



# Knox County 4-H Public Speaking Contest

**Tuesday, April 6, at 6:00 p.m.**  
**Courthouse Annex Meeting Room in Center**



Get your speeches and PSAs ready!!! Individuals may participate in both the speech and PSA divisions of the public speaking contest. PSAs must be electronically submitted (emailed) to the office for the county contest.

The top five purple ribbon contestants in each of the intermediate and senior divisions of both speech and PSA categories will be eligible to represent Knox County at the State Public Speaking Contest on Wednesday, June 30, in Lincoln. Nebraska 4-H will no longer hold regional contests. **Guidelines are listed on the chart below for events eligible at the Knox County level. Speech and PSA rules and regulations are on the following page.**

Note: 4-H age is based on your age before January 1<sup>st</sup>.

| Division               | 4-H Age Guidelines before January 1st | Time Guideline | Special Guidelines  | Rewards at Knox County Contest  |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------|---|---|
| Clover Kids            | 5 - 7                                 | under 1 minute | May read a poem, story or speech on any topic.  | Knox County event only. Clover Kid Ribbon for each participant.   |
| Junior Speech          | 8 - 9                                 | 1 to 3 minutes | Original Speech with 4-H as the major component.  | Knox County event only. Ribbon given to each participant. Top purple receives a trophy. A \$50 scholarship to attend 4-H Camp.                              |
| Intermediate Speech    | ❖ 10 - 13                             | 3 to 5 minutes | Original Speech with 4-H as the major component.  | Ribbon given to each participant. Top purple receives a trophy. Top 5 purple ribbons eligible for State competition. A \$50 scholarship to attend 4-H Camp. |
| Senior Speech          | ❖ 14 - 18                             | 5 to 8 minutes | Original Speech with 4-H as the major component.  | Ribbon to each participant. Top purple receives a trophy. Top 5 purple ribbons eligible for State competition. A \$50 scholarship to attend 4-H Camp.       |
| Junior PSA             | 8 - 9                                 | 60 seconds     | Original PSA must promote 4-H (Theme - "Opportunity 4 All"), <b>include tag line</b> , and be general enough to be used anywhere in Nebraska. The PSA's must be submitted electronically using .wav or .mp3 audio formats. May use sound effects. | Knox County event only. Ribbon given to each participant. Top purple receives a trophy.   |
| Intermediate Radio PSA | ❖ 10 - 13                             | 60 seconds     | Original PSA must promote 4-H (Theme - "Opportunity 4 All"), <b>include tag line</b> , and be general enough to be used anywhere in Nebraska. The PSA's must be submitted electronically using .wav or .mp3 audio formats. May use sound effects. | Ribbon given to each participant. Top purple receives a trophy. Top 5 purple ribbon winners are eligible for State competition.                             |
| Senior Radio PSA       | ❖ 14 - 18                             | 60 seconds     | Original PSA must promote 4-H (Theme - "Opportunity 4 All"), <b>include tag line</b> , and be general enough to be used anywhere in Nebraska. The PSA's must be submitted electronically using .wav or .mp3 audio formats. May use sound effects. | Ribbon given to each participant. Top purple receives a trophy. Top 5 purple ribbon winners are eligible for State competition.                             |

❖ Divisions in which participants may qualify for the State Public Speaking Contest

Registration: c

all or email this information to the Knox County Extension Office by March 30th

## 4-H Public Speaking Contest Registration

**Tuesday, April 6, at 6:00 p.m. at Courthouse Annex Meeting Room in Center**

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Division</u><br><small>(Clover Kid, Jr., Int., Sr.)</small> | <u>Topic/Title</u> | <u>Speech or PSA</u> |
|-------------|--|--------------------|----------------------|
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## 4-H Public Speaking Contest

### Purpose:

Public speaking helps teach youth a life skill that is beneficial for a lifetime in their personal and professional lives by developing their communication skills. 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, and develop self-confidence.

### Speech & PSA Rules & Regulations:

Youth must be currently enrolled in 4-H. Youth may participate in both the speech and PSA categories. Guides to preparing great speeches and PSA's, and score sheets, can be found on our Knox County 4-H Pre-Fair Contests webpage. The speech and PSA must be the original work of the presenter. Parents and speech coaches are encouraged to help the 4-H member with the speech, but parents or others should NOT write the speech for you. Youth should also not copy what others have written.

**Speeches** – must be original and include 4-H as the major component of the speech.

Many speakers in the Public Speaking Contest have given speeches in other contests. This is fine; however, previous speeches may not be used verbatim for the 4-H contest. It is okay to use the same ideas from a speech previously delivered in competition, but it must be 4-H related. Enough changes should be made to make that speech new to the speaker and the audience. 4-H public speakers may not use an old speech written by a sibling, other 4-H member, or anyone else. No team speeches are allowed.

Visual aids and props are NOT allowed in Junior, Intermediate, and Senior Division Speeches. The presentation contest is designed for that type of presentation. Dress appropriately. Do not wear costumes or special effect clothing.

Be sure to acknowledge your sources of information if quoting directly. 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.

Judges will deduct three points from the contestant's speech score for each 30 seconds under or over the time limit. (Senior division only.)

### **PSA's - The 2021 PSA theme is "Opportunity 4 All".**



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."*** The tag line is included in the 60 second time limit.

All radio PSA's must promote 4-H and be general enough to be used anywhere in Nebraska at any time of the year. Please use .wav or .mp3 audio formats. Contestants may not use the PSA's written and provided by the state or national staff. Sound effects and public domain music may be used. Copyrighted material may not be used.

All PSA's are 60 seconds in length and must be the original work of the presenter. All PSA's will use the state theme as the basis for their PSA. No team PSA's are allowed. **For the Knox County competition please submit electronically to our office by April 1.** PSAs will be judged prior to the contest, but played during it.

## **State 4-H Public Speaking Contest**

Each county may send five purple ribbon qualifying individuals in each intermediate and senior speech and PSA division to the state contest to be held in Lincoln on Wednesday, June 30, 2021.

The top 5 contestants from each age division of the state contest will be invited to showcase their speeches at the Nebraska State Fair. The top 5 PSAs from each age division will be played at the Raising Nebraska Building during the State Fair.

Previous state winners in speech or radio PSA's are no longer eligible to compete in the category won at the State contest.

For more information on the State Speech Contest you may check the Nebraska 4-H website at <http://4h.unl.edu/public-speaking>.