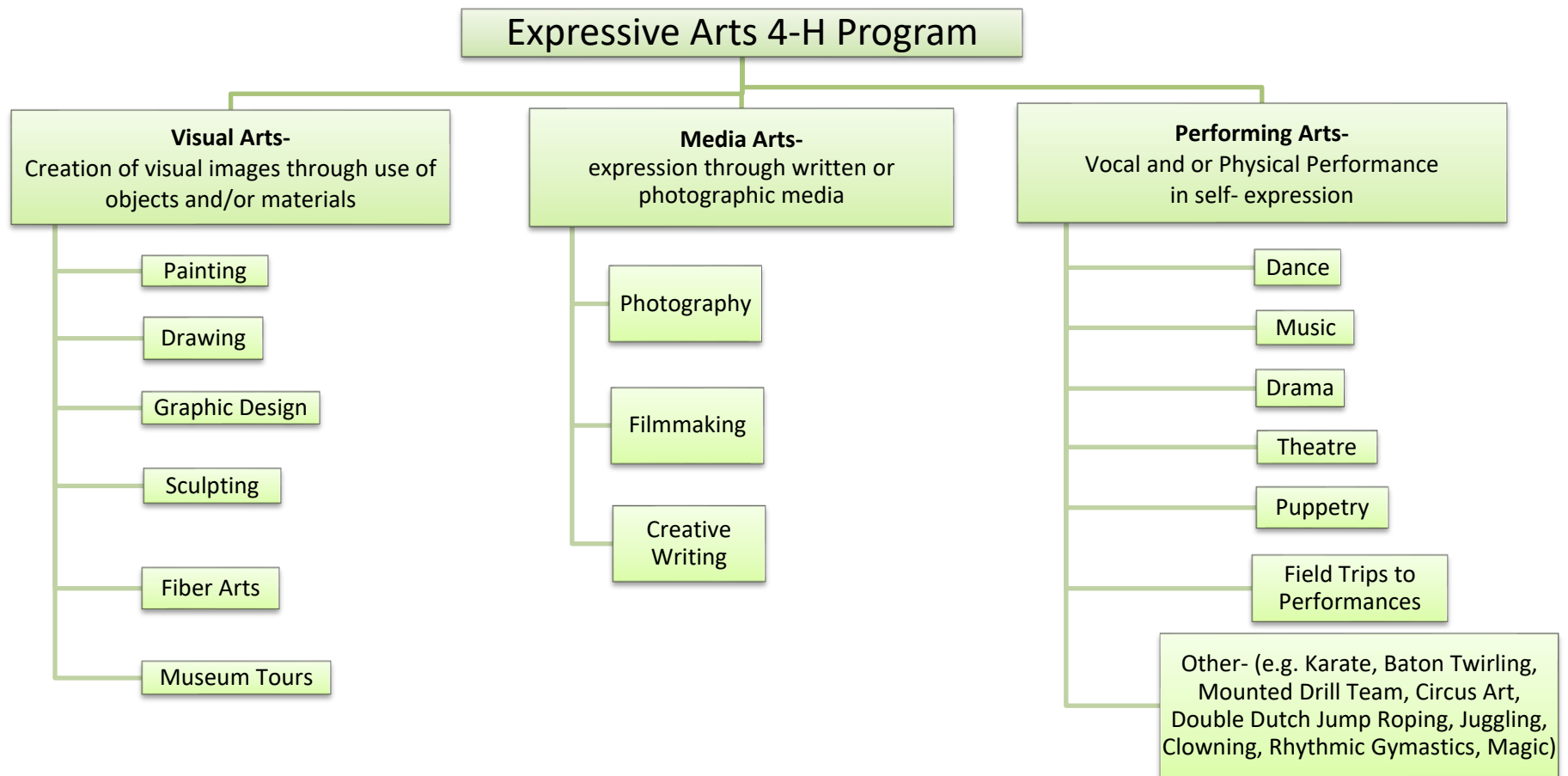


# Expressive Arts 4-H Program

Ellen Williams, Expressive Arts 4-H Agent

- The arts experience is beneficial to youth in and of itself due to its physical, mental, social, psychological and emotional benefits.
- The arts experience can also be integrated into the teaching of subject matter (for instance, role-playing for workforce preparation)
- No prior arts experience or training is necessary.
- Each youth can participate at his or her own level of interest and skill, for recreational and/or vocational purposes.
- Expressive Arts 4-H Activities are central to positive *life skill development*; through arts participation, youth develop such life skills as communication, self-esteem, decision making, leadership, goal setting, socialization, and responsible citizenship.





*Expressive Arts 4-H activities are also tailored to the needs of individual counties.*

# Expressive Arts in 4-H

## Delivery Modes

<i>Independent Project</i> –	<i>4-H Club</i> –	<i>School Enrichment</i> -	<i>Special Interest Programs in Schools and Community-Based Settings</i> –	<i>After School Program</i> –	<i>Day or Overnight Camps</i> –
Youth is mentored in an arts area by a volunteer or staff member (e.g., a painter assists youth in development of portfolio)	A club devoted to an arts project area, such as clogging or anime; or a club in which the arts are integrated into the club's activities, such as writing, art and photography for 4-H record books	Arts content is infused into the curriculum (e.g., bullying prevention addressed through Roleplaying for Real Life - improvisational theatre training to address social issues )	Offering arts programs in short or long term programs (e.g.. as part of county youth employment program, youth exposed to careers in Expressive Arts (e.g., set designer, dance therapist, graphic designer, music teacher)	Providing arts activities in programs conducted after school (e.g. short term hip hop dance class)	Camp can be totally devoted to expressive arts (e.g., weekend arts camp), or arts can be a part of the overall camp schedule (e.g., an arts talent showcase following last night's campfire)

# The Expressive Arts 4-H Program fulfills the 4-H National Mission Mandates

## S.E.T. (Science, Engineering and Technology)

- Concepts can be taught through expressive arts; for instance, the formation of a watershed taught through the use of visual media.
- The arts themselves involve science concepts; for instance, dance involves movement science and music theory involves mathematical science.

## Healthy Lifestyles

- Are promoted through the physical and mental health benefits of arts participation.
- The arts are a creative vehicle for delivering healthy lifestyle messages, such as promoting nutritional health through educational puppet shows.

## Citizenship/Civic Education

- In the process of bringing their art to the community, 4-Hers are promoting positive community development.
- Through the media of art, music, dance, theatre or writing, youth can deliver messages inviting the community to citizenship involvement and volunteerism.