



Arizona State 4-H Youth

NEWSLETTER

March 2nd, 2021

A Statewide Youth Perspective



Note from the editor:

Hello, Arizona 4-H!

Welcome to the second issue of the Arizona State 4-H Youth Newsletter. In this issue, we will take a look at events that have happened around the state and country, hear from participants, highlight the civic engagement skills that 4-H teaches youth, and reflect on some social media posts. Arizona 4-H has continued to work together and move forward in a year full of challenges, and for that we are proud. Let's check out what 4-Hers are doing across Arizona!

Keep making the best better,

Sadie Parent – AZ State 4-H Communications Ambassador



LOOKING BACK...



December 5th – Emerging Leadership Experience

At the Emerging Leadership Experience, the Arizona State 4-H Ambassadors reached out and inspired younger members by hosting a virtual event infused with fun leadership activities and training. All Arizona youth ages 11-14 years old were welcome to come and participate for free. They had the opportunity to learn about having the confidence and resilience to lead, staying organized, and group management. Most importantly, they were able to meet new friends across the state and felt empowered to make an impact on their community!

January 27th – Engaged Citizens Event

The Engaged Citizens Event provided a valuable experience for senior Arizona 4-Hers to learn more about the function of the state government and have the opportunity to connect with their legislators in short focus-group meetings. During this event, 4-H members had both the platform to ask questions of public officials and directly advocate for the importance of 4-H programming. Participants were able to practice public speaking skills through sharing their 4-H story and learned how to present themselves in a more professional manner, leaving the event with a fuller understanding of government and the feeling that their voices matter.



AZ 4-Hers Meeting with Representative Barton



AZ 4-H EVENT PARTICIPANT HIGHLIGHTS

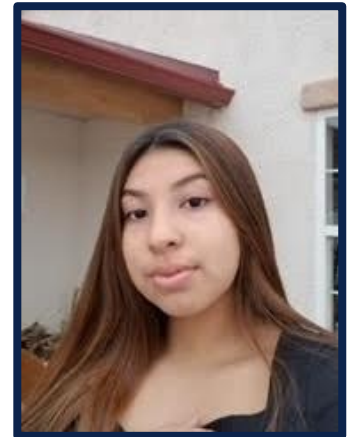
We reached out to 4-Hers who participated in 4-H events and asked them to share what they found most impactful and what they will take back to their communities—here’s what they said:

Kaleigh Huma

Age 15 | Hopi Tribe

4-H National Healthy Living Summit:

I attended the 4-H Healthy Living Summit. I was put into the Substance Abuse track, and I listened to great speakers and learned more in the workshops. Healthy Living is important to me because it helps with my stability mentally and physically. One thing I will take away from this Summit is the different workshops that were presented. I will bring the ideas from the workshops back to my community to help others.



Andres Villasenor

Age 15 | Santa Cruz County

AZ 4-H Emerging Leadership Experience:

In December I had the opportunity of participating in the 4-H Emerging Leadership Experience. It was a great experience where we received information on leadership skills. Being a leader is important to me because leadership can serve as a way to mentor to other people. Leaders like to help everyone, and they lead by example. During the event I learned how to be a good leader and help others. Now that I know what it takes to be a leader, I believe that people can count on me to be there for them and help out when needed. Sometimes people don’t know who they can talk to because of trust issues, and overall insecurity but now I know how to reach out to those in need.



Benjamin Steller

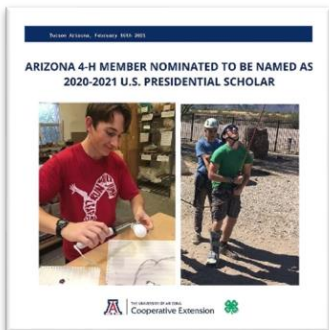
Age 17 | Pima County

AZ 4-H Engaged Citizens Event:

This event was aimed at youth in 4-H, like myself, to help us learn how our state government process works and how we can get more involved, even if we may not yet be of voting age. The basis of our society is our democracy, and the voice of every constituent in every constituency matters. For this reason, the topic of civic engagement is very important to me. I have yet to be able to involve myself much with matters of civic engagement, but I hope to soon, because to be engaged as a citizen of this state and country is very important, and this event reminded me of that, and taught me how to make that action more of a reality. I learned that it's more plausible for me to make a difference than I'd possibly imagined, and I plan on using this knowledge to try to convince my representatives to take more action on issues that I am passionate about, such as climate change.

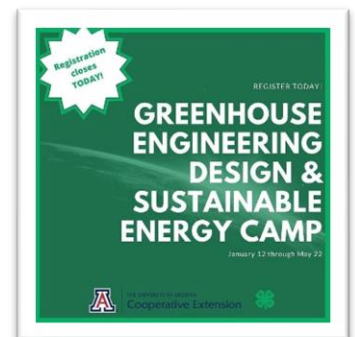


SOCIAL MEDIA | *In Review*



Kagan Barber, a senior at Seneca School for Success and Pima JTED and Pima County 4-H member has been named a Career and Technical Education (CTE) candidate as part of the 2021 U.S. Presidential Scholars Program. Craig Bal, Barbers' instructor for his construction class at Pima JTED, nominated Barber after spotting his dedication both in the classroom as well as in the community. Read on about Barber's dedication to his craft here: <https://www.kgun9.com/news/education/tucson-student-nominated-to-be-named-as-2020-2021-u-s-presidential-scholar>

The Greenhouse Engineering Design and Sustainable Energy Project is a multidisciplinary project that integrates the: social and cultural perspectives and experiences of students; Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics (STEM); and the engineering design to build a sustainable green energy greenhouse through a hands-on problem-based learning approach. To register head to <https://extension.arizona.edu/events/2021-01-12/4-h-stem-youiversity-greenhouse-engineering-design-sustainable-energy-virtual>

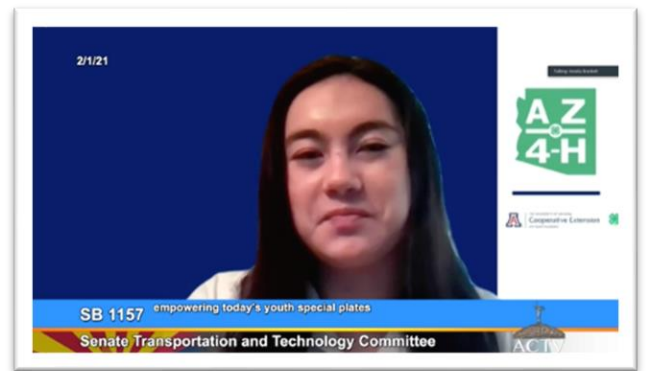


CIVIC ENGAGEMENT IN ACTION

Civic Engagement is one of the four pillars of 4-H. Arizona State 4-H Ambassadors Amelia Brackett (President) and Sadie Parent (Communications), had the opportunity to share their testimonies and practice citizenship by supporting 4-H programming in front of Arizona Legislature House and Senate Committees about the 4-H special license plate bills—House Bill 2375 and Senate Bill 1157. Below, the ambassadors share a bit about why advocating for 4-H is important to them:

Amelia Brackett

4-H has given me the opportunity to grow comfortable speaking in front of others through practicing demonstrations and receiving guidance from caring adult volunteers. Because of the skills 4-H instilled in me, I have gained the confidence to share my ideas, and even speak up for issues I felt were important. This led me to the opportunity to speak in front of the Arizona Senate’s Transportation and Technology Committee about my 4-H experience and why I support the Senate Bill 1157, “Empowering Today’s Youth” special license plate. Without this experience and the opportunity to engage with elected officials, I would have never been able to help express that financial support is necessary for 4-H youth and programs in Arizona to create a positive and lasting impact on youth in every county and tribal community in the state.



Sadie Parent

The 4-H program has been instrumental in expanding my comfort zone and has equipped me with the tools to not only be a productive member of my community, but an active and engaged one. I have had many opportunities to advocate for myself, as well as for issues that I believe in during my time in 4-H; these opportunities have shaped me into the person I am today and recently gave me the chance to advocate for 4-H on an even larger level. In early February, I spoke before the

Arizona House of Representatives Transportation Committee to support House Bill 2375, “Empowering Today’s Youth” special license plate. These special plates would benefit the Arizona 4-H Youth Foundation, which provides financial support for 4-H programs and individuals all across the state. 4-H has instilled in me the value of civic engagement, and I believe that speaking up is a critical way of giving back.

YOUTH VOICES



Growing Citizens

By Zane Campbell – AZ 4-H Citizenship Ambassador

4-H encourages youth to be active in their communities. Members are taught how to find something they are

passionate about and use that passion to better themselves and those around them. All across Arizona, 4-Hers are involved in or lead community service projects all year round. Even amidst the current pandemic, youth have gone out of their way to serve their community in many ways both big and small—whether it be through writing letters to their elders, organizing food drives, or speaking to elected officials. While facing many obstacles and challenges along the way, 4-H members continue to persevere in troubling times and help their community. While members across the state continue to serve their community, it is important to remember why we strive to get members involved in their communities.

4-H helps youth build many skills that mold them into lifelong outstanding members of their community. Giving back to their community teaches skills like accountability,

a sense of community, respect for themselves and the world around them, leadership, social skills, and most importantly, humanity. While working in their community they will find some of the best and brightest parts of their community. Whether the standout aspects are the people they meet and help, the places they restore, or something new they created, the benefits of Civic Engagement are innumerable.



While getting involved may be a daunting task, especially now, there is always someone in need and always something that can be done to help. Civic Engagement is the process of finding a problem in a community and working on ways to solve that problem.

Everything that is made or invented starts as someone finding a problem and then finding a solution. It's why 4-H teaches youth about Civic Engagement to start them down the road of bettering the world around them as they go through life.

The sky is the limit as how youth can serve their communities; all they need is a little dedication and passion for what they are doing.



NATIONAL AND STATE EVENTS

Check out these exciting events and opportunities that are coming up!

AZ 4-H AG at Home | Webinar Series

- Animal Projects - Turkeys | March 18, 2021 6:00 pm
- Animal Projects - Goats | March 25, 2021 6:00 pm
- Animal Projects - Cavies (Guinea Pigs) | April 8, 2021 6:00 pm
- Animal Projects - TBA | April 22, 2021 6:00 pm
- Animal Projects - TBA | May 6, 2021 6:00 pm

Save the Date!

- AZ 4-H Youth Foundation Scholarship Deadline | Before April 16th, 2021
- Pre-Summit | June 3 – June 4, 2021
- Summit | June 5 – June 9, 2021
- JOLT | July 11 – July 15, 2021



State Ambassador Program

- Ambassador Q & A Info Session | March 22, 2021 6:00 pm
- Applications Due to State Office | April 29, 2021 11:59 pm

CHECK AZ 4-H OUT ON SOCIAL MEDIA:



@az4hambassadors

Have you done a community service project in your community? Tell us about it and your voice could be featured in the next issue!

Reach out!



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