



# 4-H Speech Contest

**Sunday, March 14 • Register by March 10**

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 5–18 (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, March 14 at the Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherrycreek Road, Lincoln. Check-in is 1–1:30 p.m., contest begins at 1:30 p.m. No visual aids (posters) are allowed. Please dress nice for the contest. Note cards can be used as references, but should not be used to read your speech.

Register by Wednesday, March 10 by calling 402-441-7180 or emailing [kpulec3@unl.edu](mailto:kpulec3@unl.edu) with your name, speech title and age division.

For more information, contact Kate Pulec at [kpulec3@unl.edu](mailto:kpulec3@unl.edu) or 402-441-7180. For resources and examples of Intermediate and Senior speeches, go to <http://lancaster.unl.edu/4h/speech>.



## 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.  
*(Clover Kids receive participation ribbons only — no premiums given.)*

**Junior:** 8–10 years old

**Length:** 2–3 minutes

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

**Intermediate:** 11–13 years old

**Length:** 3–5 minutes

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

**Senior:** 14–18 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.

## HEALTH DIRECTIVE PROCEDURES UPDATE

In order to hold the Speech Contest in-person, health directives will be enforced. Participants will be given a set speech time and may bring one adult with them. Masks will be required for all attendees over the age of 2. Social distancing will be practiced throughout the event. After a speech is given, the participant is free to leave. Ribbons and judge's comment sheets will be awarded at a later time.

## 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 Wednesday, March 10**

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 5–18 (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 Public Service Announcement (PSA) Contest, 4-H'ers submit a 60 second “radio commercial” promoting 4-H. Submit a PSA as a .wav, .mp3 or .m4a file electronically to [kpulec3@unl.edu](mailto:kpulec3@unl.edu) or on a CD to the Extension office by Wednesday, March 10.

- The 2021 state theme is “Opportunity 4 All” and should be incorporated in the PSA.
- All 4-H PSA's must include the following tag line within the last ten seconds of the PSA: “Learn more about Nebraska Extension 4-H youth development program at [4h.unl.edu](http://4h.unl.edu)”. 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 public domain music may be used (copyrighted material may not be used).

If you do not have the capabilities to record a PSA, contact Vicki Jedlicka at 402-441-7180 to set up a recording time at the Extension office.

The PSA's will be judged without the 4-H member present. Results and comment sheets will be handed out at a later time [note change from being announced at the Speech Contest].

For more information, contact Kate Pulec at [kpulec3@unl.edu](mailto:kpulec3@unl.edu) or 402-441-7180. For resources and PSA examples, go to <http://lancaster.unl.edu/4h/speech>.

## PSA Contest Divisions:

**Clover Kids:** 5–7 years old (*Clover Kids receive participation ribbons only — no premiums given.*)

**Junior:** 8–10 years old

**Intermediate:** 11–13 years old

**Senior:** 14–18 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.

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|--------------------------------|---|
| <b>20% - Introduction:</b>     | Did the introduction catch your immediate attention? Was it short and to the point?<br>Did the excitement match the contest?  |
| <b>20% - Body:</b>             | Main points clear? Appropriate amount of information given? Facts related to the PSA theme?   |
| <b>20% - Closing:</b>          | 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?             |
| <b>40% - General Delivery:</b> | 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? |