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University of Nevada, Reno Extension • Northern Area/Western

## 4-H Science Opportunities Abound

Virtually every 4-H program provides youth the opportunity to learn about Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) through fun, hands-on activities and projects. 4-H STEM and agriculture programs equip young people with the skills they need to succeed in life, and are available through club projects, in school and after school programs. Primary focus areas include computer science, robotics, environmental science, agri-science, financial literacy, entrepreneurship and veterinary science.

For the past two years, 4-H's National Youth Science Day has been dedicated to **Computer Science**.

For over ten years, 4-H has sponsored National Youth Science Day experiments. 4-H strives to put the hands of millions of youth on science equipment each year. Computer Science has been the topic of the activities the last two years. Last year's *Code Your World* and this year's *Game Changers* activities center on learning coding skills. Both these units provide fun, hands-on STEM activities for youth of all ages to do anywhere; even without an internet connection. These hands-on activities are designed to instill curiosity and critical thinking skills that will help young people develop the computer skills needed to be successful in life.

Robotics is another 4-H science program meant to inspire young people to develop an early interest in engineering and technology. 4-H has a long history of supporting robotic programs through 4-H Clubs, after school programs, camps and its curriculum. Through robotics, 4-Hers learn team work, problem solving, critical thinking, engineering and design. 4-H has even teamed with National Geographic to bring cutting edge content to young people in 4-H Clubs, after school programs and summer camps all centered on robotics. Using hands-on activities and videos, 4-Hers learn about robots, engineering, problem-solving and creative thinking. The activities in this partnership can be used separately or in tandem with National Geographic's film *ROBOTS 3D*.

4-H Environmental Science programs provide young people first-hand experience in utilizing alternative energy and learning how to limit humanity's impact on our environment. Related 4-H curricula includes lessons on ecosystems and explores topics such as pollination, soil, provisional services and eco-tourism. Environmental stewardship and sustainability are also explored. Issues surrounding transportation choices, waste management, composting, recycling and use of natural resources are all also explored.

4-H's **Agri-science** engages and challenges young people in agricultural science through topics such as **Veterinary Science**, biotechnology, raising and training animals and even forestry. 4-H, with its partner BAYER, puts on the "Youth Summit on Agri Science" where high school students develop the skills and knowledge needed to address challenges in agriculture, food security and sustainability. National 4-H Council and National 4-H Conference Center have partnered with agricultural scientists, researchers, leaders, politicians and advocates to host this national Youth Summit on Agriscience. The summit emphasizes hands-on educational experiences led by experts in the agricultural community. This year's summit will be held January 9-12, 2020.

4-H's **Financial Literacy Science** weaves entrepreneurship into many different subject areas. Areas could include the economics of raising and selling livestock or using computer science to develop new financial business technology. 4-H's financial literacy programs teach youth to navigate the challenges of a real world. Youth learn to master credit cards and interest rates and how to plan for a future of stable retirement. Your local 4-H through its partnerships with National 4-H Council and the National 4-H Conference Center, its curricula and business partners bring home current science education that readies our youth for a successful future.

-Article derived from materials at 4h.org

### **Horse Clinic Features Local Author**

The new 4-H Horse season is about to start. Washoe County 4-H Horse Leaders present the first 4-H Horse Clinic of 2020 on January 4, 2020 at the Washoe County Extension Office, 4955 Energy Way in Reno. (Enter at the door at back of building) So please, leave your horse at home!

Sign in at 8:30 a.m. Clinic begins promptly at 9:00 a.m.

The opening presentation will be by local author Chris Platt. She has written several horse novels including Wind Chaser, Willow King and Storm Chaser. She will talk about her path to becoming an author of horse books and how she prepares to write a story.

Following Chris Platt are three rotation stations: All you need to know about Attendance Requirements and Record Books, Horse Anatomy and Kahoot! and Horse Isle (Interactive fun to learn more about horses.)

4-H Dress is required, but you don't need your helmet this time! Silver Knolls Spurs will supply morning refreshments. 4-H Horse Leaders will provide pizza and drinks for lunch.

At conclusion of clinic – Written Levels testing, Levels 1-3, will be offered.

Please note that this clinic applies towards participation awards in Washoe County. For further information, please contact Sam Mitchell at 775-336-0259 or mitchells@unce.unr.edu.

## States' 4-H: A Travel Opportunity

It is generally agreed that travel broadens one's perspective. States' 4-H, a licensed 501c3 non-profit headquartered in Washington State, takes the statement a step further, "These experiences will shape future life choices and have great potential to form long-term positive attitudes towards global understanding."

States' 4-H has been arranging international exchange programs for 4-H members since 1972. Each year 800 school-age youth participate in the programs.

The organization arranges 4-8-week long homestay-based immersion programs for American 4-H'ers traveling to other countries. (Costa Rica, Finland, Japan, Norway, South Korea). There are also year-long programs for American high school students to attend Japanese high schools.

States' 4-H also arranges inbound exchanges for foreign students to stay with 4-H families in the United States.

To find out more about these and other opportunities go online to states4hexchange.org; or see States' 4-H on social media at www.facebook.com/states4hexchange/ or on Instagram @states4hinternational



## **Roundup Promotes 4-H Goals**

Western National Roundup provides a place for youth to compete nationally while encouraging teamwork and self-confidence, and while focusing on the 4-H Mission Mandates: Science, Engineering, Technology, Mathematics, Healthy Living and Citizenship.

Participation in Western National Roundup is open to 4-H and FFA member delegates, volunteer leaders and Extension/FFA professionals approved by their respective state offices. Such participation shall be without regard to sex, race, color, creed, handicap or national origin.

Nevada is sending a Hippology team to the Roundup. Team members Delaney Bohach, Chloe Mattice, Shelbie Nail and Chloe Young will represent our state by exhibiting their know-ledge and understanding of equine science and husbandry in a friendly but competitive setting.

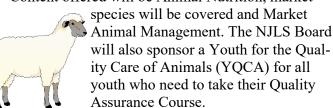
Besides the competition, teams from all over the country have the opportunity to meet and exchange state pins, take tours and socialize.

While each attendee receives a souvenir commemorating their time at Western National Roundup, individual and team excellence is rewarded at an award brunch and ceremony, building personal pride and reinforcing the benefits of setting goals.

### **NJLS Workshop Across State**

The Nevada Junior Livestock Show Board is offering a workshop on January 18, 2020 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. through interactive video conferencing. Extension Offices across the state have been reserved so youth and families can attend in their local community. Please contact your local Extension Office to confirm that the workshop is scheduled there.

Content offered will be Animal Nutrition, market



Anyone interested must call their local Extension Office to RSVP for the workshop. Reserving your spot is very important, offices may cancel their site if no one has called to confirm their attendance.

## **4-H at Sparks Hometowne Parade**



A few Washoe County 4-H Members braved the cold to ride on the Spanish Springs Trailblazers float in the annual Sparks Hometowne Parade.

Participants were dressed for the season (and the weather) to represent the 4-H in this fun community event.

## Fabulous 4-H Fabric Sale Fundraiser at Fuji Park

Now is a great time to donate your unused sewing supplies to help local 4-H graduates. Carson City/Storey County 4-H Council is accepting all fabric and sewing or knitting notions weekdays, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Carson City Extension Office, 2621 Northgate Lane, Suite 15, Carson City.

This year's Fabulous 4-H Fabric Sale takes place February 1 and 2 at Fuji Park Exhibit Hall, across from Costco in South Carson City. All funds from the sale go to assist Carson City and Storey County graduating 4-H'ers with their continuing education costs. Please call the 4-H office 775-887-2252 for more information.

# Washoe County 4-H Horse Program Joins Wild Horse Training Program with BLM

Washoe County 4-H Horse members 12 years and older are invited to participate in the BLM Wild Horse Training Program in collaboration with 4-H. This new project will use the Idaho 4-H Mustang Project curriculum. An introductory meeting will be held in late January at the Washoe Extension Office, the final date will be announced later.

It is expected that youth will be able to secure either a weanling or a yearling from BLM in March. Youth and the horses will embark on training through the spring and summer. The horses will be shown at trail in hand during the Carson City Fair. The horses with then go up for adoption.

Please contact Sarah Chvilicek at 775.336.0236 or sarahc@unr.edu.

## **Reno Rodeo Foundation Expands Scholarship Program**

The Reno Rodeo Foundation (RRF) is offering scholarships to eligible students interested in pursuing higher education at an accredited Nevada College or University or at an out-of-state College or University if the declared major is not offered in Nevada.

There is an additional option called the Western Arts & Culture (WA&C) Scholarship. The purpose of the WA&C is to create further awareness and appreciation of western arts, culture and heritage in college-age Nevadans through recognition of outstanding potential, contributions and skill in the creative arts.

The first-place award is a \$2,500 scholarship. The applicant selected will be awarded based on his/her level of skill in chosen area of arts/culture as well as completion of the additional addendum. This scholarship award will be made in addition to the Reno Rodeo Foundation Scholarship. All WA&C) applicants not selected for this scholarship will remain in the selection process for the general Reno Rodeo Foundation Scholarships. The addendum requires applicants to answer four additional questions and submit three samples of art that support our rich western culture, tradition and heritage.

Applicants who are undocumented will be deemed ineligible.

Evaluation criteria includes financial need, scholastic proficiency, leadership, service, and specialized talents for students who have graduated from a Northern Nevada high school with a minimum



GPA of 3.0. The Northern Nevada area excludes Clark, Esmeralda and Lincoln counties.

Award recipients must enroll as full-time students at the educational institution within the year awarded or forfeit the award. If a student cannot meet requirements for the award during any year of the award, the award will be forfeited. The recipient is eligible to reapply when they can meet the requirements.

Online scholarship application period opened on October 1, 2019 and must be received by midnight February 12, 2019.

Notification to successful applicants will occur in April 2020. To acquire the RRF information and the online application please visit our website at www.RenoRodeoFoundation.org

If you have questions, they can be emailed to info@renorodeofoundation.org.

This story ran previously in the November 2019 issue of Clover Clips

### A Place to Sell Your Horse Tack

Do you have good quality horse tack or equipment that you want to sell? Consider the 29th Annual 4-H Consignment Tack Sale on Sunday, February 16, 2020, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.! It will once again be at the Reno Livestock Events Center Pavilion- 1350 North Wells Avenue in Reno.

Silver Knolls Spurs 4-H Club is sponsoring the event to benefit the Washoe County 4-H Program. They will sell your good quality, new or used horse-related items on consignment. Consigner receives 80%, while 4-H retains 20% of the selling price. Donations of tack are welcome. This sale is open to the public to buy and sell.



Please note: household items, broken or missing tack items, ripped or torn items and used helmets will not be accepted.

If you are looking to buy, come browse through the great selection of horse-related items.

For more information and pricing tickets, please call Linda at 775-972-7241 or 775-560-0612; Amy at 775-972-7241 or 775-276-0942; or email silver-knollsspurs@yahoo.com

# Northern Area/Western January Dates to Remember

Jan. 1 – New Year's Day Holiday (Offices Closed)

**Jan. 4 –** Washoe County 4-H Horse Clinic Featuring Author Chris Platt.

**Jan. 20 –** Martin Luther King Jr. Day (Offices Closed)

#### 4-H in Action

National 4-H Council announced a new \$6 million collaboration with Google to bring computer science (CS) education to underserved youth across the country. Google.org is granting \$6 million to 4-H, in a follow up to a \$1.5 million grant in 2017.

The collaboration will expand the 4-H Computer Science (CS) Career Pathway to reach more than one million youth over the next three years, with a focus on rural youth and populations that have traditionally had limited access to CS education.

Learning how to code helps kids develop the analytical, creative, and critical thinking necessary to be creators and problem-solvers in any field.









#### **WESTERN AREA OFFICES**

Carson City/ Storey County 775-887-2252 2621 Northgate Lane, Suite 15 Carson City, NV 89701 **Douglas County** 775-782-9960 1325 Waterloo Ln. Gardnerville, NV 89410 Washoe County 775-784-4848 4955 energy Way Reno, NV 89502

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