



## 4-H Public Speaking Virtual Contest

Please find submission dates, judging dates, and available classes for your county at <https://extension.illinois.edu/fmpt/4-h-shows-county-fairs>. If you have any questions, please contact your county 4-H Coordinator:

- Fulton – [jblout@illinois.edu](mailto:jblout@illinois.edu)
- Mason – [jkpierso@illinois.edu](mailto:jkpierso@illinois.edu)
- Peoria – [ludolph@illinois.edu](mailto:ludolph@illinois.edu)
- Tazewell - [girone1@illinois.edu](mailto:girone1@illinois.edu)

### CONTEST CLASSES

#### **FORMAL SPEECH | Self-written | Notes Allowed | No props | Individual | 4-8 minutes**

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 (Original Oratory), or choose one of these four topics on which to speak (Topical Response):

- Welcome to the Digital Age
- What is My Connection to the Global Community?
- Power: Who Has It, Who Doesn't, and Does It Matter?
- If I Could See tomorrow...

#### **ILLUSTRATED SPEECH | Self-written | Notes allowed | Illustrations Required | Individual | 4-8 minutes**

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.

#### **ORIGINAL WORKS | Self-written | Notes allowed | Props and Costumes Allowed | Individual or 2-Person Team | Manuscripts sent in Advance | 4-8 minutes**

Original works must be written entirely by the presenter. It may be presented as an individual or a two-person team entry. Manuscripts must be sent in advance to the contest. 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
- 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 |**

### **Manuscripts sent in Advance | 4-8 minutes**

Presentations in Oral Interpretation must be published works, and manuscripts or transcripts must be submitted prior to the event. 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

## **VIDEO SUBMISSION GUIDELINES**

Youth must submit a video entry to participate in this contest. Follow the guidelines below to complete this process.

- Videos must be submitted via a YouTube link uploaded to a Box folder by your county's submission date found at <https://extension.illinois.edu/fmpt/4-h-shows-county-fairs>.
  - Video must be titled with full name of exhibitor, class, subclass, speech title, and county.
    - *Ex. Andrea Farrier, Formal Speech, Topical Response- If I Could See Tomorrow, DuPage County*
      - If this information is verbalized in your video submission, it will count towards your time.
  - See these resources to learn how to create and upload an unlisted YouTube video:
    - [YouTube Video How-To Tutorial](#)
    - [Step by Step How-To Worksheet](#)
  - Youth must register through FairEntry and submit their YouTube link to the Box submission folder found at <https://extension.illinois.edu/fmpt/4-h-shows-county-fairs>.
- **Post-production edits or enhancements are discouraged.**
- Participants should strictly follow the 4-8 minute time constraints. *Any submissions under 4 minutes or longer than 8 minutes will be considered for participation ribbon only.*
- Video **must** be shot vertically and include the speaker's whole body in the shot so that judges can accurately judge posture, hand gestures and movement.
- Presentation aids and/or props are allowed in specified categories only.
- In addition to these guidelines, here are some production tips to follow:
  - Use a tripod or stable surface to shoot video.
  - Be sure that you are visible on the video and that your audio playback is easy to hear.
  - Pick a unique environment for your video that helps enhance your speech; however, be sure that it is not distracting and does not impede your delivery.
  - Double-check your final video before uploading to ensure appropriate quality.
- If you run into trouble uploading your exhibit documentation, please contact your county 4-H Coordinator. We are here to help you!

## **JUDGING AND RESULTS**

Video submissions will be judged using the criteria on the standard public presentations scoresheets. Copies of these scoresheets can be viewed at: <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/events/illinois-4-h-state-public-speaking-contest>.

Once completed, exhibit photos/videos and awards will be posted for public viewing. This is a requirement for Ag Premium Eligibility. Remember that Ag Premium awards are subject to modification or cancellation in any year for which the General Assembly fails to make an appropriation to fund the premiums." (30 ILCS 120/14(d))

**We look forward to seeing what you have learned this year and celebrating your accomplishments!!**



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