

# Emerald Gala 2025 FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES



### ABOUT KENTUCKY 4-H AND THE KENTUCKY 4-H FOUNDATION

Kentucky 4-H Youth Development is a community of young people who are being empowered to reach their full potential by developing the skills necessary to succeed in today's global society. 4-H believes in the power of young people and that every child has the potential to be an active, engaged member of their community.

With a presence in all 120 counties, 4-H reaches kids in every corner of the Commonwealth - from urban neighborhoods to suburban schoolyards to rural farming communities. Kentucky 4-H programs focus on four key concepts that direct all programs - belonging, independence, mastery, and generosity. In addition to engaging program material, 4-H provides youth a network of 230 youth development professionals, over 16,000 adult and youth volunteers, as well as, countless mentors and community partners who provide youth the support they need to be leaders in their communities now and in the future. In 2024, over 202,000 youth participated in 4-H programs.

The Kentucky 4-H Foundation is an independent 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to funding youth development opportunities for Kentucky 4-H youth. The Foundation is a partner of the University of Kentucky Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment and the Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service, 4-H Youth Development.

### ABOUT THE EMERALD GALA: SATURDAY APRIL 12, 2025

The Emerald Gala is the Foundation's premier fundraising and recognition event. Last year's event generated nearly \$100,000 to support the Commonwealth's greatest assets for youth – 4-H Youth Development Programs. Additionally, this event seeks to showcase the outstanding accomplishments of Kentucky 4-H'ers and celebrate the year's top 4-H youth honorees - Emerald Award Winners.

The highest honor in Kentucky 4-H's Achievement Program, the Emerald Award, is presented annually to four 4-H'ers chosen following a rigorous application and interview process. In addition to their interview, participants are judged based on their accomplishments across five categories: leadership, citizenship,



2024 Emerald Award Winners

communications/marketing, community service, and participation. The Gala is an opportunity to recognize Kentucky's most outstanding 4-H'ers and provide another incentive for 4-H'ers who have their eyes set on this prestigious award.

Additionally, the honorary Emerald Award is presented to an adult who has had a significant impact on their community and Kentucky 4-H. Past recipients include Steve Wilson (21c, Hermitage Farm), David Wallace (Heritage Bank), Paul Hall (Paul Hall & Associates), Pam Larson (Aflac), Melanie W. Kelley (Attorney), and Keith Rogers (Kentucky Department of Agriculture)

# ABOUT OUR HOST: THE KENTUCKY CASTLE

The Kentucky Castle is truly a unique property that draws many to experience its architectural beauty, mystery, and landscape. This 110-acre estate is located just outside of Lexington in Versailles, Kentucky. It is home to a beautiful working farm, where many of the delicious foods served in their restaurant are grown. The Kentucky Castle combines true elegance with southern hospitality to provide a wonderful evening for the Kentucky 4-H Foundation's Emerald Gala.

## ABOUT OUR EMERALD SPONSOR: KISSEL ENTERTAINMENT

In 1932 Russel and Ralph Kissel started a pony ride business offering rides to children at Coney Island. The amusement park was located on the banks of the Ohio River near Cincinnati. Profits soared and soon the brothers began their own amusement park along with a traveling carnival. As the two families grew, many attractions were added, but the brothers always maintained the high level of quality that they were known for in the Queen City. In 2005, a new vision of the family business began, and the show began its transformation into a major midway provider. At the helm stood R.A. Kissel along with his wife, Tammy, and the metamorphosis began. Older dated equipment was sold off and new equipment was purchased. Updated safety protocols were implemented, and the route was expanded to a regional footprint.

Heading into 2020, the newly branded Kissel Entertainment saw the most exciting changes yet. R.A. and Tammy's daughters, Savannah and Madison Kissel along with their spouses catapulted the company to a monumental level. Teaming up with nationally recognized partners and fairs across the country, Kissel Entertainment leads the industry in fresh ideas and midway concepts boasting over 55 rides and attractions, a midway beautification program, and a traveling school. The possibilities are endless.

### SPONSORSHIP I FVFI S

# **EXCLUSIVE EMERALD SPONSOR (Kissel Entertainment)**

- Logo prominently displayed throughout the Gala
- 16 premium tickets with name/logo on display
- Full page ad in event program with preferred placement
- Recognized as Emerald Sponsor in all promotional materials and throughout Gala
- Logo on Virtual Auction site and included in promotional videos
- Social media posts highlighting sponsorship
- Early VIP access to cocktail reception
- Feature article in Foundation newsletter
- Sponsorship video to be used across social media

# GOLD SPONSOR - \$15,000

- 16 premium tickets with name/logo on display
- Full page ad in event program
- Recognized as Gold Sponsor in promotional materials and throughout the Gala
- Logo on Virtual Auction site and included in promotional videos
- Social media post announcing sponsorship
- Early VIP access to cocktail reception

# SILVER SPONSOR - \$10,000

- 8 premium tickets with name/logo on display
- Full page ad in event program
- Recognized as Silver Sponsor in promotional materials and throughout the Gala
- Logo on Virtual Auction site and included in promotional videos
- Social media post announcing sponsorship
- Early VIP access to cocktail reception

# **BRONZE SPONSOR - \$5,000**

- 8 tickets with name/logo on display
- Half page ad in event program
- Recognized as Bronze Sponsor in promotional materials and throughout the Gala
- Logo on Virtual Auction site and included in promotional videos

# FRIEND SPONSOR - \$2,500

- Recognized as Friend Sponsor in promotional materials and throughout the Gala
- Logo on Virtual Auction site and included in promotional videos
- 8 tickets with name/logo on display

# CLOVER SPONSOR - \$1,000

- Recognized as Clover Sponsor during the Gala
- 4 tickets

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