2017 Nebraska State Fair 4-H Culinary Challenge Participants:

Congratulations on entering the Nebraska 4-H Culinary Challenge. We are excited about seeing your table setting on Saturday, August 26 at the 2017 Nebraska State Fair. This letter provides you with information to help prepare for the state event and your fair pass and an unloading pass.

**Contest Location:** The contest will be held in the area of presentation stages in the 4-H and FFA Exhibit Hall on the State Fairgrounds in Grand Island. The building will be open from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. daily.

**Unloading Pass:** There is no special parking for 4-H presenters; however, this year you will receive an unloading pass that allows you to enter Gate 5 (northwest side of the 4-H/FFA Exhibit Building). You may leave your car in this area for a maximum of 30 minutes. This is not a parking area, just an unloading area. Vehicles will be towed if left longer than 30 minutes. You must move your vehicle immediately and then return after your foods event to pick-up your supplies. You cannot park there while giving your presentation. PLEASE, do not abuse this privilege so we can continue to offer this convenience to you.

**Temporary Storage Room:** If you are needing a temporary storage space or refrigeration, go to the south entrance of the 4-H/FFA Exhibit Hall, turn left and look for the 4-H Office sign. It will be the second door from the left.

**Equipment Provided:** All equipment needed for your foods event should be brought with you. We will have additional extension cords to assure that your equipment can reach a power source. You will have access to a microwave in a preparation area close to the event. Also, remember to pack anything you might need to get ready for and clean-up after your event.

**Schedule:** Please report to check-in prior to your scheduled foods event time. This will allow you time to set up and settle in.

**Presenters ONLY:** Due to limited space, only foods event participants will be permitted in the preparation room. No relatives or friends, please! Only the presenter and contest officials may move materials onto the event judging area.

**Attire:** Participants may choose to dress in appropriate clothing, costume, or accessories relevant to their theme. REMEMBER: a 4-H Chevron or 4-H emblem must be visible on your clothing.

**Challenge Ingredient/Item:** Each team should incorporate the challenge ingredient into one of the items on their menu. The 2017 challenge ingredient is dry beans!

**Food Safety:** Special considerations should be assumed to assure that all foods safety requirements have been followed when preparing and attending this event. Please follow USDA Food Safety guidelines. [http://1.usa.gov/1D5Epga](http://1.usa.gov/1D5Epga)

**Results:** Team members will receive either purple, blue, red or white State Fair ribbons. Medals will be awarded to first and second, place teams in each age division. All participants will be receive results with their ribbons in county packets at the conclusion of the Nebraska State Fair. Results will be posted following the completion of the contest.

Again, congratulations, and we look forward to seeing you at the 2017 Nebraska State Fair 4-H Culinary Challenge.

Sincerely,
Amy Peterson, Cami Wells and Brenda Aufdenkamp
Nebraska State Fair 4-H Culinary Challenge Superintendents