

# MICHIGAN DAIRY AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

*SPONSORED BY THE GREAT LAKES REGIONAL DAIRY CONFERENCE*

## 2010 APPLICATION



**Great Lakes  
Regional Dairy Conference**

serving the dairy industry since 2003

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT THE APPLICATION COORDINATOR**

**HONKEMEG@ANR.MSU.EDU**

**(517) 353-3175, EXT. 229**



## MICHIGAN DAIRY AMBASSADOR PROGRAM 2010 TIME COMMITMENTS

**Are you a young person with a passion for the dairy cow and/or the dairy industry? If so, then you have the opportunity to be named the *2010 Michigan Dairy Ambassador!***

The program consists of two divisions – the senior division is open to college students up to age 22 and the junior division is open to youth in grades 9 through 12.

**The winner in the senior division will have the following time commitments:**

- Serve on the Great Lakes Regional Dairy Conference (GLRDC) planning committee during the subsequent year.
- Serve on one or more of the sub-committees and fulfill duties as agreed upon between the ambassador and the planning committee.
- Submit a quarterly written report to the GLRDC planning committee on his/her dairy promotion, leadership and education activities; these reports will be due on April 15, July 15, October 15 and January 15; **or** provide an oral report at the monthly or bi-monthly (as scheduled) general planning committee meetings.
- Seek out opportunities to participate in a minimum of six (6) dairy-related activities during the year.
- Present awards during the Michigan Dairy Expo 4-H Awards Banquet.
- Attend the 2011 GLRDC; may be asked to make a presentation and assist with the ambassador selection process or other appropriate duties.
- Help shape the Michigan Dairy Ambassador Program for future candidates.

The senior winner's duties and responsibilities as the Michigan Dairy Ambassador will end at the time when the next year's winner is announced, though winners are encouraged to remain involved with the program.

**The winner in the junior division will have the following time commitments:**

- Submit a semi-annual written report to the GLRDC planning committee on his/her dairy promotion, leadership and education activities; these reports will be due immediately prior to the June and Dec. general planning committee meetings.
- Seek out opportunities to participate in a minimum of two (2) dairy-related activities or events during the year.
- Present awards during the Michigan Dairy Expo 4-H Awards Banquet.
- Attend the 2011 GLRDC; may be asked to make a presentation and assist with the ambassador selection process or other appropriate duties.
- Help shape the Michigan Dairy Ambassador Program for future candidates.

The junior winner's duties and responsibilities as the Michigan Dairy Ambassador will end at the time when the next year's winner is announced, though winners are encouraged to remain involved with the program.



## MICHIGAN DAIRY AMBASSADOR PROGRAM GUIDELINES

Each candidate must have a passion for the dairy cow and/or the dairy industry. Candidates must also be a genuine user of dairy products and a genuine supporter of the dairy industry and its future success.

A completed contest application packet must be submitted to the Great Lakes Regional Dairy Conference (GLRDC) via **email attachments** to [honkemeg@anr.msu.edu](mailto:honkemeg@anr.msu.edu) by December 20, 2009. Candidates will receive email receipt confirmation. Paper applications will not be accepted and applications submitted after December 20, 2009, will not be considered except under extenuating circumstances.

### Ambassador Selection Timeline:

- Deadline for application submission via email—December 20, 2009
- Committee submits finalist recommendations—December 31, 2009
- Candidates notified of application status via email or phone—By January 8
- Deadline for candidates to confirm participation in final interview—January 15
- Follow-up letter sent to confirm interview with finalists—By January 22
- Finalist interviews—February 12
- 2010 Michigan Dairy Ambassadors announced—February 12 at the Michigan Dairy Industry Recognition Night banquet

The application email must include the following email attachments in Microsoft Word or .pdf format:

- Completed application form  
*Filename LASTNAME\_application.doc/pdf*
- Essay, 3-page maximum  
*Filename LASTNAME\_essay.doc/pdf*
- Resume  
*Filename LASTNAME\_resume.doc/pdf*
- Time commitment and code of conduct acknowledgement  
*Filename LASTNAME\_acknowledgement.doc/pdf*

All candidate applications will be reviewed by the Michigan Dairy Ambassador Program Committee. Up to six finalists in each division will be invited to interview at the GLRDC on February 12, 2010. Final candidates will be judged by a committee of three dairy and/or industry leaders. The winners will be selected based on the results of a group interview, personal interview and presentation, and overall conduct.

A candidate must be currently enrolled in grades 9 through 12 to compete in the junior division and a currently enrolled college student under age 22 (as of Dec. 31, 2009) to compete in the senior division.

Only Michigan residents are eligible to apply.

Finalists will be admitted to the GLRDC free of charge. Each candidate is responsible for his/her own travel and lodging expenses in connection with the selection process. Candidates under 18 must be accompanied by an adult chaperone. Chaperones cannot be compensated or reimbursed by the GLRDC or the Michigan Dairy Ambassador Program.

Final candidates must attend the conference on Friday, February 12, 2010 from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Winners will be announced during the Friday evening banquet.

Judges will select the Michigan Dairy Ambassador and first runner-up in each division. Their decisions are considered final.

The senior division winner will receive a \$1,500 scholarship, a certificate and other dairy industry-related prizes. The check will be made payable to the university of the student's choice.

The 1<sup>st</sup> runner-up in the senior division will receive a certificate and other dairy industry-related prizes.

The junior division winner will be awarded \$1,000 to be applied to the purchase of a dairy animal within the following 12 months or deposited into a GLRDC executive committee-approved scholarship account, a certificate and other dairy industry-related prizes. For the purchase of an animal, monies will be issued at the time of purchase to the seller (if private treaty) or sales manager (if public sale).

The 1<sup>st</sup> runner-up in the junior division will receive a certificate and other dairy industry-related prizes.

The GLRDC will pay for event and travel expenses associated with official representation as a Michigan Dairy Ambassador. These expenses will not exceed \$500 and may include, but are not limited to, event admission or registration, mileage (IRS rate will be applied), parking, meals and overnight accommodations. Expenses exceeding \$100 per trip must be pre-approved by the chair of the Ambassador committee. Expenses should be itemized and include a receipt. Expense reports must be submitted to the ambassador program committee for final approval. The GLRDC will reimburse for expenses within 10 working days of approval of the expense report.

Candidates are eligible to re-enter future contests in the same or subsequent division, but will be ineligible to compete if selected as a previous contest winner in that division.

The GLRDC executive committee has final authority on any competition discrepancies.

Do you have any questions? If so, Megghan Honke at 517-432-1555, ext. 229 or [honkemeg@anr.msu.edu](mailto:honkemeg@anr.msu.edu).





MICHIGAN DAIRY  
AMBASSADOR PROGRAM  
2010 APPLICATION

Division  Junior (high school student grades 9-12)  
 Senior (college students under age 22)

Name \_\_\_\_\_  Male  Female

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Note: This is a professional award; please submit a business-appropriate email address)*

Home Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Birth date \_\_\_\_\_ Grade/Undergraduate Status \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Address, if different from above \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

School and/or current employment \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name, address of local newspaper(s), radio and television station(s).

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### 1. ESSAY

In a Microsoft Word document named YOURLASTNAME\_essay.doc, write a brief essay addressing the following points. Please limit your response to a maximum of three double-spaced pages.

- A. Why should you be selected as the 2010 Michigan Dairy Ambassador? What unique skills, interests, abilities or experiences set you apart from other candidates? How and why would they benefit the program and the Michigan dairy industry?
- B. Who do you admire most and why? How has this person influenced your life?
- C. What is the single most important message that the dairy industry needs to share with the consuming public and why? How will you effectively deliver this message if you are selected as the 2010 Michigan Dairy Ambassador?
- D. What do you enjoy most about being involved in the dairy industry and why?

### 2. RESUME

In a Microsoft Word document named *YOURLASTNAME\_resume.doc*, submit a resume or list of bullets summarizing the highlights of your dairy cattle and dairy industry experiences. The document should also include your school and community leadership contributions. Please limit your resume to a maximum of two pages.

### 3. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Download the application confirmation from [www.glrdc.msu.edu](http://www.glrdc.msu.edu). Save it as YOURLASTNAME\_acknowledgement.doc, review and electronically sign it and attach it with your application.