



## 2020 Cass County 4-H Public Speaking Contest Guidelines and Registration

**Tuesday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 6:30 p.m.**

**Cass County Extension  
Office**

The 4-H Public Speaking Contest helps youth:

- develop skills for communicating about current issues to real audiences
- learn how to organize and prepare a speech
- develop speech delivery skills
- learn how to present themselves to others
- develop self-confidence

### Eligibility to compete:

- Youth must be currently enrolled in 4-H to participate in the Public Speaking contest
- Youth must be selected at county contest to be eligible to advance to the state contest
  - In both the speech and PSA categories, up to five contestants in the each Intermediate and Senior age divisions (a max of 10 youth are eligible to advance) will be selected to advance to the State Public Speaking Contest. Junior division winners are not eligible to compete at state contest.
- Youth in the Junior, Intermediate or Senior divisions may participate in both the Speech and PSA categories
- Participants must compete as individuals – no teams are allowed

## Speech

A good resource for 4-Hers to use when planning their speech is “The Guide to Making Great 4-H Speeches”

<https://4h.unl.edu/documents/guidetomakinggreatspeeches.pdf>

Speech Division	4-H Age (age on 12/31/19)	Type (Entertain, persuade, inform)	Length	Topic
Clover Kid	5 – 7	Non-competitive – poem, story, reading, etc.	30 sec. – 2 min.	Any subject
Junior	8 – 10	Original speech	1 – 3 min	4-H related
Intermediate	11- 13	Original speech	3 – 5 min	4-H related
Senior	14 – 18	Original speech	5 – 8 min	4-H related

- For junior, intermediate and senior divisions; all speeches must be original and include 4-H as the major component of the speech
- Clover Kids are allowed to give a simple speech that does not have to relate to 4-H. They may also recite a simple poem they have learned, the 4-H Pledge, etc. that is age appropriate
- 4-H public speakers may not use an old speech written by a sibling, other 4-H member, or anyone else.
- Small note cards are permitted but should not be directly read from
- Acknowledge the source of information used in the speech. For example, an article from a magazine may be used for reference, but should not be quoted directly unless you tell the audience your source
- Use of visual aids and props are not allowed
- Dress appropriately. Do not wear costumes or special effect clothing
- No team speeches are allowed
- See scoresheets for additional judging criteria: <https://4h.unl.edu/public-speaking>

## PSA

A good resource for 4-Hers to use when planning their PSA is “How to Prepare a 4-H Radio Public Service Announcement”

<https://4h.unl.edu/documents/PSA.pdf>

- All PSA’s are 60 seconds for each division
- Participants must incorporate the state theme for 2020 – “Inspire Kids to Do”
- All PSA’s must promote 4-H and include the following tagline within the last 10 seconds of the PSA: “Learn more about the Nebraska Extension 4-H Youth Development Program at 4h.unl.edu.” The tagline is included in the 60 second time limit
- PSA’s at the county level will be given in person, but a recording must be submitted for entries that advance to the regional level
- Sound effects and public domain music may be used. Copyrighted material is prohibited
- All PSA’s must be the original work of the presenter. Contestants may not use PSA’s written by other organizations
- No team PSA’s are allowed
- Radio PSA’s will be submitted electronically as a .wav or .mp3 audio format along with the registration form.
- See scoresheets for additional judging criteria: <https://4h.unl.edu/public-speaking>

## 2020 Cass County 4-H Public Speaking Contest

Tuesday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 6:30 p.m. at the Cass County Extension Office

Entry Form due to the Cass County Extension Office by May 15<sup>th</sup>

Outlines are not required for entry, but participants must bring an outline to turn in the day of contest  
Entry forms can be returned via mail – Nebraska Extension at Cass County; Attn: Lauren Stohlmann 8400

144<sup>th</sup> St. Suite 100 Weeping Water, NE 68463

Or email to Lauren at [lstohlmann2@unl.edu](mailto:lstohlmann2@unl.edu)

Youth in the Junior, Intermediate or Senior divisions may participate in both the Speech and PSA categories. See the complete contest rules on the previous pages.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ 4-H Age (as of 12/31/19): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Zipcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

### Speech

Speech Title: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Clover Kid (5 – 7)

\_\_\_\_\_ Junior (8 – 10)

\_\_\_\_\_ Intermediate (11 – 13)

\_\_\_\_\_ Senior (14 – 18)

### Public Service Announcement (PSA)

PSA Title: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Junior (8 – 10)

\_\_\_\_\_ Intermediate (11 – 13)

\_\_\_\_\_ Senior (14 – 18)