

LITERATURE AWARD

Broward County 4-H'ers, Steer Your Way to the Miami Youth Fair!

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Section 1 - Describe the situation statement, program objectives, program implementation (timeline) and plan of action.

Blog Link: <https://blogs.ifas.ufl.edu/miamidadeco/2024/09/26/broward-county-4-hers-steer-your-way-to-the-miami-youth-fair/>

For over a decade, the Miami-Dade County Youth Fair (The Fair) has not had 4-H participation in the youth market animal division. Additionally, **Broward County has not had an agricultural fair for many years**, leaving local youth with limited exposure to livestock competitions, showmanship experiences, and agricultural career pathways.

Broward County's 4-H volunteers and families have been eager to find new opportunities to expose youth to livestock and agricultural programs. Recognizing this gap, the 4-H Agent collaborated with The Fair to increase accessibility for urban youth in Broward County. This partnership with The Fair provides a much-needed platform to engage urban youth in hands-on agricultural experiences.

Objectives:

- Educate Broward County 4-H members, families, and volunteers on opportunities at The Fair.
- Increase awareness of agricultural career paths and livestock industry experiences.
- Provide clear instructions for youth to register for various agricultural exhibits.

Implementation Timeline:

- **September:** Meetings with The Fair's leadership to secure 4-H eligibility.
- **October:** Development of promotional materials, including the blog post.
- **October – December:** Blog publication and dissemination via social media, newsletters, and club meetings.
- **November – January:** Registration support through 4-H Online.
- **March-April:** Youth participation in The Fair's agricultural competitions.

The *Broward County 4-H'ers, Steer Your Way to the Miami Youth Fair!* blog post was a **strategic communication tool** that detailed eligibility, exhibit categories, deadlines, and registration steps. To streamline participation, a **custom registration portal** (<https://miamiagfair2025.4honline.com/>) was created within 4-H Online.

Section 2 - Explain how the program was administered and evaluated. Present the results from the evaluation. Describe your collaborations with other agencies, if applicable.

The program was administered through a **multi-channel outreach approach**. The blog was published on the UF/IFAS blogs website and widely shared on social media platforms, email newsletters, and direct messages to agricultural 4-H club leaders. A registration landing page was developed to walk families through the enrollment process. One-on-one support was provided for first-time exhibitors through virtual office hours.

Evaluation Results: Successful Submissions

- **14** Fairy Garden entries
- **36** Horticulture entries
- **2** Market Lamb entries
- **1** Market Hog entry
- **10** Poultry entries

This represents a **100% increase in Broward County 4-H participation at The Fair**, marking a significant milestone in engaging urban youth in agriculture.

Collaborations:

- **Miami-Dade County Youth Fair:** Provided exhibitor space and program support.
- **Broward 4-H Club Leaders:** Assisted in recruiting and guiding youth participants.

Section 3 - The narrative should address how the program met a need in the community and the future of the program.

This initiative **bridges the gap between urban youth and agricultural experiences** by providing direct access to market animal and horticulture competitions. Many Broward County youth **lack traditional agricultural backgrounds**, making programs like this critical for exposure to industry careers.

Future Goals:

- Expand Broward 4-H participation in the Livestock and Market Animal divisions.
- Develop an *Exhibitor Readiness Program* to prepare first-time participants.
- Strengthen partnerships with local agricultural businesses and sponsors for scholarships.
- Increase **youth leadership roles** within the Fair to foster career development.

This blog not only **revived a decade-long absence of Broward 4-H exhibitors** but also **laid the foundation for sustainable youth engagement in agriculture**. The continued success of this effort will be measured by year-over-year increases in participation and long-term youth involvement in agricultural education.

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Broward County 4-H'ers, Steer Your Way to the Miami Youth Fair!



Get ready, Broward County 4-H'ers! It's time to *steer* your talents south to the **Miami-Dade County Youth Fair!** For the first time, Broward County 4-H members can participate in the Miami-Dade County Youth Fair, which includes a variety of agricultural exhibits—including *market livestock, small animal, and horticulture!*

The Miami-Dade County Fair & Exposition, Inc. is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to enriching the community by promoting education and South Florida agriculture while showcasing and rewarding youth achievement.

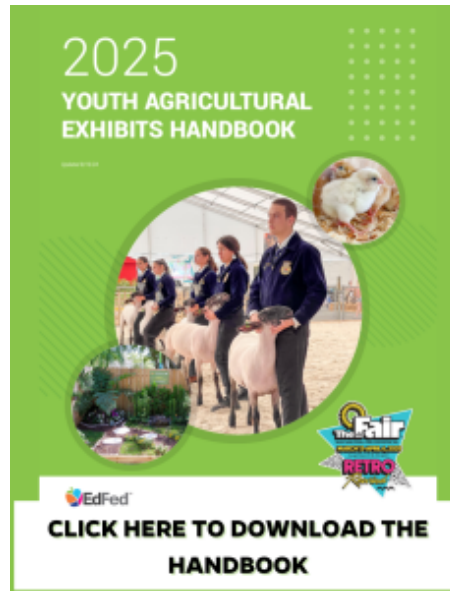
Who's Invited?

All Broward County 4-H members—whether you've got livestock, a green thumb, or small animals, there's something for everyone. Adult volunteers, we need you, too! This is a team effort, and we want to see Broward shine.

What Can You Expect?

Broward County 4-H Members are eligible to compete in the following divisions:

- **Horticulture** – *Deadline to enter: January 14th, 2025**
- **Cavy Show** – *Deadline to enter: January 14th, 2025**
- **Market Hog Show and Sale** – *Deadline to enter: October 25th, 2024**
- **Market Lamb Show and Sale** – *Deadline to enter: October 25th, 2024**
- **Market Steer Show and Sale** – *Deadline to enter: October 25th, 2024**
- **Poultry Show** – *Deadline to enter: January 14th, 2025**
- **Rabbit Show** – *Deadline to enter: January 14th, 2025**



**These deadlines are specific to Broward County 4-H Members and do not align with the dates listed in the handbook.*

For more details, download the 2025 Youth Agricultural Exhibits Handbook or visit [YOUTH AGRICULTURE EXHIBITS \(FAIREXPO.COM\).](http://YOUTH AGRICULTURE EXHIBITS (FAIREXPO.COM).)

When's It Happening?

The Fair runs March 13 – April 6, 2025, but don't wait until then to start gearing up!

If you plan to participate in the **Market Steer, Hog, or Lamb Shows**, your entry forms must be submitted through 4-H Online by **October 25th, 2024**. There is funding available to help support the purchase of your livestock. For more information about funding and how to apply, contact your 4-H Club Leader or Agent.

If you are participating in the **Poultry, Rabbit, Cavy, or Horticulture Shows**, your entry forms must be submitted through 4-H Online by **January 14th, 2025**.

Where's the Fun?

The action takes place at the **Miami-Dade County Youth Fairgrounds**, located at **10901 Coral Way, Miami, FL 33165**. It's not too far from home, but it's a big leap forward in terms of opportunity!

Why Get Involved?

Because this is your moment! You've put in the hard work on your projects, and now's the time to show it off. Plus, there are awards and premiums to be won and new friends to be made! Read the handbook for more details or reach out to your 4-H Agent.

How to Register

To register and get detailed instructions for entering the fair, visit <https://MiamiAgFair2025.4honline.com>. Please note, you must be an approved 4-H member and enrolled in 4-H Online to participate.

ABOUT BROWARD COUNTY 4-H

4-H is the nation's largest youth development organization. Over 230,000 members in the State of Florida help to make up the community of more than 6.5 million young people across America. 4-H is a nonformal, practical educational program for youth. Florida 4-H is the youth development program of Florida Cooperative Extension, a part of the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS). 4-H provides opportunities for all youth ages 5-18.

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ifas.ufl.edu | [@BrowardCounty4H](https://www.instagram.com/BrowardCounty4H)

RELATED ARTICLES

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by **Kenan Bridges**

Posted: September 26, 2024

Category: [4-H & Youth](#), [Agriculture](#), [Clubs & Volunteers](#), [Livestock](#)

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Miami Youth Fair Agricultural Exhibits (2025)

By Broward, 11/4/2024 - 4/7/2025



Description:

Participate in agriculture exhibits at the Miami Youth Fair and Expo.

Categories include: Horticulture

Landscape & Design Youth Poultry

Show Youth Rabbit Show Youth Cavy

Show

Instructions:

Click Here to watch our training video for all the details on how to enter?

Step One: Read the handbook

Very carefully, read through the handbook to understand important

dates, rules, policies and procedures. You are responsible for following the handbook exactly as stated, otherwise entries will not be accepted. Please pay attention to the important dates for your exhibits within the handbook.

- [DOWNLOAD YOUTH AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITS HANDBOOK](#)

Step Two: Identify your projects

What divisions will you enter?

Read through the rules and select the class(es) you wish to participate in.

If you are showing an animal, now is the time to download your record book.

- [SMALL ANIMAL RECORD BOOK](#)
- [MARKET RECORD BOOK](#)

Additionally, 4-H members will be required to submit a project record book to the 4-H Agent at the end of the 4-H year. In step two, this is a good time to start working on your project record book by establishing goals and a plan for your project.

Helpful notes:

- Your record book should start on the date you purchase an animal
- Record books are to be completed for each animal being shown

Step 3: Submit a Livestock Funding Program Form (if applicable).

4-H Members and their parents/guardians will be eligible to receive from The Youth Fair up to \$2,500 per market steer, \$450 per market hog, or \$400 per lamb per student. Read Livestock Funding Program documents for more details.

Parents of the 4-H member must read and complete the following Livestock Funding Program Forms digitally and sign the form by hand:

- **LIVESTOCK FUNDING FORM** (*download, sign, and submit*)

Once forms are completed, a check will be issued to the Broward County 4-H Association and be available for use immediately upon deposit. Youth will be responsible for tracking the finances of their animal in the within their record book.

Step 4: Receive Ethics Training and Attend Animal Seminar (If applicable).

The 4-H member is responsible for attending an Animal Seminar provided by the Miami Youth Fair.

The 4-H member is responsible for receiving ethics training. Students are required to attend the mandatory Animal Ethics Workshop. Entry Forms must include your ETHICS NUMBER.

Step 5: Submit Entry Forms

Entry Forms MUST be written digitally. No handwritten entries will be accepted

2025 Entry Forms:

- HORTICULTURE **ENTRY FORM** - *Upload to 4-H Online by January 14, 2025*
- FAIRY GARDEN Division 23 (No entry form needed. Select registration type below) - Upload to 4-H Online by January 14, 2025
- MARKET HOG SHOW **ENTRY FORM** – *Upload to 4-H Online by **October 30**, 2024*
- YOUTH LAMB SHOW **ENTRY FORM** – *Upload to 4-H Online by **October 30**, 2024*
- YOUTH MARKET STEER SHOW **ENTRY FORM** – *Upload to 4-H Online by **October 30**, 2024*
- YOUTH CAVY SHOW **ENTRY FORM** - *Upload to 4-H Online by January 14, 2025*
- YOUTH POULTRY SHOW **ENTRY FORM** - *Upload to 4-H Online by January 14, 2025*
- YOUTH RABBIT SHOW **ENTRY FORM** - *Upload to 4-H Online by January 14, 2025*

Registration Types	
Horticulture Exhibits - \$0.00	Deadline: 1/15/2025
Youth Cavy Show - \$0.00	Deadline: 1/15/2025

Youth Market Hog Show
and Sale - **\$0.00**

Deadline: 10/31/2024

Youth Market Lamb Show
and Sale - **\$0.00**

Deadline: 10/31/2024

Youth Market Steer Show
and Sale - **\$0.00**

Deadline: 10/31/2024

Youth Poultry Show -
\$0.00

Deadline: 1/15/2025

Youth Rabbit Show -
\$0.00

Deadline: 1/15/2025

Fairy Garden - **\$0.00**

Deadline: 1/15/2025