

TO: All Trip Eligible Youth

RE: Time To Think About Travelling with 4-H!!

From: Emery Bork, Senior 4-H Educator, Vernon County

Hi all,

I hope you are kicking off the school year with great fun and wonderful experiences. Speaking of which, you’re receiving this letter because you are eligible to apply and attend 4-H trips. Please read the list below and find the trips appropriate for your age/grade. Remember that our Parent/Leader Federation will cover up to half of your trip if you fill out the adjoined application!

1. **American Spirit East (8th-10th grade):** Registration happens on 4HOnline from Nov. 1-Dec 1st, 2022. Open to all—non-competitive application. Cost: $1400

The dates for travel are June/July. Visit sites including, Valley Forge, Philadelphia (Independence Hall/Liberty Bell), New York (Harbor tour, 9/11 memorial, Statue of Liberty), Plimoth Plantation/Plymouth Rock, Boston, Whale Watching, Niagara Falls/Old Fort Erie.

The program has the following objectives for its participants:

-Increase knowledge and understanding of America’s heritage

-Build awareness of the many steps taken to gain U.S. independence and freedom

-Further develop skills in leadership and personal expression of values

-Increase awareness of self in relationship to others

-Share what was learned with others in your club and county

1. **Citizenship Washington Focus (10-12th grade, minimum age 15 during experience):** Registration happens on 4HOnline from Nov. 15-Dec. 15th. Open to all—non-competitive application. (TBA). Cost: $1600

The dates for travel are TBD, however, a choice between two weeks will be offered. CWF is a premier week long 4-H citizenship and leadership experience in Washington, D.C.—which is right next to our nation’s capital. Participants learn about the roles of Senators and Representatives in the United States’ government and how these parts work together to form an effective Congress. Additionally, youth get to see and experience government in action by meeting with their State’s members of Congress and watching a House of Representatives meeting. Delegates also participate in various educational workshops such as: bill writing, congressional issues, and what it means to be a citizen. You’ll also get to tour the capital!

1. **National 4-H Conference (10-12 grade, minimum age of 15 and maximum age 18 as of Jan. 1 year of travel)** This is a competitive application trip. Application packages need to requested from our offices, and are due to the state office on January 15th. Cost: $1300

An opportunity to be selected as one of the 8-10 youths representing Wisconsin 4-H at the national conference in April 14-19th, 2023. It’s held in Washington D.C. It is the premiere youth development opportunity that engages with the U.S Secretary of Agriculture. Meet state legislators, work on round table topics, develop local action plans, and much more.

1. **National 4-H Congress (10-12 grade, maximum age 18 as of Jan. 1 year of travel)** Registration happens on 4HOnline from May 1- June 1. Open to all—non-competitive application. Cost: $1350

Dates for congress are set for November 24-28th, 2023. Held in Atlanta, GA, congress is the premiere nation-wide event for 4-Hers to network with others from around the country and internationally. They will attend educational workshops, explore the city, do community service, listen to world-renowned speakers and more!

1. **Space Camp (6th-8th grade, maximum age 15 at time of program)** Registration happens on 4HOnline from Nov. 1-Dec. 1st. Open to all. Cost $900

It’s back—our popular space camp! Dates are April 20-24th, 2023 in Huntsville, Alabama. Space Camp is just what you think it is – it’s a camp experience where you learn and experience a ton of different aspects about life as an astronaut, working at NASA, and exploring places beyond Earth! Wisconsin 4-H Space Camp participants experience the [**Pathfinder Program**](https://www.spacecamp.com/groups/pathfinder). The Pathfinder Program is a 3-day experience where youth participate in a variety of simulated space activities.

1. **2023 States’ 4-H Outbound Program (12-18 years of age at the time of travel) Parent Leader Federation will not pay ½ the cost of this trip, but will consider a financial gift of an amount of their choosing through the application. We suggest members do fundraising efforts and get on the website to research how to fund these trips. We suggest planning a year ahead of time in order to do fundraising projects, etc.**

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| **Program** | **Dates** | **Age Range** |
| Costa Rica | June 16 - July 15 | 15-18 |
| Japan 4-Week | July 13 - August 11 | 12-18 |
| Japan 8-Week | June 16 - August 10 | 12-18 |
| South Korea | July 20 - August 18 | 12-18 |

Spend a month abroad, hosted by a local family! Costs fluctuate and there is a competitive application. If you are considering this program, please come and chat with me. I have extensive experience with international exchange and how these programs work. **Applications and deposit are due by January 15th.**

Applications and instructions can be found: https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/statewide-events-and-opportunities/international/travel-abroad/

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Adults: Many of these trips are also looking for adult chaperones. Please take a look on the website if you are interested in assisting youth travel.

For a complete list of all of these trips head to:

<https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/statewide-events-and-opportunities/>

**Don’t let cost be a barrier.** We have many opportunities to help you financially. Send me an email or call to chat further if you have questions.

Hope to see some applications come through 4HOnline—and if you’d like help from the Parent/Leader Federation, fill out the funding application on the next page. The boxes are small, so feel free to write on an additional sheet of paper!

We will send out an additional letter concerning 4-H camp and the Wisconsin Pathways Conference, and any other type of state travel opportunities as they arise.

Kindly,

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