

2009 MN 4-H State Arts-In Recommendation Request

Thank you for taking time to fill out a recommendation form on behalf of a participant in the 2009 MN 4-H State Arts-In program. Your input is valuable and will assist the directors of State Arts-In when assigning "majors" or areas of focus for each participant. Your input will provide State Arts-In staff the background information to assign participants to leadership teams and also helps us finalize program content for the 2009 State Arts-In event.

Below is some basic information about State Arts-In that may help you when filling out the recommendation form.

MN 4-H State Arts-In Event: August 13-20, 2009

Participants spend time in one of four areas (performing, band, technical theater, or costuming), learning new skills and putting together a musical revue. Days start with breakfast at 8 am and are scheduled until 11 pm.

Participants stay on-site at the fairgrounds and work with a staff of professionals in performing arts and trained college students.

Besides working on a show, participants learn about teamwork, leadership and discover more about their own potential. Activities include attending a professional theater performance, guest speakers, a talent show put on by participants, time for reflection, group building and lots of fun!

MN 4-H State Arts-In at the State Fair: August 25-September 7, 2009

Participants return to live at the State Fairgrounds to run the State Arts-In show 3 - 4 times daily, as well as work with the rest of the 4-H State Fair staff to provide leadership throughout the 4-H building. This is a working experience with attendance required at State Arts-In scheduled activities and events each day. Free time for participants is scheduled so participants have a chance to enjoy the fair.

Majors or Areas of Interest

Performing: Singing, dancing, and acting in a 30 minute musical revue.

Band: Playing all music, in costume and onstage, for a 30 minute musical revue.

Technical: Striking and building a complete set, running sound and lights for 2 stages during the State Fair.

Costumes: Building costumes for approximately 60 people in less than one week, cleaning and maintaining those costumes for a 12 day run of shows.

Participants indicate their top three choices on their registration form, to participate in one of four categories. Participants are assigned to an area before they arrive. Participants spend the State Arts-In Event week rehearsing/working in their major 6 - 10 hours per day, the end result being a 30 minute production - with a fully built set for the stage and costumes - to be performed at the State Fair. One week is not much time to put this together, and 12 days of shows is a big commitment.

