KATIE ROSS

PERSONAL SUMMARY

A natural leader with strong organizational and planning skills. A talented communicator with extensive public speaking experience. An award-winning graphic designer and photographer with marketable life skills.

EDUCATION

Homeschool student – 4.63 GPA

National Homeschool Honors Society

Dual-enrollment student – Florida State College Jacksonville, 2023 - 2025

President's List - December 2024

Dual-enrollment student – University of Florida, 2025 - current

Anticipated Graduation - Spring 2027

CERTIFICATIONS

Junior Herpetologist

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Tree Hill Nature Center
Animal Care Assistant
Summer 2024

Animal Care & Protective Services
City Council Ambassador
September 2024 - September 2025

Florida Wildlife Federation
Legislative Advocacy Team
January - May 2025

Museum of Science and History
Naturalist Volunteer
Summer 2025

EMPLOYMENT

Pet-Rageous Pet Sitting
Pet Care Assistant
2023 - 2025

4-H LIFE SKILLS

Communication – 4-H has enabled me to hone my verbal and written skills. My first year, I participated in the Illustrated Talk contest at County Events. I tried Public Speaking the following year, and felt I had found my calling. I loved being at the podium! In 2024, the first time I was eligible to compete at 4-H University, I was proud to earn Second Place in the state Public Speaking contest. My goal is to win First Place and compete at Nationals. In the meantime, I use the skills I have developed through 4-H to engage in advocacy, presenting regularly to groups such as the Duval County Legislative Delegation, the Florida Legislature, and the Jacksonville City Council.

Leadership – Elected to every officer position in 4-H, I have served at the club level each year since becoming a member when I was 10. As soon as I was eligible to join my county's Teen Leadership Council, I became an officer at that level. My peers chose me to represent Duval County on the Northeast District Board in 2024, and I was soon elected Vice Chair of that body. It has been an honor to serve as a member of the Florida 4-H Executive Board for the past three years. And I was thriled to be appointed State Council Historian for the 2025-26 program year. Each position I have held has taught me something new about leadership, while demonstrating the value of every role.

Planning / Organizing – When my first 4-H club dissolved due to lack of interest, I worked to launch a new one. I crafted a five-year plan, developed a recruiting presentation, and hosted informational meetings. The Duval County 4-H Animal Ambassadors club has thrived since its inception in 2021. As an officer and committee chair at the club, county, and district levels, I have arranged successful community service projects, education programs, fundraisers, member events, and workshops. I am currently serving as Co-Chair for Florida 4-H Legislature – to be held in June 2026 – and am learning what it takes to coordinate a large scale 4-H event.

4-H ELECTED POSITIONS HELD

Historian – Rabbiteers Club, 2019-2020
Treasurer – Rabbiteers Club, 2020-2021

President – Animal Ambassadors 4-H Club, 2021-2022
Vice-President – Animal Ambassadors 4-H Club, 2022-2023
Reporter – Animal Ambassadors 4-H Club, 2023-2024
Sergeant-at-Arms – Animal Ambassadors 4-H Club, 2024-2025
Treasurer – Animal Ambassadors 4-H Club, 2025-2026
Vice-President – Animal Ambassadors 4-H Club, 2026-2027

Parliamentarian – Duval County Teen Leadership Council, 2022-2023
Treasurer – Duval County Teen Leadership Council, 2023-2024
Secretary – Duval County Teen Leadership Council, 2024-2025
President – Duval County Teen Leadership Council, 2025-2026
Parliamentarian – Duval County Teen Leadership Council, 2026-2027

Secretary – State Ways & Means Fundraising Subcommitee, 2023-2024

Vice Chair – Northeast District Board, 2024-2025

Historian – Florida 4-H State Council, 2025-2026

4-H RECOGNITION

- **Emerald Clover Award Recipient** – 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026
- **Gold Clover Award Recipient** – 2020
- **National 4-H Council's "Gallery of Greats" Digital Museum of Art Featured Member** – 2023
- **National 4-H Council's "This is 4-H" Social Media Campaign Featured Member** – 2023
- **Outstanding Duval County 4-H Member** – 2025
- **State Graphic Design Contest Winner** – 2022, 2023
- **State Holiday Card Contest Winner** – 2023
- **State Nature Poetry Contest, 2nd Place** – 2021, 2023
- **State Photography Contest Winner** – 2023, 2024
- **State Poultry Judging, 2nd Place Team** – 2022, 2023
- **State Poultry Judging, Highest Individual Score** – 2022, 2023
- **State Public Speaking Contest, 2nd Place** – 2024

ADDITIONAL HONORS

- **American Citizenship Award** – 2026
- **Best in Class - Youth Photography, Greater Jacksonville Agricultural Fair** – 2021, 2022, 2024, 2025
- **Best of Show - Youth Digital Arts & Graphic Design, Florida State Fair** – 2023, 2025
- **Best of Show - Youth Photography, Florida State Fair** – 2022, 2023
- ***Florida Country & Coast Magazine* - Picture Perfect Feature** – 2022, 2024
- **Florida Envirothon, First Place Team** – 2025
- **Lakewood Presbyterian Church Youth Leadership Council** – 2023 - 2025
- **National Community Service Ambassador Award** – 2026
- **National Distinguished Student Leadership Award** – 2026

4-H CLUB MEMBERSHIP

- **Alachua County 4-H Envirothon Team** – 2024-2025
- **Duval County 4-H Animal Ambassadors** – 2021 - 2026
- **Duval County 4-H Rabbiteers** – 2019 - 2021
- **Duval County 4-H Teen Leadership Council** – 2022 - 2026
- **Florida 4-H Leap Into Legislature** – 2023 - 2024, 2025-2026

4-H EVENTS ATTENDED

- **Florida 4-H iLEAD** – 2023, 2026
- **Florida 4-H Legislature** – 2024, 2025, 2026
- **Florida 4-H University** – 2024, 2025, 2026
- **Ignite by 4-H** – 2026
- **National 4-H Congress** – 2025
- **Southern Region Teen Leadership Conference** – 2024, 2025

4-H LEADERSHIP ROLES

- **Duval County 4-H My Government Day Chair** – 2025
- **Florida 4-H Ambassadors Committee** – 2024 - 2025
- **Florida 4-H Executive Board** – 2023 - 2026
- **Florida 4-H Executive Board Community Service Workshop Co-Chair** – 2025 - 2026
- **Florida 4-H Legislature Bill Editing Committee** – 2023 - 2025
- **Florida 4-H Legislature Co-Chair** – 2026
- **Florida 4-H Legislature Gold Party Leader, House** – 2025
- **Florida 4-H Legislature Government, Commerce & Transportation Committee Co-Chair, House** – 2024
- **Florida 4-H Legislature Planning Committee** – 2023 - 2025
- **Florida 4-H Legislature Speaker of the House** – 2026
- **Florida 4-H Northeast District Board** – 2024 - 2025
- **Florida 4-H State Council** – 2024 - 2026
- **Florida 4-H Ways & Means Committee** – 2023 - 2024

4-H WORKSHOPS TAUGHT

Black and White: How to Succeed with Monochrome Photography – Duval County 4-H, 2023

Flora and Fauna: Tips for Photographing Plants and Animals – Duval County 4-H, 2024

Florida's Venomous Snakes: And What to Do if You Encounter One – Duval County 4-H, 2024

Off With Their Heads: And Other Things to Avoid When Photographing People – Duval County 4-H, 2025

Photography Tips: It's Not the Equipment That Matters, But How Well You See – Duval County 4-H, 2021

Preparing for County Events: How to Make Memorable Photographs – Duval County 4-H, 2022

Virtual Statewide Officer Traning – Florida 4-H, 2025