Illinois State 4-H Public Presentation Contest: Participant Fact Sheet

4-H excels in preparing youth to speak confidently. The Illinois State 4-H Public Presentation Contest allows youth to highlight their exceptional presentation abilities in a supportive environment. Youth will learn from professionals as well as their fellow 4-H members. Presentations may be videoed to allow for viewing and instructional purposes after the contest. The public is invited. We encourage club members to come and support their favorite presenters and learn best practices. The 2018 Contest is sponsored by COMPEER FINANCIAL, in association with the Illinois 4-H Foundation.

**Date:** Saturday, June 9. Specific times will be emailed to participants by June 2.

**Location:** Richland Community College, 1 College Park, Decatur

**Qualifications:** Youth must be selected in a local county 4-H contest to advance to the state contest. Each county is allowed three entries in the state contest. The entries may come from any of the four divisions: Formal Speech, Illustrated Speech, Oral Interpretation, or Original Works. Each youth may only compete in one division in the state contest. State deadline is May 25. County staff will provide details.

**Details:**

- Participation in this contest does not affect a member’s opportunity to also participate in another project area at the Illinois State Fair.
- Youth will participate in cohorts and will be asked to be present for the *length of their cohort.* This will allow youth to learn from other contestants and benefit from group feedback. Youth will be notified of their judging time prior to the contest through email.
- Scoresheets are available @ [https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/members/projects/communications](https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/members/projects/communications)

**Exhibit Guidelines:** There are four divisions in this year’s contest:

- **Formal Speech:** Formal Speeches (without props, costume, or aids) must be between 4-6 minutes in length and done by an individual member. Formal speeches provide information to the audience. Note cards are not considered a prop or visual aid and are allowed in this class.

- **Illustrated Speech:** Illustrated Speeches (with any type of visual aids) must be between 4-6 minutes in length and done by an individual member.

- **Original Works:** May be done by an individual or a team of no more than three members. Member may present any type of original works (i.e. comedy, storytelling, original poetry, radio segment, etc.) Works must have been written by one of the members. Segment must be between 4-6 minutes in length. Original works presentations are designed to entertain an audience. “Costume” attire is allowed to enhance the presentation.

- **Oral Interpretation:** May be humorous or dramatic interpretation, oratorical declamation, prose reading or verse reading. Material may be read or memorized. May be done by an individual or a team of no more than three members. Musical presentations are not appropriate for this class. Interpretation must be between 4-6 minutes in length. “Costume” attire is allowed to enhance the presentation.