

2024 Communication Event

Contests: Speech, Impromptu Speech, PSA, Presentation, Video

Event Date & Time: Sunday, April 7, 2024; 4:00 p.m.

Location: West Education Center, Room 205, Central Community College, Columbus

Registration: Online pre-registration required. The deadline to register is March 20, 2024.

Speech Contest

Age Categories, Time Limits, Topics:

1. Clover Kid (ages 5 - 7 as of January 1st of current year)
3 minutes or less. Talk about anything! You may read a poem or a favorite story.
2. Junior (ages 8 - 10 on January 1st of current year)
2 - 3 minutes. Must be an original speech relating to 4-H.
3. Intermediate (ages 11 - 13 as of January 1st of current year)
3 - 5 minutes. Must be an original speech relating to 4-H.
4. Senior (ages 14 - 18 as of January 1st of current year)
5 - 8 minutes. Must be an original speech relating to 4-H.

Contest Guidelines:

- All 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, another 4-H member, or anyone else.
- 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.
- **Organization:** Introduction, body, and conclusion.
- Use of visual aids and props is not allowed. Notes may be used for Clover Kid & Novice categories.
- **Delivery:** Eye contact, timing, gestures, and posture.
- **Voice:** Clear tones, correct volume, and good pronunciation.
- Dress appropriately. Do not wear costumes or special effect clothing. 4-H Chevron required.
- No team speeches are allowed.
- 4-H'ers who are 8 years old and older as of January 1 of the current year will be eligible for the Premier Communication Event (State Contest). Youth must be selected at the County Contest to compete in the Premier Communication Event.



Impromptu Speech Contest

Age Categories, Time Limits, Topics:

1. Junior (ages 8 - 10 as of January 1st of current year)
1 1/2 minutes.
2. Intermediate (ages 11 - 13 as of January 1st of current year)
3 minutes.
- 3 Senior (ages 14 - 18 as of January 1st of current year)
5 minutes.

Contest Guidelines:

- Competition will give youth the opportunity to write and present a speech around a 4-H related topic that they select during the competition.
- Given 15 minutes to develop and prepare for their presentation. Participants will then deliver the speech to judges and audience members.
- Example topic: My Day in 4-H
- Only individuals may compete in this class; no team entries allowed.
- 4-H'ers who are 8 years old and older as of January 1 of the current year will be eligible for the Premier Communication Event (State Contest).

Contest Resources:

The following resources can be found online at:

[PCE Impromptu Speech Scoresheet.pdf](#)

Public Service Announcement (PSA) Contest

Age Categories, Time Limits, Topics:

1. Junior (ages 8 - 10 as of January 1st of current year)
2. Intermediate (ages 11 - 13 as of January 1st of current year)
3. Senior (ages 14 - 18 as of January 1st of current year)

Contest Guidelines:

- All PSA's are 60 seconds in length.
- Youth will prepare a PSA around the theme: "**4-H is a Feeling**"
- All radio PSA's must promote 4-H and be general enough to be used anywhere in Nebraska at any time of the year.
- 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.
- Sound effects and public domain music may be used. Copyrighted material may not be used.
- All PSA's must be the original work of the presenter. Contestants may not use PSA's written and provided by the state or national staff.
- No team PSA's are allowed.
- Scoring is based on the content of the material and delivery.
- Appearance and gestures are not judged.



- **County Contest Only:** Participants may read their PSA at the contest or submit it electronically in a .wav or .mp3 audio format on a flash/jump drive to be played at the contest.
- If selected to go onto the Premier Communication Event (State Contest), radio PSA's will be submitted electronically as a .wav or .mp3 audio format. No CDs accepted.

Contest Resources:

The following resources can be found on-line at:

<https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/platte/platte-county-4-h-resources/>

- Guide to Making Great Speeches/How to Prepare a 4-H Radio Public Service Announcement

Presentation Contest

Categories:

Show 'n Tell (County Only)

- **Description:** 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.
- **Age:** Clover Kids Only
- **Time Limit:** up to 5 minutes individual, no team presentation available for this class

Illustrated Presentation (Premier Communication Event Eligible)

- **Description:** An Illustrated Presentation involves one or two 4-H'ers giving a live presentation with a formal talk where the presenter(s) will use visual aids (such as props, posters, computer-based visuals, handouts, video, etc.) to show and tell others how to do something. All presentation topics should be related to what the 4-H youth is learning through 4-H educational experiences. Participants will be penalized if their presentation exceeds the time limit.
- **Individual or Team:** 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 the age division of the oldest team member.
 - Individual - Junior Division (ages 8 - 10 as of January 1st of current year); Length: 3-5 minutes
 - Individual - Intermediate Division (ages 11 - 13 as of January 1st of current year); Length: 6-8 minutes
 - Individual - Senior Division (ages 14 - 18 as of January 1st of current year); Length 6-8 minutes
 - Team - Junior Division: 5-7 minutes
 - Team - Intermediate and Senior Divisions: 8-10 minutes

Contest Guidelines:

- Presentations must 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).
- Each participant is required to wear the 4-H chevron, 4-H emblem, or 4-H shirt.
- All categories require the presence of the contestant(s).
- The judge views the entire presentation and engages in a question-and-answer session following the presentation.
- 4-H'ers who are 8 years old and older as of January 1 of the current year will be eligible for the Premier Communication Event (State Contest). Youth must be selected at the County Contest to compete at Premier Communication Event.

Contest Resources:

The following resources can be found under Contest Resources on-line at:

<https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/platte/platte-county-4-h-resources/>

- The Versatile 4-H Presentation
- The Four Ps of Planning a Presentation
- Getting Ready to Give a 4-H Presentation
- Presentation Visuals
- Using PowerPoint in 4-H Presentation
- Evaluating a 4-H Presentation
- How to Prepare a Multimedia Presentation

Video Communication Contest

Video Communication (Premier Communication Event Eligible)

- **Description:** 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.
- **Age:** 8 – 18 as of January 1st of current year
- **Time Limit:** 60-90 seconds individual only

Contest Guidelines:

- 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.
- For county contest only, the 4-H'er must be present to play video. If selected to go onto Premier Communication Event (State Contest), the video will be electronically submitted as MP4 files.

Contest Resources:

The following resources can be found under County Resources on-line at:

<https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/platte/platte-county-4-h-resources/>

- Video Communication Judging Criteria

2024 Communication Event On-Line Registration

Deadline March 20, 2024

Log into your 4HOnline family account at <https://v2.4honline.com/>

Click “View” button next to 4-H'er who is registering for contest.

Click on “Events” button stated down the lefthand side.

Click on blue “Register for a new event” button.

Select 2024 Communication Event (Butler, Colfax, Platte) – Click Next

Select Category and Click on “Start Registration”