



Performing Arts Project



Those who enjoy being in the spotlight on stage or being creative off stage may enjoy the Performing Arts project. Learn to express yourself in front of a crowd. Express yourself by creating and presenting a theatrical play or musical performance; participate in camp's talent show, create a puppet show; create costumes, sets and props; and enter your local Club Days or other contests. Members will gain self-confidence, cooperation with fellow cast members, and have fun, all while learning to master various aspects of the Performing Arts project.

Starting Out *Beginner*

- Learn to express yourself through movement, voice, speech, and acting.
- Create and present a play or skit.
- Do skits, pantomime, readings, and clowning.
- Explore vocal pitch range.
- Practice various rhythm patterns.
- Understand a music staff.

Learning More *Intermediate*

- Learn about puppets.
- Create a puppet, stage, and kit.
- Do puppet therapy.
- Be able to read music.
- Begin to learn to play a musical instrument.
- Run for song leader of your 4-H club.

Expanding Horizons *Advanced*

- Write your own play or skit.
- Research the meanings of the musical dynamic terms.
- Create costumes, sets, and props.
- Create a stage setting.
- Do make-up and stage management.

Inspire Kids to Do

Explore

"I might like to do this."

Youth who explore a variety of interests before high school, through experiences like 4-H camps and educational events, can develop early interest in a career path and improve their academic performance.

Learn

"I can do this."

4-H project-based learning, guided by adult volunteers, improves youth understanding of skills and concepts, as well as their ability to problem-solve and collaborate.

Practice

"I'm interested in this."

Youth who have participated in sustained hands-on learning and engaged with professional mentors and volunteers before entering high school are more likely to explore studies and potential career paths.

Experience

"I will be this."

Real-world application is key — 91% of Kansas 4-H members have a plan for reaching their goals. Youth that have been active participants in hands-on learning, combined with strong decision-making skills, are more able to effectively navigate life.

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Expand Your Experiences!

Healthy Living

- Enroll in a movement or dance class.
- Add choreography to your vocal or musical performance.

Science and Agriculture

- Learn the science behind sound waves and pitch.
- Explore the mechanics behind instrument engineering.

Community Vitality

- Volunteer to share your talent at local retirement communities.
- Give of your time to help build stage sets for a local theater production.
- Organize a local talent show for your community.

Communication and the Arts

- Create a dinner theater and work with youth enrolled in the Foods and Nutrition project for the meal.
- Perform a vocal or instrumental solo or ensemble at 4-H Club Day or county fair.
- Share your Performing Arts talent with community groups while promoting 4-H.

Career Development

- Explore many careers in Performing Arts by visiting K-state's Department of Music, Theatre, and Dance in the College of Arts & Sciences. <https://www.k-state.edu/mtd/>
- Explore careers in costume design by visiting K-State's College of Health and Human Sciences: [Apparel and Textiles](#).
- Research careers in performance, music therapy, music education, screen writing, and make-up, and costume design.
- Job shadow or intern in these fields of study.

Local Contact Information

Resources and Events

Participating in educational events and learning opportunities will expand your knowledge and skills in the project area. Contact your local K-State Research and Extension office for local opportunities.

Read your monthly 4-H newsletter for regional, state and national opportunities.

Participate at your county fair.

Participate in your local 4-H Club Day.

Explore music, theatre, and dance opportunities within your community.

Research community theatre and dance troops that may be available in your area.

Curriculum and Resources

Curriculum from National 4-H:

- [Theatre Arts Book 1](#)
- [Theatre Arts Book 2](#)
- [Theatre Arts Book 3](#)
- [Theatre Arts Journal](#)

- Music and Theory from your music instructor

4-H Record Keeping

Learning to keep accurate records is a life skill. The following forms can help you:

- [Setting 4-H Project Goals \(4H1100\)](#)
- [Kansas 4-H Record Keeping](#)
- Keep track of the cost of lessons, the audience attendance for performances, and hours spent practicing and building skills.

Project Exhibit Ideas

- Be a part of a skit (director or actor), readers theater, or musical for 4-H Club Day or county fair.
- Perform a vocal or instrumental solo or ensemble at 4-H Club Day or county fair.
- Showcase or organize a club group dance.
- Make a poster, educational display, or notebook promoting or educating others on a specific performing arts subject.

