

# **4-H COMMUNICATIONS**

**PURPOSE:** The Communication Event program provides opportunities for 4-H youth to develop their personal communication skills by sharing talents, knowledge, or information with others.

1. No Entry Fee.
2. Limit of one entry in each division.
3. Communication entry deadline is June 7 in Fair Entry.
4. Topics selected by the 4-H'er(s) should be an outgrowth of his/her 4-H experience(s). Topics should be appropriate for presentation to a general audience.
5. Educational Presentations and Working Exhibit may be given by one or more 4-H'ers. Teams consisting of youth of mixed grades will be entered in the class of the member in the highest grade level (i.e. a team with a 5th grader and an 8th grader must be entered in the intermediate/senior class).
6. Participants in the 4-H Communication Programs are expected to wear appropriate clothing representative of the 4-H Youth Program and/or the topic of the presentation.
7. 4-H'ers who have completed 5th grade through 12th grade in 2024 are eligible to advance to the Iowa State Fair. Exceptions are Extemporaneous Speaking and Share the Fun. See specific rules per class.
8. 4-H'ers must use sanitary and safe procedures and methods at all times. Educational Presentations and Working Exhibits involving food must follow established food safety guidelines.
9. ALL participants are expected to comply with all copyright/trademark regulations. Copyrighted material may not be distributed without permission.
10. Each participant will be evaluated by the judge. They will visit with the judge immediately following their presentation or skit.
11. The Communications Event will take place at the Jefferson County Fair on Thursday, June 27th in Cambridge Building at 4:00pm.
12. Ribbons and awards will be presented after all exhibitors have presented/performed.
13. Event participants selected for the State Fair Communications Event will receive a packet regarding details, specific dates/times to choose from, deadlines and what is required. **PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE IOWA STATE FAIR TO SCHEDULE TIMES. WORK WITH COUNTY 4-H STAFF.**
14. If live animals will be used, the exhibitor must comply with the 2024 Health Requirements for the Exhibition of Livestock, Poultry and Birds at State Fair, District Shows and Exhibitions. Animals that do not comply will not be allowed.

## **EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS—Class 11100**

*Purpose: Educational Presentations provide an opportunity for 4-H'er to demonstrate communication skills by presenting knowledge, information, or a process to an audience.*

1. Junior presentations must not exceed 15 minutes. Intermediate/Senior presentations must not exceed 20 minutes.
2. Participants must turn in a completed Educational Presentation Report form to the Extension Office by Monday, June 24.
3. Presentation content must be the original work of the presenter(s). Extensive paraphrasing from other sources is prohibited. Use of brief quotations or excerpts of from other work(s) is permitted provided the source is identified.

## **WORKING EXHIBIT—Class 11200**

*Purpose: Working Exhibits provide an opportunity for 4-H'ers to communicate, interact with and teach an audience in an informal and experiential way.*

1. All participants will be scheduled for a 30-minute period.
2. Participants must turn in a completed Working Exhibit Report form to the Extension Office by Monday, June 24.

## **SHARE-THE-FUN—Class 11300**

*Purpose: Share-the-Fun provides an opportunity for 4-H members to share their skills and talents before an audience purely for the sake of enjoyment.*

1. If the act involves a whole club, at least 80% of the performing group must have completed 5th through 12th grade to be able to advance to the Iowa State Fair.
2. Performances must not exceed 6 minutes in length.
3. Skits, songs, stunts, short one-act plays, dance and other entertainment are acceptable. All performances

must be appropriate for presentation to a general audience.

4. All performers must turn in a completed 4-H Share-The-Fun Report form by Monday, June 24 to the Extension Office to confirm stage setup, music, etc.

### **EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING—Class 11400**

*Purpose: Extemporaneous speaking is to encourage the development of communication skills by providing an opportunity to think, organize thoughts, prepare a speech, and respond to questions when given a limited amount of preparation time.*

1. Participants must have completed 9th through 12th grade in order to qualify for the Iowa State Fair.
2. Thirty minutes before the speech, each participant will draw three of the available topics, selecting one to speak on. The selected topic will not be available to the other participants. The general nature of the topics will relate to 4-H. The other two topics drawn but not chosen will be returned to the available topics for the other participants.
3. The participant will be provided a quiet space for preparation. The participant will not be allowed to leave the preparation room until it is time to speak, nor may a participant receive help from a parent, leader, other adult or any other youth.
4. Reference materials are to be reviewed by program official. Participant may bring books, magazines or newspaper clippings for reference during the 30 minutes of preparation. Material must be printed & cannot be notes, outlines or speeches prepared by the participant or by another person for use in this program. Some relevant reference material will be available in the preparation room. This material will consist of historical material related to the 4-H program.
5. Each speech will be the result of the 4-H'ers own efforts using approved reference material. No other assistance may be provided. Plain 3x5 note cards will be provided for each participant. If notes are used, the 3x5 cards provided must be used in delivering the speech. Only notes made during the preparation period may be used.
6. Each speech shall be not less than four but no more than six minutes with five minutes additional time allowed for related questions, which shall be asked by the judge. Participant will be shown time cards in an ascending order by the time keeper. Stop will be said at 6 minutes.
7. The program timekeeper will introduce each participant by name and the selected question.
8. Participants are not permitted to use any props, gadgets, posters or audio visuals of any sort. A podium will not be available.
9. Speeches will be evaluated using the criteria of: Content related to topic, knowledge of the subject, organization of material, power of expression, voice, stage presence, general effect and response to questions.