

Audience Appeal Earns 4-H'ers Awards at Iowa State Fair

Marion County 4-H'ers earned recognition this week as communicators at the Iowa State Fair.

4-H'ers compete in three categories of oral communication--educational presentations, working exhibits, extemporaneous speaking and one in visual communication. In educational presentations, the 4-H'ers teach their audience about a topic they selected and researched. In working exhibits, the 4-H'ers invite passers-by to try a skill they demonstrate. In extemporaneous speaking, the 4-H'ers prepare a speech in 30 minutes and deliver it to an audience.

"Almost any time fairgoers come into the 4-H Exhibits Building they can learn from a 4-H'er participating in a communications activity," said Mitchell Hoyer, program coordinator for Iowa State University Extension 4-H Youth Development. "Effective communication means appealing to the interests of your audience."

"Many work situations require the ability to demonstrate a skill while instructing others who are learning the skill," Hoyer said. "4-H'ers frequently practice this skill as they present information at club meetings and county fairs." Those giving Educational Presentations at the State Fair are:

Samantha Morgan, EP, Stories in the Sky **Excellence**

Addison Van Vliet, Megan Sims, WE, Gift boxes **Excellence**

Performers receive evaluation comments from a judge, but are not ranked. The purpose of the show is to entertain the audience and have fun while you're doing it.

About 100 youth perform each day of the fair, according to Mitchell Hoyer, program coordinator for Iowa State University Extension 4-H Youth Development. "Our judges give skill-building pointers in several areas including presence, performance techniques and interpretation."

James Stittsworth, STF, Saxophone solo **Participation**

Jessica Weldon, STF, clarinet solo **Participation**

For more 4-H information, contact the ISU Marion County Extension office at 842-2014.