

COMMUNICATIONS & EXPRESSIVE ARTS CONTESTS

(PUBLIC SPEAKING, PSAs, PRESENTATIONS, MUSIC, THEATER ARTS)
(Revised Information for 2021)

GENERAL RULES –

- A. 4-H members are eligible to participate in all contests regardless of projects carried except for the Fashion Show and Shooting Sports Contests. Project enrollment is required for these contests.
- B. **REGISTRATION & PRE-ENTRY**
- **Registration Form is required for:** Communications Contest/Music Contest/Food Revue/Theater Arts Contest/Fashion Show (see deadline to register on each form)
 - **YELLOW Contest Entry Form:** Horticulture Judging Contest/Wildlife Judging Contest/Life Challenge/ATV & Tractor Driving Contest/Livestock, Dairy & Horse Judging Contests (by June 15th)
 - **BLUE Shooting Sports Contest Entry Form:** All Shooting Sports Contests (by June 15th)
- If contests are not pre-entered as required, 4-Hers may still participate but will lose premium for that event.
- C. **Participants in Activities & Contests are divided into age group divisions (senior, intermediate, and junior). These age divisions differ from contest to contest so pay careful attention when registering.**
- D. **RECOGNITION:** All 4-H members participating in these contests will be recognized as follows:
1. A premium and ribbon will be awarded to all participants.
 2. The top three contestants in each class will receive medallions: Gold - 1st place, Silver - 2nd place, Bronze - 3rd place.
- F. **DRESS CODE** – See Dress Code under GENERAL RULES (pg. 2)

DEPARTMENT B - DIVISION 151/165 - 4-H COMMUNICATIONS CONTEST

(Public Speaking, PSA's & Presentations)

Division 165 Classes 902-907

Division 151 Classes 901-906

Pay Category C

Pay Category C

This is a Multi-County Event usually held in the spring. Registration forms must be filled out to participate in Communication Contests. Watch the 4-H Newsletter for details and deadlines. This contest is hosted by Johnson County. Information below is taken from the Johnson County 4-H Fair Book.

GENERAL RULES – COMMUNICATIONS CONTESTS

1. **ENTRY LIMITS** - Participants may enter a maximum of:

- 1 Speech
- 1 Public Service Announcement (PSA)
- 1 Presentation

2. **ELIGIBILITY** - Youth must be currently enrolled in 4-H.

3. **PRE-ENTRY** - Participants must register for the Public Speaking, PSA, and Presentations Contests by completing the appropriate registration forms and submitting them to the County Extension Office by closing on the date designated on the registration form.

4. **DRESS CODE** - No 4-H attire is required. Participants are expected to dress appropriately for the contest. No costumes or special effect clothing is allowed.

PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST RULES

1. **GENERAL RULES** – See GENERAL RULES – COMMUNICATIONS CONTEST

2. **AGE DIVISIONS** – Junior (8 to 10 years of age as of December 31st of the preceding year), Intermediate (11 to 13 years of age as of December 31st of the preceding year), and Senior (14 years of age and older as of December 31st of the preceding year).

3. **TIME LIMITS** –

- Junior Division – 1 to 3 minutes
- Intermediate Division – 3 to 5 minutes
- Senior Division - 5 to 8 minutes

In the Senior Division the judge will deduct three points from the contestant's score for each 30 seconds under or over the time limit. Judges will make deductions from the contestants score for speeches under or over the time limit.

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

5. **ORIGINAL MATERIAL** – Previous speeches may not be used verbatim in the 4-H Public Speaking Contest and the use of an old speech written by a sibling, other 4-H member, or someone else is prohibited. The same ideas from a speech previously written and delivered by the 4-H member in competition may be used, but the speech must be 4-H related. Enough changes should be made to make an old speech new to the speaker and audience.
6. **CITATIONS** – The source of information used in the speech should be acknowledged. For example, an article from a magazine may be used for reference, but should not be quoted directly unless you cite your source.
7. **VISUAL AIDS** – No visual aids or props are allowed.
8. **STATE CONTEST** – A county may send the top five individuals from both the Intermediate and Senior Divisions to the State Contest. Participants must receive a purple ribbon to qualify for the State Contest.

DEPARTMENT B

See Clover Kid Section

CLASS 902

CLASS 903

CLASS 904

DIVISION 165

Clover Kid Division

Junior Division

Intermediate Division

Senior Division

PUBLIC SPEAKING

5 to 7 year of age

8 to 10 years of age

11 to 13 years of age

14 to 18 years of age

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT CONTEST RULES

1. **GENERAL RULES** – See GENERAL RULES – COMMUNICATIONS CONTESTS
2. **AGE DIVISIONS** – Junior (8 to 10 years of age as of December 31st of the preceding year), Intermediate (11 to 13 years of age as of December 31st of the preceding year), and Senior (14 years of age and older as of December 31st of the preceding year).
3. **TIME LIMITS** – All PSAs are to be 60 seconds in length.
4. **THEME** – All PSA's will use the designated state theme for the year.
5. **PURPOSE** – All radio PSAs must promote 4-H and be general enough to be used anywhere in Nebraska at anytime of the year.
6. **TAG LINES** – All 4-H PSAs must include the following tag line within the last ten seconds of the PSA: "Learn more about the University of Nebraska – Lincoln Extension 4-H Youth Development Program at 4h.unl.edu." The tag line is included in the 60 second time limit.
7. **SOUND EFFECTS AND MUSIC** – Sound effects and public domain music may be used. Copyrighted material may not be used.
8. **ORIGINAL MATERIAL** – All PSAs must be the original work of the presenter. Contestants may not use PSAs written and provided by the state or national staff.
9. **SUBMITTING PSAs** – PSAs will be submitted electronically as a .wav or .mp3 format (no CD's will be accepted) along with the PSA's text and the Communications Contest Registration Form to the County Extension Office by closing on the date designated on the registration form.
10. **STATE CONTEST** – A county may send the top five individuals from both the Intermediate and Senior Divisions to the State Contest. Participants must receive a purple ribbon to qualify for the State Contest.

DEPARTMENT B

CLASS 905

CLASS 906

CLASS 907

DIVISION 165

Junior Division

Intermediate Division

Senior Division

PSAs

8 to 10 years of age

11 to 13 years of age

14 to 18 years of age

PRESENTATION CONTEST RULES

1. **GENERAL RULES** – See GENERAL RULES – COMMUNICATIONS CONTESTS
2. **AGE DIVISIONS** – Junior (8 to 10 years of age as of December 31st of the preceding year), Intermediate (11 to 13 years of age as of December 31st of the preceding year), and Senior (14 years of age and older as of December 31st of the preceding year).
3. **TEAMS** – May consist of two individual 4-H members. There is no separate class for team presentations.
4. **CLASS DESCRIPTIONS**
 - ILLUSTRATED PRESENTATION** –
 - An illustrated presentation is a live presentation with a formal talk where you will use visual aids (such as props, posters, computer-based visuals, handouts, videos, etc.) to show and tell others how to do something. Enrollment in the project area in which the participant is making a presentation is not required.
 - 4-H FILM FEST** – Digital videos are films that display the recording, reproducing, and broadcasting of moving visual images. During the 4-H Film Fest, youth will provide a one minute oral introduction (name, background/goal of presentation, intended audience, where presentation could be shared, etc.) followed by the showing of their digital video. **Film Topic:** 4-H Film Fest digital videos should engage the audience and teach them something the 4-H youth is learning about **career and college readiness, community development, entrepreneurship, food supply confidence, healthy living, leadership development, and STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math). healthy living, citizenship, or agricultural literacy.** Enrollment in the project area in which the participant is making a video is not required. The following digital videos may be entered into the 4-H film fest:

- **Video Public Service Announcement:** A short video that communicates an educational message focused on a cause, activity, or event.
- **Narrative:** A video that tells a fact or fiction story.
- **Documentary:** A video that presents factual information about a person, event, or process.
- **Animation:** A video created by techniques that simulate movement from individual images.

5. TIME LIMITS –

ILLUSTRATED PRESENTATIONS

- **Individual Presentation –** 6 to 8 minutes
- **Team Presentation –** 8 to 10 minutes

(Participants may be penalized if their presentation exceeds the limits.)

4-H FILM FEST

- **Video PSA –** 60 seconds
- **Narrative –** 3-5 minutes
- **Documentary –** 3-5 minutes
- **Animation –** 1-5 minutes

6. EQUIPMENT – An LCD projector and computer equipped with Microsoft Office (Power Point 2000 or greater) will be provided. Presentations should be brought on a USB drive. Participants may also provide their own computer or other equipment as needed. If participants will be using a file format other than Power Point please contact the Extension Office ahead of time in order to make proper arrangements.

7. STATE CONTEST – Illustrated presentations and 4-H Film Fest entries must receive a purple rating at the county contest. Participants must be at least 10 years old as of December 31st of the preceding year. Additionally, counties may advance one individual or one two-person team illustrated presentation (top purple in the county contest) to the Nebraska State Fair 4-H Premier Presentation contest. **Participants in the Premier Presenter Contest must be at least 12 years old as of December 31st of the preceding year. Participants in the Premier Presenter Contest may not participate in any other presentation classes at the Nebraska State Fair.**

8. MANUALS – Materials are available online at: <http://4h.unl.edu/presentations>

DEPARTMENT B

Clover Kid Show & Tell (See Clover Kid Section)

- CLASS 901** Illustrated Presentation
- CLASS 902** 4-H Film Fest (digital video)
- CLASS 903** Illustrated Presentation
- CLASS 904** 4-H Film Fest (digital video)
- CLASS 905** Illustrated Presentation
- CLASS 906** 4-H Film Fest (digital video)

DIVISION 151

- Clover Kid Division
- Junior Division
- Junior Division
- Intermediate Division
- Intermediate Division
- Senior Division
- Senior Division

PRESENTATIONS

- 5 to 7 year of age
- 8 to 10 years of age
- 8 to 10 years of age
- 11 to 13 years of age
- 11 to 13 years of age
- 14 to 18 years of age
- 14 to 18 years of age

DEPARTMENT B - DIVISION 159 - 4-H MUSIC CONTEST

Division 159 Classes 901-920

Pay Category C

This is a Multi-County Event usually held in the spring. Registration forms must be filled out to participate in the 4-H Music Contest. Watch the 4-H Newsletter for details and deadlines. This contest is hosted by Johnson County. Information below is taken from the Johnson County 4-H Fair Book.

MUSIC CONTEST RULES

- 1. ENTRY LIMITS –** Participants are allowed one entry per class.
- 2. GROUPS –** Each group must have three or more participants, all must be 4-H members. A 4-H member may sing or perform in only one group, but may accompany another group.
- 3. BANDS –** Group must be three or more individuals with instruments of their choice; including piano. May include vocalist. All performers in the band class must be 4-H members. Participants must provide your own music stands.
- 4. TIME LIMIT –** Each group is allowed two minutes after the cue from the contest chair to arrange themselves on stage and begin performing. Props if used, must be in place within the two-minute time limit. The performance of each group is limited to not more than six minutes.
- 5. SONG SELECTION –** Any number of songs may be performed within the six-minute time limit. Groups may perform any selection of their choice.
- 6. DIRECTOR –** Song groups, combos, and bands may appear with or without a director. The director must be a 4-H member.
- 7. ACCOMPANIMENT –** Recorded background music (no lyrics) may be used. Performing groups must bring a copy of their music (CD, tape, etc.) if using recorded background music. Piano, guitar, or other instruments may also accompany groups. Live accompaniment, if used, may be by a 4-H member, parent, leader, volunteer, or music teacher. Not more than one adult may accompany a group.

CLASS 910	Team Costumed Presentation	Junior Division	Ages 8 to 10
CLASS 911	Team Costumed Presentation	Intermediate Division	Ages 11 to 13
CLASS 912	Team Costumed Presentation	Senior Division	Ages 14 and over
CLASS 913	Team Dramatic Reading	Junior Division	Ages 8 to 10
CLASS 914	Team Dramatic Reading	Intermediate Division	Ages 11 to 13
CLASS 915	Team Dramatic Reading	Senior Division	Ages 14 and over
CLASS 916	Team Puppet Play	Junior Division	Ages 8 to 10
CLASS 917	Team Puppet Play	Intermediate Division	Ages 11 to 13
CLASS 918	Team Puppet Play	Senior Division	Ages 14 and over