**DANFORTH AWARD**

National Leadership Award & "I Dare You" Scholarship

**National Leadership Award**

The American Youth Foundation's National Leadership Award is a unique opportunity to honor extraordinary young people for their character and leadership. The award recognizes youth ages 15-18 years old that strive to be their personal best and make a positive difference in their schools, youth groups, 4-H clubs, and communities. Nominees must have completed their freshman year in high school and show outstanding qualities in servant leadership. Award recipients receive a personalized award certificate, a copy of William H. Danforth's classic motivational book *I Dare You!,* and may be nominated for the I Dare You Scholarship.

**I Dare You Scholarship Opportunity**

The AYF Leadership Conference offers weeklong programs aimed at developing character, leadership skills, personal and group effectiveness, and nurturing balance within your life. You will make great friends and be a part of an experience that will stay with you forever. Leadership Conferences take place at AYF's beautiful Miniwanca on the shore of Lake Michigan.   Each year the American Youth Foundation selects youth who have demonstrated exceptional servant leadership within their communities, groups, or organizations for the I Dare You Scholarship. Scholarship winners are chosen from the pool of National Leadership awardees that have been nominated by their group or organization. The scholarship pays funds toward tuition ($500) for the AYF Leadership Conference, a nationally recognized leadership-training program. Not all awardees will receive an I Dare You scholarship.  All scholarship winners will be contacted by the AYF.

Two Sanilac County 4-H members who exhibit personal integrity, balanced living, and leadership ability will receive the “I Dare You Leadership Award”. We are particularly interested in recognizing “emerging” leaders, youth with motivation and potential, whose talents are less apparent to themselves than those they work with. The goal is to challenge these young people to recognize and develop their leadership abilities. As with all the other awards, a member is only awarded this honor once. On a separate page, provide a 1-page narrative for items 1-3 below.

1. **Leadership**

Describe any leadership activities or ways you have provided leadership and/or assistance during your 4-H career. This includes, but is not limited to: serving as a teen leader, talks, demonstrations, presentations, articles written, promotional activities, organizing special activities, arranging guest speakers, etc. How has this affected your personal growth?

1. **Citizenship**

Describe any citizenship activities you have participated in or organized for other 4-H members. This includes, but is not limited to: Citizenship Washington Focus, Capitol Experience, talking to local, state, or nationally elected representatives. What effect did this experience have on you and how you interact within your community?

1. **Community Service**

Describe any community service activities that you have played a major role in providing leadership for during your 4-H career. This includes, but is not limited to: organizing club or county community service projects. How have your actions impacted other people in your community?

1. **Letter of Recommendation**

Include a letter of recommendation from a 4-H leader describing your leadership potential.