of the following items to receive a pin:

1. Attend at least 50% of their club's general and project meetings after enrollment.
2. Participate in a 4-H community project.
3. Form completed and signed by club manager

The following must be completed and returned to the 4-H/Youth Agent to receive year pins:

Please Check Items Completed

Name of Member	Year Pin	1	2	3

Club Manager Signature: _____Date:_____