

# ILLINOIS STATE 4-H PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST

**What:** Clark County Public Speaking Contest

**When:** Tuesday, February 25, 2025

**Where:** Clark County Extension Office, 15493 Hwy 1, Marshall

**Time:** 6:00 pm (CST)

**Who:** Enrollment in the Public Presentations project is required to participate in this section. The event is open to the public. Seating on a first come- first serve basis.

**Additional Information:** No live animal allowed.

**Resources:** Shop 4-H: [Finding your Voice: Public Speaking made Easy](#) (Public Speaking)

**Register:** online by January 24, 2025

**Notes to keep in mind:**

Deductions- There will be 1 point deducted for every 30 seconds over/under 5-6 minutes. (Advanced)

Deductions- There will be 1 point deducted for every 30 seconds over/under 4-5 minutes. (Beginner)

## COMMUNICATIONS: PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

Enrollment in the Public Presentations project is required to participate in this section. No live animals are allowed in speeches. Counties may advance a total of 3 entries from any category to the state contest. A 4-H member may advance in one individual category and one team category. **Participating** Youth **must** be 8 years of **age** on or before **September 1, 2024**.

**Participating** youth turning 14 years of age on or before **September 1, 2024 must** enroll as advanced.

**Deadline to advance youth to Public Speaking State Contest: April 7, 2025**

### Contest Division and Class

**Formal Speech | Self-written | Notes Allowed | No props | Individual | 4-5 minutes (Beginner) | 5-6 minutes (Advanced)**

Formal Speeches share the presenter's own unique view and are intended to motivate, persuade, or inform an audience and may include a call to action. Youth deliver a speech on any topic they wish.

\*This category will be broken down into the following classes by age.

- Beginner: 8-13 years of age
- Advanced: 14 years of and up

**Illustrated Speech | Self-written | Notes Allowed | Illustrations Required | Individual 4-5 minutes (Beginner) | 5-6 minutes (Advanced)**

Illustrated Speeches may be used to inform, persuade, or motivate the audience while using a visual aid. Visual aids may be two dimensional, three-dimensional, or digital. Youth may include audience participation. Digital visual aids must be stored on a USB flash drive. Illustrated speeches may be:

- How-to demonstrations which show the audience how to do something.
- Object lessons which use objects as metaphors to share a message.
- Educational models where drawings or diagrams help explain a topic.
- Beginner: 8-13 years of age
- Advanced: 14 years of and up

**Original Works | Self-written | Notes Allowed | Props and Costumes Allowed | Individual or 2-Person Team | Youth must provide printed manuscripts to judge | 4-6 minutes**

Original works must be written entirely by the presenter. It may be presented as an individual or a two-person team entry. Manuscripts or transcripts must be submitted to the Judge on the day of presentation. Presentations may be designed for TV, radio, or online media and must be presented live. The types of entries could include:

- Prose and Short Stories
- Poetry/ Spoken Word
- Broadcast Media Program
- Theatrical
- Combined Program: Combine any number of the above elements along with other creative presentation forms

**Oral Interpretation | Published Work | Props and Costumes Allowed | Individual or 2-Person Team | Youth must provide printed manuscripts to judge | 4-6 minutes**

Presentations in Oral Interpretation must be published works, and manuscripts or transcripts must be submitted to the Judge on the day of presentation. They may be presented as an individual or a two-person team entry. The types of entries could include:

- Prose and Short Stories
- Poetry
- Theatrical Interpretation
- Published Speech Recitation: Excerpt from a spoken presentation delivered by a public figure, such as Winston Churchill, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., or Maya Angelou
- Combined Program: Combine any number of the above elements along with other creative presentation forms

**GENERAL 4-H RULES AND REGULATIONS**

- Any person, regardless of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, ancestry, marital status, familial status, sexual orientation, or disability may participate in 4-H programs. Youth who are 8 years of age and have not reached their 19th birthday on or before September 1 of the current 4-H year may enroll in a 4-H club.
- 4-H'ers may enter and exhibit only 1 entry per class.
- Exhibits in each class will be rated and placed in one of three groups: Blue award – presented to exhibits that meet the standards
  - Red award – presented to exhibits that need some improvements
  - White award – presented to exhibits that need much improvement

The following premiums will be paid on all General Projects:

A - 3x, B - 2x, C - 1x

“The Department of Agriculture shall use its best efforts to secure sufficient appropriations to fund premiums. In any year for which the General Assembly of the State of Illinois fails to make an appropriation sufficient to pay such premiums, premium amounts may not be accurately reflected in this Premium Book.” Program participants (including minors) will be required to provide their social security number or foreign national tax ID number prior to receiving the prize, gift, or award to ensure proper IRS reporting as required by law. This sensitive information is kept confidential and handled through security-protected software (PEAR). Participants will not be eligible for prize, gift, or award if social security number or foreign national tax ID number is not provided.

- University of Illinois Extension personnel do not assume liability for loss, theft, or damage to any exhibit.