

4-H Communication Arts Festival Guidelines

Four Categories exist at 4-H Communication Arts Festival. A participant may make one entry in each of the following categories: Solo Speaking; Team Speaking; Creative Writing/Posters; and Demonstrations.

SOLO SPEAKING CATEGORY:

1. Interpretive Reading of Prose

Participant selects written prose. Prose is ordinary language. It can include stories, play cuttings, narratives, or anything not written as a poem. The material is **read** with personal interpretation being presented; do not memorize it. Time Limit: Maximum 8 minutes.

2. Interpretive Reading of Poetry

Participant selects poetry. It may be a single poem, a cutting from a single poem, or several related poems. Poetry is rhythmical. The composition is then **read** with personal interpretation being presented; do not memorize it. Time Limit: Maximum 8 minutes.

3. Interpretive Reading of Original Prose or Poetry

Participant writes a poem or prose (story). The material is **read** with personal interpretation being presented; do not memorize it. Time Limit: Maximum 8 minutes.

4. Memorized Declamation/Storytelling

Participant selects or writes prose or poetry. The material is then memorized and presented without notes in an interpretive fashion. If desired, props may be used for this category. Time Limit: Maximum 8 minutes.

5. Commercials

Participant prepares a 30, 60, or 90 second commercial for an original product (example: contact lenses for fish). Product props may be used, but any brand names must be covered. Prepare a convincing presentation, which includes a catchy introduction, reasons to buy the product, and a summary of what you want the audience to remember. This category is NOT suitable as a group presentation. **Commercial must be memorized.** Time Limit: Maximum 90 seconds.

6. Solo Newscasting (Cloverbud project members are NOT eligible to enter this category)

One participant will prepare and present a news program, using news that occurred within the past month. It must include news, weather, sports and editorial; a paper manuscript is to be used. Time management and transitions are important. The introduction should be part of the presentation. No commercial advertisements are to be part of this presentation. Time Limit: Maximum 10 minutes.

7. Original Speech (Cloverbud project members are NOT eligible to enter this category)

Participant writes an original speech on any subject. Do not confuse with original prose. A speech is not a story, but one main idea that is developed and supported with facts. If an educational animal speech is given, it will count as an educational activity to exhibit at the 2015 WI State Fair in the species area the speech involves. Time Limit: Maximum 8 minutes.

8. **Original Project Activity** (Cloverbud project members are NOT eligible to enter this category)

Participant prepares a project related experiment or comparison that answers three or more participant determined questions. The results are presented on an 8 ½" x 11" or larger card or display board. Display should include examples. Participants present and explain their experiment and results to the audience. [Example: make two chocolate cakes, one with oil and one with applesauce instead of oil. Questions: # 1) which cake has better taste? #2) which cake has better texture? #3) which cake has better appearance? #4) which cake is better overall?] Time Limit: Maximum 5 minutes.

TEAM SPEAKING CATEGORY:

9. **Interpretive Team Reading**

Participants select a prose, poetry or drama selection that would be suitable for two to five individuals. The grade category is determined by oldest member. Please list all grades on the registration form. **This selection is not to be memorized. Props, costumes, and make-up are not to be used.** This is not play acting, it is Interpretive Team Reading; do not act this out. Time Limit: Maximum 12 minutes.

10. **Team Newscasting** (Cloverbud project members are NOT eligible to enter this category)

Two or three participants will prepare and present a news program, using news that occurred within the past month. It must include news, weather, sports and editorial; a paper manuscript is to be used. Time management and transitions are important. The introduction should be part of the presentation. No commercial advertisements are to be part of this presentation. Time Limit: Maximum 10 minutes.

11. **Readers Theater**

Participants read a dramatic script or literature selection, suitable for 3 or more people, that has several characters who interact through dialogue. The goal is to read a script aloud effectively, enabling the audience to visualize the action., The grade category is determined by the oldest member, please list all grades on the registration form. This selection is not to be memorized. Do not use any props, costumes, or make-up. Time Limit: Maximum 12 minutes.

CREATIVE WRITING / POSTER CATEGORY:

12. **Creative Writing** (Cloverbud project members are NOT eligible to enter this category)

Participant writes a short story, poem, skit, or other form of **creative writing about any 4-H related project, activity or idea. Participants must indicate if the piece is fiction or non-fiction.** The length should not exceed three pages double-spaced.

13. **Poster**

Participant creates a poster on 4-H promotion. All posters must be 14" x 22" on poster board. Any medium: watercolor, ink, crayon, marker, acrylic, charcoal, or collage may be used; NOT three-dimensional or copywrited ideas.

Please Note: Creative Writing and Poster entries are evaluated prior to the Communication Arts Festival and are displayed, with awards, at the event for all to see.

DEMONSTRATION CATEGORY:

14. **Demonstration** (Cloverbud project members are NOT eligible to enter this category)

Participants can do an individual or team demonstration. Demonstrations should be in a project area in which participants are currently enrolled. The recommended time for an individual demonstration is 5 -10 minutes and team demonstrations are 10-15 minutes. This demonstration contest is the only county one that will be held. Participants should enter demonstration on their Columbia County fair entry form to receive a premium. All demonstrators will be eligible to demonstrate at the WI State Fair in August if they so choose.

Please Note: Demonstrations will be scheduled around other categories entered so members can do both a speaking and a demonstration entry.