

Presentations Contest - Prepared

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Overview

The Presentations Contest emphasizes development of verbal communication skills. Presentation delivery may include, but is not limited to, demonstrations, interactive exhibits, skits, drama, public speaking, visual aids and/or multimedia displays.

Eligibility

Contestants can be enrolled in any 4-H project and give a presentation on any topic. Returning contestants are welcome and simply need to present a different topic each year. Each county can enter any number of contestants for all age divisions. It is highly recommended that contestants compete in a county contest or practice in a public setting before the state contest.

Teams are considered one entry and share any awards.

Contest

Presentations are judged on knowledge of subject matter, presentation manner, and presentation impact and are divided into the following three categories: Demonstrations, Illustrated Talks, Speeches

Time Limits apply to all three and are based on age division:

Juniors ~3-10 minutes

Intermediates ~ 5-10 minutes

Seniors ~ 7-15 minutes

Penalties apply for going over or under time limits and are at the discretion of the judges (i.e. a Senior speech that is two minutes too short will probably be deducted more points than a Senior speech that is two minutes too long, given the subject matter.) Set-up time and questions asked after the presentation concludes are not included in this time limit. (See judges score sheets for more specific guidelines on how each category is judged.)

Demonstration: tables, 2 chairs, and outlets are the only things that will be provided. Proper food handling techniques, if any, are the responsibility of the individual (refrigeration needs, etc.)

Illustrated Talk: Tables, a PC laptop with the PowerPoint program, projector, and screen will be provided. Contestants are responsible for bringing any electronic presentation materials (i.e. PowerPoint) on a USB drive to be used with the provided supplies at the event. A different laptop may be used in the event there are problems using those provided.

Speech: no additional material/aides may be used in a speech besides note/cue cards. (NOTE: Points may be deducted for excessive use of notes/cue cards by Senior participants.)

This contest will be held in the morning and afternoon, in order to accommodate additional participants who may be competing in other events at Showcase Showdown. Contestants will be asked to choose a specific time slot in which they will complete their presentation. Time slot sign-ups will be emailed out to contestants prior to the contest day.

Awards

The top ten individuals in each age category will be recognized in the Prepared Category overall. Awards will not be broken down by prepared presentation category (demo, talk, speech).

The top two overall senior individuals will be awarded a \$500 scholarship to compete at Western National Roundup or a state sponsored leadership experience. (NOTE: the WNR presentation contest is a *speech* contest, no presentation aides allowed.)