

Cuming County 4-H Communications Contest

Monday, April 15th, 2024 – 6:00 p.m.
West Point-Beemer Elementary School



Public Speaking & PSA Rules:

Junior Division - 4-H age 8-10 as of January 1. Length of speech is 1-3 minutes. Subject can be on any topic or be 4-H related. PSA should be 60 seconds in length; subject must be **"4-H is a Feeling"**. **NEW in 2024: Juniors are eligible for state competition.**

Intermediate Division - 4-H age 11-13 as of January 1. Length of speech is 3-5 minutes. Subject can be on any topic; however to be state eligible the speech must be 4-H related. PSA should be 60 seconds in length; subject must be **"4-H is a Feeling"**. The intermediate division is eligible for state competition.

Senior Division - 4-H age 14-18 as of January 1. Length of speech is 5-8 minutes. Subject can be on any topic; however to be state eligible the speech must be 4-H related. PSA should be 60 seconds in length; subject must be **"4-H is a Feeling"**. The senior division is eligible for state competition.

General Public Speaking Information:

All speeches must be written by the 4-H member who gives them. All 4-H public speakers may not use the old speech written by a sibling, another 4-H member, or anyone else. Youth must 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 the source. The use of visual aids and props is not allowed. Dress appropriately. Do not wear costumes or special effects clothing. No team speeches allowed.

How does the PSA Contest work?

For this contest participants may use manuscripts of their presentation. **Live presentation** will be made at the county contest. Contestants will sit behind the judge when making their presentation. This is to ensure that no judging is made on visual presentation. The contestant is judged only on content and oral presentation. Sound effects and/or background music will not be allowed at the County level; however, the participants who qualify to advance to the State Contest will have the option of using them. The theme for the Public Service Announcement (PSA) is **"4-H is a Feeling"**. All 4-H PSA's must include the following tag line within the last ten seconds of the PSA: "Learn more about the Nebraska Extension 4-H Youth Development Program at 4h.unl.edu".

Presentation Contest

An Illustrated Presentation is a live presentation with a formal talk where youth will use visual aids (such as props, posters, computer-based visuals, handouts, video, etc.) to show and tell others how to do something. The judge views the entire presentation and engages in a question-and-answer session following the presentation.

Divisions:

- ❖ Junior Division (age 8-10)
- ❖ Intermediate Division (age 11-13)
- ❖ Senior Division (age 14 -18)

Time Limits

- ❖ Junior Division – 3-5 minutes
- ❖ Intermediate & Senior Divisions – 6-8 minutes

Presentation Contest Rules:

- ❖ 4-H Presentations should include an introduction (the “why” portion of the topic), a body (the “show and tell” portion of the topic), and a conclusion/summary (the “what” portion of the topic).
- ❖ All 4-H Presentations topics should be related to what the 4-H youth is learning through 4-H educational experiences.
- ❖ An illustrated Presentation may be given by one (1) individual or a team of two (2) individuals. If team members are not in the same age division, they must compete in an age division of the oldest team member.
- ❖ Presenters using computer-based visuals may bring files on a USB drive that is PC formatted. Participants may also provide their own computer or other equipment as needed; however, participants must be able to connect their computers to an HDMI cord.
- ❖ Live animals may be used in the presentation. Presenters are responsible for all stalling arrangements, care, and handling of animals. Animals can only remain in the presentation area while the owner is present. ***(Talk with the Extension Office if wanting to bring live animal since our county contest is held on school property).***

Resources

- ❖ [Public Speaking, PSA, & Presentation Scoresheets](#)

Impromptu Speech

The Impromptu Speech competition gives youth the opportunity to write and present a speech around a 4-H-related topic that they select during the competition, where they are given 15 minutes to develop and prepare for their presentation. Judges evaluate the subject, organization, and delivery of the speech.

Divisions

- ❖ Junior Division (age 8-10) – 1 ½ minutes
- ❖ Intermediate Division (age 11-13) – 3 minutes
- ❖ Senior Division (age 14 -18) – 5 minutes

Rules

- ❖ Only individuals may compete in this contest. No team entries.
- ❖ On the day of the contest, youth will have a topic randomly selected for them. Youth will have no more than 15 minutes to develop a speech on their selected topic. They will then deliver the speech to judges and audience members. Examples of topics: My Day in 4-H, My Favorite 4-H Project, etc.

Resources

- ❖ [Impromptu Speech Scoresheet](#)

Video Communication

The video communication contest allows youth to create a multi-media video around a theme related to 4-H. Judges will be evaluating both the organization of information as well as the audio and video production.

Divisions

- ❖ Junior Division (age 8-10)
- ❖ Intermediate Division (age 11-13)
- ❖ Senior Division (age 14 -18)

Rules

- ❖ Length of videos is 60-90 seconds
- ❖ Only individuals may compete in this class. No team entries.
- ❖ Youth may use a phone, laptop, or tablet to create a multi-media piece around the theme: **4-H is a Feeling**
- ❖ Sound effects, public-domain music, and graphics can be used. Copyrighted materials may not be used.
- ❖ Videos may be submitted electronically as MP4 files along with registration form.

Resources

- ❖ [Video Communication Scoresheet](#)

Recognition & Awards

County Contest: All youth will receive ribbons. Champion and Reserve will be chosen in Public Speaking, PSA, and Presentations Contest.

Also at the county contest, we will announce the top five participants in the Intermediate and Senior age divisions who will be invited to showcase their talents at the Premier Communications Event in Lincoln which will be held on **Monday, June 17** (Presentations, Impromptu Speech) and **Tuesday, June 18, 2024** (Prepared Speech, PSA, Video Communications)