EXPERIENCE Leadership - 4-H Style!

LEADERSHIP LIVE

December 10, 2012
7:00 pm to 8:30 pm

Expand your leadership abilities through interacting with 4-H leaders and former 4-H members! Hear how to improve your leadership skills and strengthen them for the future!

Leadership LIVE is open to all YOUTH, PARENTS, VOLUNTEERS, and EXTENSION AGENTS!

To Participate, click the link on the Texas 4-H website at:
texas4-h.tamu.edu

Want to Interact with the Speakers?
Tweet your questions & comments through Twitter using hash tag #leadershiplive4h & @texas4h

Register for FREE today at: texas4-h.tamu.edu/leadershiplive
Texas 4-H Opportunity Scholarship
Applications Available On-Line
Toby Lepley, t-lepley@tamu.edu
The 2013 Texas 4-H Opportunity Scholarship application for all 4-H seniors are now available on the Texas 4-H website. The Texas 4-H Opportunity Scholarship Program offers four different types of scholarship for either high school seniors or former 4-H members. Scholarships available are:

- Baccalaureate scholarships for those high school seniors entering college/university to acquire a four year degree.
- Technical scholarship for youth not wanting a four year degree, but a technical training certificate through a junior college or a accredited trade school.
- Courageous Heart scholarship for 4-H members who have experienced major obstacles that have altered their lifestyles related to home, school, or medical but have remained active in 4-H and in their school accomplishments.
- Collegiate Scholarship for former 4-H members that have been in college for at least one year and have completed at least 30 hours of college course work. Other requirements related to GPA are also required to apply.

The scholarship applications as well as instructions and examples are provided on the Texas 4-H and Youth Development website. Please make sure that you download and review all pieces of information prior to completing the application.

Each county will determine their own county deadline for the application to be submitted. Interviews for the scholarships will be held on May 10-12, 2013 in Austin, Texas. Awarding will take place on Monday, June 10, 2013 at Texas 4-H Roundup in College Station. To be considered and awarded any of the Texas 4-H Opportunity scholarships an applicant must participate in all aspects of the program.

4-H Day At The Capitol
Toby Lepley, t-lepley@tamu.edu
ALL 4-H members, parents, and County Extension Agents are invited to join Texas 4-H at the 4-H Day at the Capitol on Wednesday, February 6, 2013 in Austin, Texas. This event will be a day filled with 4-H being recognized in both the House of Representatives and Senate Chambers. In the afternoon, spend some time with your legislators and let them know about the great things 4-H is doing in your community.

Registration is $20.00 per person and is open on 4-H CONNECT from Monday, December 17, 2012 and will close January 18, 2013. Registration will include a t-shirt, registration materials, approved tokens of appreciation for members to present to legislators, and insurance for the event. Lunch will be on your own. When you register, be prepared to provide the names of both your House of Representative member and your Senator who will be representing you in the 2013 Legislative Session. A new feature to assist with last minute schedule changes from the legislative offices will be a text messaging system. If you would like to receive these notices, please sign up during your registration.
Texas 4-H Program Support Grants
Jana Barrett, jcbarrrett@ag.tamu.edu

Does your 4-H club or group need financial support with a special project or initiative? If so, the Texas 4-H Friends and Alumni Association and the Texas 4-H Youth Development Foundation encourage you to explore the Texas 4-H Program Support Grant Program. These $500 grants are due by December 15th to the Texas 4-H Foundation Office via e-mail or fax. Twelve grants will be awarded in January and the funds must be used within the year, so you will have time to implement your project/initiative. Grants can be used in the following areas:

- **Strengthening clubs** - Utilizing the knowledge of the human growth and development process to create environments that help youth reach their full potential. This will be done through the development of youth and adult leadership programs, focusing on both young youth as well as high school age students and the development of climate-friendly programs (ie PULSE, WAT, Yea 4-H, Wildlife & Fisheries, Environmental Education, etc).
- **Expanding Outreach Efforts** - Provide an introduction to the 4-H program through activities that reflect current youth trends and interest. Programs that provide networking opportunities for youth to be involved in special interest groups and provide outreach programs within the school systems targeted at specific grade levels.
- **Marketing and Technology** - Utilize technology to reach new audiences and market the 4-H program within your community to attract a diverse audience. Providing opportunities for members to be interactive through technology such as GPS and other multimedia activities.
- **Projects and Opportunities** - Development of support materials and learning opportunities targeted to project areas of interest to youth.
- **Engaging Volunteers** - Volunteer training opportunities and orientation programs which engage volunteers. Development of short-term volunteer opportunities along with long-term. Increased training and resources to help volunteers understand their roles and responsibilities.
- **Program Development** - Planning, implementing and evaluating programs that achieve youth development outcomes. Facilitating the program development process through county 4-H programs.

If your club/group is interested in applying for a grant, email Mrs. Jana Barrett at jcbarrrett@ag.tamu.edu and request additional details as well as the application.

**Healthy Lifestyles Invitational**
Courtney Dodd, cfdodd@ag.tamu.edu

The classes and resources for the 2013 4-H Healthy Lifestyles Invitational Contest are now available at: http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/projects/healthy_lifestyles/index.php. Previous contest classes are also posted on the website. The contest is held during Texas 4-H Roundup and is open to intermediate and senior 4-H members. Youth may compete as teams or individuals.

**Tweet Up on 4-H Scholarships and Financial Aid!**
The Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program will host its third “Tweet-Up” on Twitter on January 10, 2013 from 7 pm to 8:30 pm. This “tweet-up” will use twitter and join to the conversation, just tag each of your post with the hash tag of #TX4HCONVO. Using this hash tag as your post will then let everyone know your questions and thoughts and we can respond back. This will be your last chance before scholarships are due to ask questions and hear from the experts.

**2013 4-H Volunteer Conference**
Courtney Dodd, cfdodd@ag.tamu.edu

The Texas 4-H & Youth Development Program is pleased to announce plans for the 2013 4-H Volunteer Conference! Mark your calendars – and share the date with others – for July 12th – 14th in Plano, Texas. The conference will offer another pre-conference workshop on the afternoon of Friday, July 12th, with the conference officially kicking off that evening. Saturday and Sunday will be filled with a variety of educational workshops. As conference plans are finalized and details are set, more information will be provided on the volunteer conference webpage: http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/volunteer_conference.

**4-H Recipe Rally**
Courtney Dodd, cfdodd@ag.tamu.edu

Information on the 2013 4-H Recipe Rally is now posted online. The contest is open to intermediates and seniors, with the top three in each age division invited to participate in the 2013 Texas 4-H Roundup. The theme for the 2013 contest is “Dairy.” Entry deadline is February 1, 2013. More information is available at: http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/healthy_lifestyles.

**Beekeeping Essay Contest**
Kyle Merten, kmerten@ag.tamu.edu

The Beekeeping Essay Contest is sponsored by the The Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees, Inc. For over 50 years, the American Beekeeping Federation has been serving the needs of the U.S. beekeeper. Any youth interested in participating in the contest must follow the instructions for the Texas selection process. Each State Winner, including the national winners, receives an appropriate book about honey bees, beekeeping, or honey. Deadline for all submissions to the the State 4-H Office is January 13, 2013. For more information please visit the following website http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/project_entomology/beekeeping.

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4-H Quilt Challenge Contest and Community Service Project
Angela McCorkle, armccorkle@ag.tamu.edu

The 4-H Quilt Challenge has a new look! We are proud to announce the changes to the statewide program will allow more youth to be involved and participate. It is now the 4-H Quilt Challenge Contest and Community Service Project. Specific rules and guidelines will be available on Oct. 16th at: http://fcs.tamu.edu/clothing/4h/index.php.

The Quilt Challenge contest will focus on the creation of youthful quilts for Project Linus or adult patriotic quilts for our service men and women through the Quilts of Valor program. All quilts to be judged must be registered on 4-H Connect by April 15, 2013 and the quilt delivered by the May 1, 2013 deadline. Quilts will be judged and photographed with winners posted online. Following judging quilts will be returned to the participants to be donated to one of the organizations listed above.

The community service portion of the Quilt Challenge will focus on the creation and donation of blankets, afghans and quilts to either Project Linus or a local charity selected by the individual or group. This includes fleece blankets, quilted blankets (not to be judged), and knitted or crocheted afghans. These blankets will not be judged. An on-line site will be provided for individuals and clubs to report their local donations. Our goal is to donate 254 blankets to charity before Roundup 2013. For more information go to: http://fcs.tamu.edu/clothing/4h/index.php

Sequor Youth Development Initiative Conference For Youth Development Professionals
Tori Schwarzlose, toeho@neo.tamu.edu

The Sequor Youth Development Initiative (ydi.tamu.edu) is excited to share information about the upcoming 4th Annual Sequor YDI Conference. The event is scheduled for April 10th – 11th, 2013 with a Preconference training event on April 9th at the Camp Allen Resort and Conference Center. The goal of the Conference is to connect youth development research to practitioners utilizing interactive presentation methods. Applications to present at the Conference as well as registration rates can be found on the home page of our website.

We have confirmed Mr. Shawn Petty, the Technical Assistance Manager for Edvance Research, Inc., as the speaker for the Preconference training session on April 9th. He will present on the topic of WINNING with Web 2.0! which highlights ways that programs can use technology in program design and recruitment. Also, the keynote speaker for April 10th will be Dr. Mat Duerden who will present on the topic of “Seven Strategies for Maximizing the Impact of Youth Development Programs”.

Please feel free to contact Tori Schwarzlose at ydi@ag.tamu.edu with any questions you may have.

The Texas 4-H Friends & Alumni Association is here to assist all 254 Counties across Texas with raising funds for their local 4-H programs. All your county has to have are 4-H Alumni and Friends of 4-H within your county lines to be a part of this new fund raising endeavor!!

Beginning August 15 - May 31, 2013, the Texas 4-H Friends & Alumni Association will be hosting "Roundup Former 4-H'ers and Supporters Across Texas" membership drive. A significant portion of the funds raised through this campaign will be returned to the local 4-H Club or County 4-H Program by the Friends and Alumni Association.

Recruitment materials will be made available on the Texas 4-H Friends & Alumni website or you can email Jana Barrett to have them sent to you direct. The membership drive materials will include talking points about the efforts of the Association, a membership information flyer and F&A Membership recruitment forms.

The County and/or local 4-H Club portion of Memberships sold will be as follows:
~ Lifetime Membership ($50 donated to County and/or Club)
~ Annual Membership ($10 donated to County and/or Club)
~ Collegiate Membership ($5 donated to County and/or Club)

The individual 4-H member recruiting “F&A Memberships” will be allowed to designate their portion of the funds to their specific local 4-H club (subject to verification of club charter by the State 4-H office and notification to the county), their local County 4-H Program, or split the funds between both their Club and their County 4-H Program.

The 4-H membership recruiter will receive credit for both new and current members. If current members “join” within this time, their membership renewal date will be extended.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Jana Barrett at 979-845-1213 or jbarrett@ag.tamu.edu.

2013 Clothing and Textiles Advisory Board Applications are Now Being Accepted
Angela McCorkle, armccorkle@ag.tamu.edu

4-H members, volunteers and county Extension Agents are invited to submit an application to serve on the 4-H Clothing and Textiles Advisory Board. The board provides youth and adults an opportunity to help guide and expand the 4-H Clothing and Textiles program. Applications will be accepted until December 15, 2012 and must be accompanied by a letter of support.

The application and more information is available at http://fcs.tamu.edu/clothing/4h/index.php.
Texas Proud of Texas Agriculture Contest at HLSR

Livestock Show and Rodeo
Amy Dromgoole, aldromgoole@agnet.tamu.edu

Come join Texas 4-H on March 6, 2013 for the Third Annual Texas Agriculture Product Identification Contest! This invitational contest is open to the first 100 teams to register and will test your knowledge of agriculture products grown in Texas! Students between the ages of 9 and 18 as of August 31, 2012 are eligible. There is also a public school division for non-4-H members. Registration deadline is Saturday January 5, 2013. There will be no walk up registration as in years past.

Complete rules for the contest can be found here: www.hlsr.com/Portals/0/Downloads/ExhibitorContestant/LivestockShow/EntryForms/2013FinalAGProductID.pdf Entry forms and accompanying forms can be downloaded at www.rodeohouston.com. Forms with missing information will be considered incomplete entries and will not be accepted.

Please contact Amy Dromgoole at 979.845.6533 or aldromgoole@agnet.tamu.edu for more information.

Georgetown SOMK Meeting
Jolie Durand, jadurand@ag.tamu.edu

Georgetown SOMK meeting 11/12/2012
On Monday, November 11th, 2012, the Georgetown Speak out for Military Kids/Youth Board came together at Forbes Middle School for their second meeting of the school year. Seventeen members were in attendance at this month’s meeting which had a few new faces, as well as four 4-Hers from the Georgetown 4-H Club to serve at a teen mentors. The group went over the basics of what Operation: Military Kids does, for the new attendees, and also went over how they could be a part of our mission to help those in the military and their kids. Operation: Military Kids encouraged the youth participants to ignite their imaginations to come up with ideas on how to implement their first donation drive of the school year during the spring semester. The whole group broke off into smaller groups and drafted out potential banners and flyers to put up around their school to promote the donation drive. Some of the youth were so excited to have a drive that they started to think of canned food drives or toy drives to hold during some of their fall sporting events at the middle school instead of waiting until the next SOMK meeting in January! After the group came back together, they were briefly re-introduced to the Purple Up! For Military Kids campaign which will be happening again on April 15th, 2013. The SOMK group will reconvene again in January and will continue to discuss Purple Up!, donation drives, what it means to be a part of the SOMK group, and more.
4-H Natural Resources Program Updates
Stay up to date on all your Texas 4-H Natural Resources Program information! The Shooting Sports project, Sportfishing project, Wildlife project, Wildlife Habitat Education Program (WHEP) project, Outdoor Challenge and more!

• Visit the Website: http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/natural
• For detailed project area and event information, event rules, and event procedures, please visit our project area webpages via the “Natural Resources Program Links” box at upper right of the Natural Resources Program home page. Project area pages include: “Shooting Sports Website” and a “Shooting Sports Events & Event Results” page, “Outdoor Challenge Website”, “Wildlife Website”, “Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Program (WHEP) Website”, and “Sportfishing Website”.
• Look at the Calendar: Share your 4-H Natural Resources related events and see State 4-H Natural Resources Program events and other invitational events. Follow the links from the Natural Resources Program home page to the calendar and the calendar sharing instructions (how to post your own events). Note: to see the calendar in a list view rather than by week or month, click “Agenda” in the upper right corner of the calendar screen.
• Read the Blog: http://tx4hnaturalresources.blogspot.com/ Updates and new information are posted here frequently, and are often available before updates to our website are made! Go to the blog to sign up to receive an email anytime an update is posted on the blog!
• Connect with us via our Facebook Page: http://www.facebook.com/tx4hnaturalresources “Like” us for updates!
• Have questions? Email us at: tx4hnaturalresources@tamu.edu

2012-2013 Important Rules & Procedures, Event Synopsis, and Tentative Schedule of Events
Welcome to the 2012-2013 4-H year! We’ve created a comprehensive document to help you with all the basics you will need to know for 2012-2013 4-H Natural Resources Program events and activities. In it you will find: overviews of Important Rules & Procedures, brief descriptions of many of the events and activities that the Texas 4-H Natural Resources Program has to offer, and a Schedule of Events by month. Please note in the Schedule that all dates are subject to change and some dates/locations are still being finalized. As details are finalized updates will be announced and posted in this document, on the blog, on Facebook, and on the website! Check the date in the upper left corner to ensure you are using the most current version of this document! You can find links to the document on the blog, on Facebook, and on the website!

4-H Archery Camp—Registration Closes December 16, 2012
Texas 4-H Archery Camp will be held at the Texas 4-H Center in Brownwood on January 18-20, 2013. This camp is open to 4-H members age 9 to 18 wanting to improve their shooting knowledge and skills in recurve and compound archery, and certified 4-H archery coaches desiring to learn more about coaching archery, archery equipment, archery games, and improved shooting skills. Youth participants should have beginning or intermediate experience in shooting archery and understand the basic archery safety and range rules, and whistle commands. Adult and youth participants must provide their own equipment. Registration on 4-H Connect will be open November 12-December 16, 2012. Registration is limited to the first 30 youth registrants and the first 10 adult coaches and will be $150 per participant.

Hunting & Wildlife Leader Training
One design of this training is to prepare an Adult Volunteer Leader to coach youth in the Hunting & Wildlife Shooting Sports discipline and certify Adult Volunteer Leaders as coaches to regularly instruct their local youth and coach them in Hunting & Wildlife events sponsored by 4-H. The training is also designed for any Adult Volunteer Leader wishing to work with their local youth in a hunting or wildlife project or a combination of the two outside of Shooting Sports. Training will be held February 2-3, 2013 in College Station, TX. Registration for this event will be open December 1-30, 2012 on 4-H Connect and will be $50 per participant, No Charge for Extension Employees. More information can be found in the 2012-2013 Important Rules & Procedures, Event Synopsis, and Tentative Schedule of Events document available on our blog.

Trouble Registering??
Remember--for all Texas 4-H Natural Resources Program Events--if you wish to attend but are having trouble registering for an event or are experiencing circumstances that make you unable to get registered prior to the deadline, don’t wait! Contact our office NOW (prior to the deadline) to discuss possible alternate registration arrangements! Email us at: tx4hnaturalresources@tamu.edu and we’ll be happy to help!

Traveling Around?
Save 15% for being a 4-H supporter at LaQuinta
LaQuinta Inns & Suites is proud to be a part of an Alliance Agreement with the Texas 4-H Program. Supporters can enjoy a 15% discount on any of the 700 plus locations. Visit LQ.com (code TX4H) or call 800-SLEEPS. Ask for the “TX4H Youth Discount.”
Dr. Boleman is running his first ever half marathon in College Station, Texas on December 9th. Over the last eight months, he has run over 500 miles, but he has never ran 13.1 miles at one time. To put it mildly, he is looking for all the help he can get him to the finish line. So, to help motivate him and to support the Texas 4-H Program, he is asking for any donations to help motivate him to get to the finish line. All proceeds will go to the Texas 4-H Foundation and support the 2013 Texas 4-H Roundup in College Station.

For those curious the exact route Dr. Boleman will be running, visit http://bcsmarathon.com/. Dr. Boleman will follow the red path starting at Post Oak Mall til it meets the blue, which is where those doing the 1/2 marathon will split off from the marathon runners.

WHAT BETTER WAY TO PROMOTE ONE OF THE 4-H’S – HEALTH
Looking for a Holiday Season Community Service Project?  
Join 4-H in Helping Operation Christmas Child

The National 4-H Program has a new partnership with Operation Christmas Child in an effort to provide a worthy community service to for 4-H youth across America to participate in during the Holiday Season.  4-H members, and clubs, who are looking for a community service project are encouraged to explore the Operation Christmas Child website at: http://www.samaritanspurse.org/index.php/OCC/ to see if their club and/or members would like to participate.

The website has some great resources to help in making the christmas boxes and getting them shipped to youth across the world.  If you use the website to print your labels, you can actually track your box and discover the destination.

Thank You
Texas 4-H!

Below are the preliminary numbers which have been submitted so far for the 2012 one day 4-H event held in October.  Words cannot express the appreciation and admiration we have for the 4-H members, adults, and others that helped make this day such a great day for our state!  THANK YOU!

- Number of Youth & Adults Involved: 15,018
- Number of People Reached/Served: 330,170
- Number of Hours Contributed: 46,371
- Value of Volunteer Hours: $1,015,988.61
- Number of Youth Recruited to Join 4-H: 257
- Pounds of Food Collected: 19,955
- Number of People Taught through Educational Programs: 111,212
- Number of Care Packets Assembled and Distributed: 9,813
- Value of Care Packets: $12,533
- Number of Miles of Beaches and Roads Cleaned: 117
- Amount of Money Raised for Other Groups/Causes: $34,831.99
- Amount of Money/In-Kind Donations received for projects: $47,157.45

“I think the thing that I am most touched by is seeing the relationships developing between the different generations in our community.  The young people and the older people connected and became united as a community and as friends.”
LEARN, LIVE, PLAY

For more than 30 years, the Texas 4-H Conference Center has been providing educational experiences for youth throughout the state. But, did you know the Center is also a full service conference center available for corporate, organization, agency, and family events. Come learn, live, and play in the center of Texas over looking Lake Brownwood. From a full service staff to various accommodations, the Texas 4-H Center is right for your next meeting or event.

TEEN RETREAT

4-H members, ages 13-19, will have an opportunity to hone their skills in several 4-H programming areas during the Teen Leadership Retreat set for January 4-6 at the Texas 4-H Conference Center on Lake Brownwood.

The Teen Leadership Retreat features 4-H Volunteers, 4-H Specialists and college professors conducting hands-on educational workshops with 4-H members. This year’s program will focus on increasing knowledge and skills in five areas; robotics, fitness challenge, dancing, bubbles in food and a veteran’s service project.

The retreat starts with registration at 7 p.m. January 6th, followed by general orientation at 9 p.m. and adult chaperone orientation at 9:30 p.m.

The January 5th activities start at 7:30 a.m., followed by a flag ceremony and breakfast, with the first of the day’s three general assemblies beginning at 9 a.m. The remainder of the day will be devoted to concurrent sessions featuring the five programming areas. The last event of the day will include a traditional 4-H dance.

While this is learning retreat, the main ingredient for the whole weekend is a sense of fun. Dr. Lance Kieth from West Texas A&M will host a leadership session and Dr. Leslie Thompson from Texas Tech University will be here to teach the bubbles in food program.

Each county sending 4-H youth to the retreat must provide adult chaperones for the weekend. Individual registration is $105 for youth and $70 for adult chaperones. The fees include two-nights lodging, four meals, snacks and program fees. Online registration is currently available through December 31 at http://texas4hcenter.tamu.edu.

For more information, contact Mark Carroll, Program Director at 325-784-5482, jmcarroll@ag.tamu.edu.

Upcoming Events!

LODGING

Located on Lake Brownwood in central Texas, the Texas 4-H Center offers various lodging experiences from the a lodge with 24 hotel-style rooms to ten dorms that can sleep up to 26 people per dorm. Located lakeside is the pavilion which includes an industrial kitchen, communal lodging for up to 24, and separate male/female restrooms.

FACILITIES

From sitting out under the Texas stars at night to hosting your formal event in the auditorium, the Texas 4-H Conference Center has meeting and social facilities for any type of gathering. Meeting facilities range from an auditorium that seats 300 lecture style to one of six other meeting/conference rooms for those smaller events. The Center offers recreation activities such as swimming pool, ROPES course, hiking trails, gun range, and access to Lake Brownwood.

FOOD & CATERING

From casual to formal, full-service dining center is available. The Texas 4-H Center offers several menu options and is able to accommodate special diets, if needed. Let our trained staff help you select the menu perfectly suited to your group.

TEXAS 4-H Conference Center
Send a photo representing you or your 4-H Experience; or honor a county Extension Agent or Volunteer. The photo will be permanently attached to the tile. All photo tiles will be encased in a frame, creating a ‘mural effect’, and displayed in a prominent place in the Conference Center. Each framed unit will have a separate “legend” describing each tile within that unit.

- $15.00 per tile
- JPEG image (640 X 480 pixel minimum size)
- Identify individuals in the photo
- Email to: Texas4-HCenter@ag.tamu.edu
- Or Mail to: Darlene Locke  
Texas 4-H Conference Center 
5600 FM 3021 
Brownwood TX 76801
- Methods of Payment: Cashier’s check - Visa - MasterCard
  Credit Card information should include:
  Credit Card Number – 3-digit security code from back of card – Billing Zip Code
4-H Night with Houston Rockets!

Come support your county 4-H program and watch as the Rockets take on the Dallas Mavericks! A portion of every ticket goes back to your county 4-H program. Every 4-H member will get to shoot a free throw on the Houston Rockets home court after the game!

Saturday, December 8th
7PM @ Toyota Center
Doors Open at 5:30PM

Order Your Tickets: By Calling: Joelle Hardin @ 713-758-7459
Fax registration form to: 713-758-7343
Email: joelleh@rocketball.com
Mail registration form to: Houston Rockets
ATTN: Joelle Hardin 1510 Polk St. Houston, TX, 77002

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Acct. # _____________________________ Exp. Date ____________

☐ Enclosed is a check or money order payable to Houston Rockets
1510 Polk St. Houston, TX 77002

*All tickets subject to availability and price changes. *Group Prices only available through the Houston Rockets Group Sales office. *Tickets ordered less than 10 business days before game will be held in Will Call.