



# 4-H Speech Contest

**Sunday, April 22 • Preregister by April 13**

The Speech Contest provides 4-H'ers the opportunity to learn to express themselves clearly, organize their ideas and have confidence. Contests are open to all 4-H'ers ages 8–18 (as of January 1 of the current year) — need not be enrolled in a specific project. Youth may choose to participate in either or both the Speech and Public Service Announcement (PSA) contests.

The 4-H Speech Contest will be held on Sunday, April 22 at 1 p.m. at the Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherrycreek Road, Lincoln. No visual aids (posters) are allowed. Please dress nice for the contest.

Register by April 13 by calling 402-441-7180 or emailing [cmeador2@unl.edu](mailto:cmeador2@unl.edu) with your name, speech title, and your age division.

For more information, contact Cole Meador at [cmeador2@unl.edu](mailto:cmeador2@unl.edu) or 402-441-7180. For resources and examples of Intermediate and Senior speeches, go to <http://lancaster.unl.edu/4h/Contest/speech.shtml>.



## Speech Contest Divisions:

**Clover Kids:** 5–7 years old

Topic: Anything! You could recite or read a favorite nursery rhyme, short story, the 4-H pledge, etc.  
*This is a non-competitive, participation-only division.*

**Novice:** 8–9 years old

Length: 2 minutes or less

Topic: Anything (prefer 4-H related). This is a no reading division.

**Junior:** 10–11 years old

Length: 2–3 minutes

Topic: Any experience in 4-H, including projects, activities etc.

**Intermediate:** 12–13 years old

Length: 3–5 minutes

Topic: 4-H experience — encouraged to speak on a project you would like others to enroll in.

**Senior:** 14–19 years old

Length: 5–8 minutes

Topic: A timely topic related to 4-H. How has 4-H helped you? The importance of 4-H in your life... etc.

## Scoring

The 4-H members are judged on a 100 point scale.

**20% - Subject of the speech:** Use of 4-H, content, good use of examples and supporting stories or facts, substantial message

**20% - Organization of the speech:** Introduction, body & conclusion included & identifiable

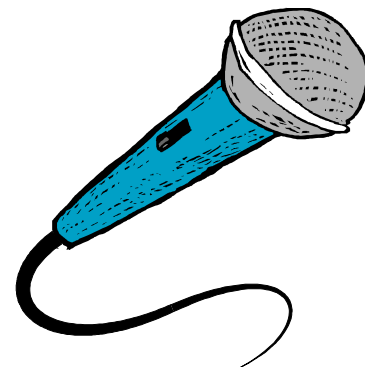
**40% - Delivery:** Bodily action, poise, eye contact, gestures, voice, pitch, rate & articulation and pronunciation of words

**20% - General:** Personal appearance, reaction of audience, length



# 4-H Public Service Announcement (PSA) Contest

**Deadline Friday, April 13**



The Public Service Announcement (PSA) Contest provides 4-H'ers the opportunity to learn to express themselves clearly, organize their ideas and have confidence. Contests are open to all 4-H'ers ages 8–18 (as of January 1 of the current year) — need not be enrolled in a specific project. Youth may choose to participate in either or both the PSA and Speech contests.

In the PSA Contest, 4-H'ers submit a “radio commercial” recorded on a cassette tape or CD by Friday, April 13. PSA must promote 4-H and should be 60 seconds.

- All PSA's must use the state theme as the basis for their PSA. The 2012 PSA theme is “Join the Revolution of Responsibility” (based on the National 4-H theme — see [www.4-h.org/about/revolution](http://www.4-h.org/about/revolution))
- All 4-H PSA's must include the following tag line within the last ten seconds of the PSA: “Learn more about the University of Nebraska–Lincoln Extension 4-H Youth Development Program at [4h.unl.edu](http://4h.unl.edu) and Know How. Know Now.” The tag line is included in the 60 second time limit.

State 4-H asks for PSA's to be general enough to be used anywhere in Nebraska at anytime of the year. State 4-H submits winning PSA's to radio stations statewide.

Sound effects and background noises are encouraged (copyrighted material may not be used). PSA's must be recorded on CD's that are playable on standard stereo equipment. If you do not have the capabilities to record a PSA, contact Cole to set up a recording time.

The PSA's will be judged without the 4-H member present. Results and comment sheets will be handed out at the 4-H Speech Contest which will be held on Sunday, May 1 at 1:30 p.m. at the Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherrycreek Road, Lincoln.

For more information, contact Cole Meador at [cmeador2@unl.edu](mailto:cmeador2@unl.edu) or 402-441-7180. For resources and PSA examples, go to <http://lancaster.unl.edu/4h/Contest/speech.shtml>

## PSA Contest Divisions:

- Novice: 8–9 years old
- Junior: 10–11 years old
- Intermediate: 12–13 years old
- Senior: 14–19 years old

## Scoring

For the Public Service Announcement (PSA) division of the public speaking program, the emphasis is on the presentation of a PSA for radio. For that reason, scoring is based on the content of the material and the delivery. Appearance and gestures do not enter into the judging at this time.

The PSA Scorecard is based on a total of 100 points.

- 20% - Introduction:** Did the introduction catch your immediate attention? Was it short and to the point? Did the excitement match the contest?
- 20% - Body:** Main points clear? Appropriate amount of information given? Facts related to the PSA theme?
- 20% - Closing:** Do you give information to the listener in how to become involved or how to obtain additional information? Was the PSA properly wrapped up? How close to 60 seconds is the PSA?
- 40% - General Delivery:** Was the PSA in a conversational style? Did you use proper voice control? Did you give it at a good pace? All words pronounced correctly? Were sounds effect effective and attention giving?