

2020 SPEECH, DEMONSTRATION, and INTERPRETIVE READING CONTEST GUIDELINES

Arapahoe County

Friday, April 23, 2021

Registration Deadline: March 19, 2021

VIRTUAL CONTEST

Cloverbuds:

Cloverbuds (ages 5-7) may participate in the Speech and Demonstration Contest. Some examples would be to do a Speech, Poem, or even Jokes. The time limit would be **3-5 minutes**. It will be non-competitive for their division. They will receive participation ribbons.

Prepared Speeches:

Juniors (8 – 10) and Intermediates (11 – 13) may give a talk, recite a poem, or tell a story without visuals (**3 – 5 minutes**). Juniors and Intermediates may use notes as necessary. Seniors (14 – 18) are to give an original speech on 4-H (**4 – 6 minutes**) without excessive use of notes. Excessive use of notes is determined by the judges. Seniors will have two points deducted for each 30 seconds over or under the time limit. No contestant in prepared speeches may use costumes, posters, visual aids, or props for their presentation. Contestants are not allowed to present any items to the judge. This year the top two seniors are eligible to compete at State 4-H Conference.

Demonstrations:

Demonstrations are to show and tell how to make or do something with visuals. You may do individual and/or team demonstrations/illustrated talks (**10 minutes**). An additional five minutes is allotted to set up and take down. Presentations must be directly related to 4-H projects or activities. This year the top three blue award winners in each age division will be eligible to compete at State Fair. Age division for teams is determined by the age of the oldest team member. Each team and individual will be expected to provide their own equipment. Tables are furnished.

Horse Demonstrations:

Junior and Intermediate horse demonstration contestants are judged with all other demonstration contestants of their age group and follow the regular demonstration/illustrated talk rules.

Senior winners (14-18) are eligible to compete at the State 4-H Conference. The subject matter must pertain to the horse industry. Demonstrations or presentations not appropriately related to the horse industry can be disqualified at the discretion of the judge. Presentations may be either of demonstration or illustrated talk format. No live animals may be used. Contestants may use notes. However, excessive use of notes may be counted against the contestant. This

will be at the discretion of the judge. Creative audio visual aids may be used, but the contestants must be involved in making or designing them.

Presentations should be **10-15 minutes** in length. One point will be deducted from the total score for each minute or fraction of a minute under 10 minutes or over 15 minutes. The time will start once the contestant(s) begin(s) to speak. Contestants should cite their major reference materials at the end of the presentation. This time will not be counted in the allotted time.

Horse Prepared Speech:

Junior and Intermediate horse speech contestants are judged with all other speech contestants of their age group and follow the regular prepared speech rules.

Only the senior horse contestants are judged separately. The subject matter must pertain to the horse industry. Speeches not appropriately related to the horse industry can be disqualified at the discretion of the judge. No visual aids may be used, including the use of handouts such as bibliographies and pamphlets. Contestants will be disqualified for using any visual aid, including handouts, prior to, during and after the speech. Contestants may use notes. However, excessive use of notes may be counted against the contestant. This will be at the discretion of the judge.

Speeches should be **7-10 minutes** in length. One point will be deducted from the total score for each minute or fraction of a minute under 7 minutes or over 10 minutes. The time will start once the contestant begins to speak. Contestants should cite their major reference materials at the end of the competition. This time will not be counted in the allotted time.

Impromptu Speaking:

Juniors (8 – 10), Intermediates (11 – 13), and Seniors (14 – 18) will select a topic question and have **10 minutes** to prepare a speech. Topic areas include personal issues, youth issues, 4-H promotion, leadership or current events. Contestants receive a pencil and note card to prepare notes. The note card is the only prop allowed during the speech. Junior and Intermediate speeches are **2 – 3** minutes and Senior speeches are **3 – 5** minutes. Seniors will have two points deducted for each 30 seconds over or under the time limit. Excessive use of notes may be counted against senior contestants and this will be at the discretion of the judges. All contestants receive a thirty-second warning before their time is up. The top two Seniors are eligible to compete at State 4-H Conference.

Interpretive Reading:

Juniors (8-10), Intermediates (11-13), and Seniors (14-18) will deliver a rendition of a piece of pre-written material. The pre-written material should be a selection from a book, poem, story, etc. and should be 4-H appropriate. This area is not intended for presentation of original material written by the presenter. Members may choose which selection or multiple portions of a text to present, but may not change the content. Content should be cohesive and transition smoothly from one portion to the next. Costumes and small props can be used but they need to be simple and minimal. Seniors can be **6-8 minutes**, Intermediates **4-6 minutes**, and Juniors up to **3 minutes**.

Awards

Arapahoe County:

Demonstrations, Impromptu Speaking, Prepared Speech and Interpretive Reading contestants will be awarded a blue, red or white ribbon. A champion and reserve champion will be awarded in each age category (Junior 8 – 10, Intermediate 11 – 13, and Senior 14 and over).