

National 4-H Hall of Fame 2015

Louisiana



Norma O. Roberts
State Leader, 4-H Youth Development

Home: Baton Rouge, LA

Nominated by: Louisiana 4-H

Major 4-H Accomplishments:

Served over 32 years in the Louisiana 4-H Program as Caddo Parish 4-H Agent in Shreveport, State 4-H Specialist and State 4-H Leader. Served on regional and national committees including National 4-H Conference, Congress Fashion Revue, Record Judging, Presidential tray interviews, and the Southern Region committee that established the 4-H Congress in Atlanta.

Honors: Recipient of the Floyd Edminston Award of Excellence for LSU Faculty, the Distinguished Service Award from the Louisiana and the National 4-H Agents Associations, the Gamma Sigma Delta Service Award. Inducted into the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society. Charter member of the Louisiana 4-H Agents Association.

Biography:

Dr. Norma Roberts' 4-H career began in Caddo Parish where she helped organize 42 clubs and a Junior Leader program. After five years, she assumed state responsibilities for Records and Awards Programs, Citizenship Louisiana Focus, Junior Leadership Conference, and the State 4-H Short Course. She originated awarding Blue Ribbon Medallions to Blue Ribbon winners. During her tenure, attendance rose to over 2,000. She started Challenge Camps for 11 & 12 year olds and project camps. Dr. Roberts recognized the need to change project literature. Working with a committee of Agents and Specialists, the projects were designed around interest areas including Exploring 4-H, Citizenship, Plants, Animals, Engines, and Leadership Skills.

Dr. Roberts chaired a national committee to develop Citizenship project literature. To educate the public about Louisiana Agriculture and 4-H opportunities, she coordinated a 4-H Mini Farm on the LSU Campus that offered school tours to over 10,000 youth and the public annually. An Agriculture Maze and Quiz Show at the state fair in Shreveport was also her creation. The educational tours attracted over 4,000 school children annually. Dr. Roberts was active on the regional and national levels serving on 4-H committees including National 4-H Conference, Congress Fashion Revue, Record Judging, Presidential tray interviews, and the Southern Region committee that established the 4-H Congress in Atlanta.

Quote:

My favorite saying is that "Luck is when preparation meets opportunity." 4-H prepares young people with life skills which help to prepare them for opportunities that will come their way in life. That makes the 4-H Clover truly a "Lucky Clover." I take great pleasure in seeing former 4-Hers serving in various leadership roles in their communities and businesses.



Accepting a check from a 4-H alum to sponsor the project in which he was a National Scholarship winner.



Norma Roberts works on curriculum.



Presiding over 4-H University and accepting a check for the 4-H Foundation from 4-Hers.