

HOP TO IT! Support Our Youth!

Youth are a vital asset to the continuation and perpetuation of square dancing. We need to make sure that they feel secure as a member of our family. Unfortunately, in some cases, they are made to feel out-of-place or even unwelcome.

The Frog has been established as the universal symbol of our youth dancers. In an acknowledgement that not everyone is ready for the high energy and exuberance shown by our youth, advisors wanted to establish an easily recognizable symbol that would tell younger dancers “you are welcome to dance with me!” The illustrious (and friendly) Frog was selected.



Young dancers know that if they see another dancer with either a frog sticker or a dangle on their badge, that dancer welcomes and enjoys dancing with youth. Want to show your support? WEAR A FROG!!!

HOW DO I GET A FROG? Order a supply of frog stickers through USDA or purchase a frog dangle from your favorite badge vendor. As a part of its ongoing efforts to promote youth participation in square dancing, USDA is providing frog stickers free to those interested in the program. We sincerely hope you will order enough for your fellow dancers and make them aware of the program.

Please wear a frog and help to insure the future of square dancing by supporting the youth of today. We will be happy to send as many as you need. Order as often as you like.

To order frog stickers and/or receive additional information regarding the youth program see web site www.usda.org Officers and Committees for current Officers & Committee Chairs mailing address and phone number.

usda.youth.advisor@usda.org

Join us on FACEBOOK, too!

Upsilon Sigma Delta of America Greek Letters to be worn **only** by Youth Dancers

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The United Square Dancers of America have adopted these Greek letters to represent Youth Square Dancers of America. We are accustomed to the double square, the square and circle, the frog, music notes, etc. We accept those symbols as an ordinary part of our activity. So now is the time to introduce a new symbol – one to identify our youth dancers and give them a “new image.”

For more information contact the
USDA Youth Advisors,
usda.youth.advisor@usda.org

USDA FOUNDERS MEMORIAL YOUTH FUND SCHOLARSHIP

USDA expects to award one scholarship each year on the basis of merit to a high school senior or college freshman who:

- has a record of volunteer service in square dancing, and
- has outstanding leadership potential and communications skills.

Each nominee must be:

- an active square dancer;
- a high school senior or college freshman planning to continue their education;
- sponsored by a USDA affiliate organization
- committed to the promotion and perpetuation of the total square dance movement.

Scholarship nomination procedures:

- Completed application;
- Signed Nomination Form from applicant’s USDA Affiliate Organization President (download form from USDA website);
- Three letters of ;
- Applicant’s essay of approximately 500 words on the subject “*The Impact Square Dancing Has Had On My Life*”.
- Submit the above three items to the USDA Youth Advisor
- Deadline - February 1
- Recipient will be announced at the USDA Annual Meeting held during the National Square Dance Convention®.

Applications are available from the USDA Youth Advisor usda.youth.advisor@usda.org
Or the USDA Education Committee usda.education.publications@usda.org
Information can also be printed from the website at www.usda.org.

USDA YOUTH PROGRAM GOALS

- Provide youth with quality educational and promotional materials regarding square dancing, its history and traditions.
- Create and provide up-to-date, instructional materials for educators to assist them in teaching modern American square dancing.
- Make promotional and education materials available to youth that present a positive, upbeat view of youth participation in the square dance activity.
- Increase the number of youth participating in square dancing.

USDA FOUNDERS MEMORIAL YOUTH FUND

The USDA FOUNDERS MEMORIAL YOUTH FUND provides needed resources to award at least one scholarship to a youth dancer each year.

Organizations of any level or individuals can make a contribution to the Founders Memorial Youth Fund at any time by contacting the Youth Advisor or any USDA officer, or by downloading the Donation Form from the USDA website under the Youth Program heading.



OTHER EDUCATIONAL PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

Y-02 – Take a Youthful Step to the Future.

A step-by-step guide to establishing and maintaining a youth square dance group. Recommended for leaders.

Y-04 – USDA Founders Memorial Youth Fund Scholarship Application.

Y-05 – Information on Competition in Youth Square Dancing.

Y-06 – Affiliate Nomination Form for Founders Memorial Youth Fund Scholarship.

For copies of these publications contact:

USDA Youth Advisor
usda.youth.advisor@usda.org

See web site www.usda.org Officers & Committees for Current Officers & Committee Chairs mailing address and phone.

For additional information about USDA or any of its programs, please visit our web site www.usda.org or Email the Education/Publications Committee at usda.education.publications@usda.org

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All USDA Educational Materials can be printed from the Internet at www.usda.org

USDA YOUTH PROGRAM



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This information sheet was developed by the Youth Advisory and Publications Committees of the United Square Dancers of America and provides a brief summary of the Youth Program.

Y-03