



# Massachusetts State Grange

OF THE ORDER OF PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE MASSACHUSETTS YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT PROGRAM

## MA State Sign-A-Song Contest

The Sign-A-Song Contest promotes the use of non-verbal skills of communication. This contest will be held in conjunction with the Public Speaking Contest.

**Novice** One who is beginning to learn sign language, has had no more than three sign language classes and has entered the Sign-A-Song Contest no more than two years.

**Hobbyist** One who signs on an occasional basis and strictly for fun. One who has entered the Sign-A-Song Contest more than two years.

**Group** Two or more people signing.

**Expert** One who signs professionally. Ineligible for Best of Show, but looking for opportunity to encourage others to participate.

### Rules:

1. Open to any Subordinate Grange member, who has been a member for at least one year (There is a separate contest for Juniors).
2. The Participants must provide three copies of the words to their song **two weeks prior** to the contest.
3. Participants must furnish their own music. A CD player and speakers will be available.
4. Anyone who is a professional instructor, or receives money for signing, may only enter in the expert category.
5. Signers use total communication techniques: Sign language, facial expressions, mouthing words for lip reading, finger spelling if appropriate, and body movement.
6. Participants must be Grange members.
7. Props and costumes are permitted, rhythm is optional.
8. Only one song may be signed during the competition performance.
9. Participants must sign their own name and song title.
10. Participants must inform the audience and judges what type of sign language they will be using. (Pidgen, ASL, ESL, etc.)
11. State winners must agree to represent the state at the Regional Competition.

**Awards:** State winners receive a cash award.

**Pre-Registration:** Those members wishing to participate must let the MA State Youth Advisor, Theresa Kenney at [tkenney2023@gmail.com](mailto:tkenney2023@gmail.com) know of their intention **at least two weeks prior to the Contest.**