

SPRING/SUMMER 2022

ESSEX COUNTY 4-H NEWSLETTER

4-H is a community of young people across America who are learning leadership, citizenship, and life skills.



Congratulations to Troi Slade, Kayla Soto, and Erick Garcia: 2022 Scholarship Award Winners.

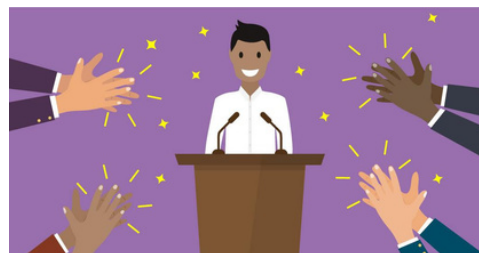
Every year, the Essex County 4-H Leaders Association awards a scholarship to an outstanding 4-H member in good standing. This year's scholarship recipients are **Troi Slade**, who learned about Rutgers 4-H in 8th grade and has been with us ever since. Her experience with 4-H started when she joined the Stem Ambassador program. She continued with these programs and even joined the Essex County 4-H Leadership Association which has allowed her to be the voice of the youth and learn different managing skills. Troi has just graduated and plans to attend Yale University in the fall. **Kayla Soto**, who has been a part of the 4-H family for 5 years. She started off with Teen Council, which during her time here has served as secretary and president. Kayla has also just graduated and plans to attend Lawrence University in the fall to study chemistry and philosophy. Last but not least **Erick Garcia**, who joined the 4-H program their 8th grade year. Erick's first program was Teen Council and Science matters. Erick has been with 4-H for 4 years now and during this time he has participated in many more programs, such as Youth Futures, STEM Ambassadors, and Teen Pollinator Habitat Ambassador. **We wish Troi, Kayla, and Erick good luck in their next steps!**

Ten Youth Were Selected to Participate in the 2022 State Public Presentations

Public Speaking is a corner stone of the 4-H program, where all youth, grades K-12 are invited to practice their public speaking by presenting to a panel of judges. Judges offer constructive feedback for each presenters and youth are awarded a score for participation. Youth from West Caldwell Tech receive an Excellent are invited to participate in states. **This year we had 30 youth participate in public presentation. We congratulate all who took the challenge!**

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Spring Highlights

For more information, please contact us at essex4h@njaes.rutgers.edu or visit our website at <https://essex.njaes.rutgers.edu/4h/>

Rutgers Youth Futures Peer Mentorship Program

The Rutgers Youth Futures Program focuses on building relationships between local youth and college student mentors with a focus on workforce preparedness. Youth participants are matched with trained mentors who guide the exploration of a myriad of college preparation and readiness activities. This year the youth attended the South Jersey teen conference, and finally May 20th, 2022 we had our end of the year BBQ.



Computer Science Program

Rutgers Newark students participated in a two-semester-long work program, where they led 4-H Computer Science (CS) clubs, 4-H Clovers CODE (Creating Opportunities Designed for Everyone), for local middle school age youth. Rutgers students were trained on positive youth development by faculty of the Department of 4-H Youth Development, a department within Rutgers Cooperative Extension. Rutgers students also participated in training led by a Apple's Community Education Initiative team (CEI) focused on Everyone Can Code, Challenge Based Learning, and app design. They led youth clubs, and challenged participants to create apps that could help address their community's needs including homelessness, pollution, and youth mental health. As a cumulative event to the CS clubs, youth presented their apps at a showcase at the Paul Robeson Campus Center, which included a six-person panel of Rutgers students and career professionals sharing their CS pathways story. To learn more visit:

https://essex.njaes.rutgers.edu/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/Press-Release-for-CS-Showcase_-4_26-1-1.pdf



Recap of Winter 2022: National 4-H Agriscience Summit

This winter, 28 NJ 4-H youth delegates traveled to the Washington DC metro area for the National 4-H Youth Agri-Science Summit to develop skills and knowledge to address issues in agriculture, food security, and sustainability. The Summit was an engaging learning and networking opportunity for the youth delegates from various regions of the state, including four youth from Hudson County. This experience highlighted the many ways that agriculture and food systems are relevant in their lives and how it impacts their communities. In addition to hearing keynote speakers, attending workshops, and meeting youth from across the country, the youth delegates created a community action plan focused on pollinator habitats to engage their peers and communities.



Recap of Spring Fair

Shout out to Dani, Mrs. Pat, Leah and Trina and chicken club families, Mr. Dan, Lisa, Valerie, Marmande, Manny, and Alexis, Lauren, Mehul, Martha and Optum crew, Cheyeann, Teens (Erick, Safia and sisters, Kayla, Avery, Delanie, Rosie, and friends), Gary, Luke, Destiny, Lauren, Margie, and Amy, Tara, Jerry, Maria, and David for all your hard work and support in helping with the Spring Fair all together, it was so much fun! We had a total of 86 youth submit projects and together we all raised \$822 in fundraisers.

Summer Opportunities

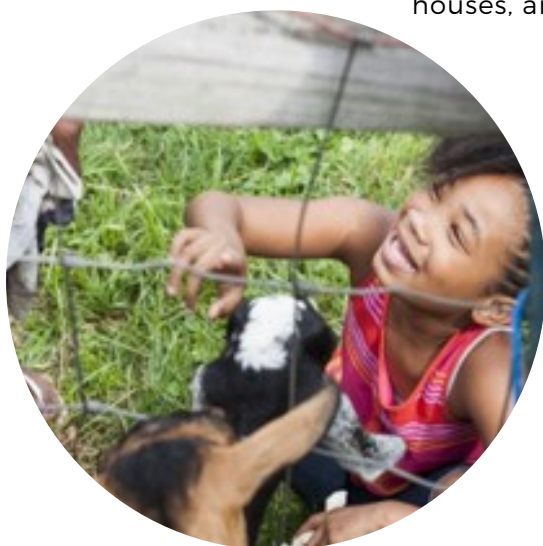
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Farm Camp

The Montclair History Center, Rutgers Cooperative Extension 4-H, and the Montclair Community Farms partner each year to host a fun, nature and history filled camp for youth to learn about our past, and where our food comes from.

Farm Camp supports youth development by promoting a positive interest in nature, historical living, and agriculture. Our mission is to provide the best camp experience for youth, while also providing a beneficial learning experience about food, animals, our earth, and its agricultural past. Our campers have the chance to be in the garden each day and participate in activities related to each age level's theme.

Campers will spend their days on site at the Montclair History Center at 108 and 110 Orange Road. Here, they will have access to the Montclair Community Farm, historic houses, and large open spaces!



4-H From Home

4-H From Home continues to offer free virtual programs for youth and families! Programs include short-term workshops, virtual clubs, and summer camps. One program to mention is the Animal Science Camp. Each day participants will learn a little about animals who have jobs, horses, marine life, amphibians, and reptiles. At the end of the week, youth will also get to participate in an animal share activity where they will teach and learn from each other!

Check out all opportunities here!

<http://nj4h.rutgers.edu/4h-from-home/>

4-H STEM Ambassadors Program

We are now accepting applications for our 14th cohort of Rutgers 4-H STEM Ambassadors. We are looking for current 7-9th graders (will be 8-10th graders in fall of 2022) with an interest in STEM. Youth from the urban communities of Atlantic, Essex, Hudson, Mercer, Middlesex, Passaic, and Union counties. The Rutgers 4-H STEM Ambassador Program is a great opportunity for teens to learn about STEM, develop as a leader in their community, and prepare for college! To learn more about the program and apply, visit our recruitment page. Online applications must be submitted no later than April 20. Please reach out to Hudson County 4-H with any questions. We are looking forward to a great summer orientation and kickoff for our new recruits!

To learn more about the program and apply, visit our recruitment page.

<http://nj4h.rutgers.edu/join-stem-ambassadors/>



**For more information
about 4-H programs in
Essex County contact
essex4h@njaes.rutgers.edu**



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kids with **RUTGERS****

www.RUinto4H.org