

2025

JUNEAU COUNTY 4-H

SPEAKING and DEMONSTRATION CONTEST



PURPOSE:

The purpose of the 4-H Speaking and Demonstration Contest is to provide an opportunity for 4-H members to communicate their thoughts and ideas to others, gain poise and self-confidence when speaking before an audience, and gain a sense of accomplishment. It is sponsored by the Juneau County 4-H Leaders Association and hosted by Orange Mill 4-H Club.

GENERAL:

January 19, 2025 (Sun.) AT CAMP DOUGLAS VILLAGE HALL, (304 Center St., Camp Douglas).

Contest will begin at **12:30 p.m.** We will alternate between a speaking pieces and demonstrations.

Be in place and ready to go at 12:30 p.m.

Snow date: January 26, 2025

ENTRY

- Entries are online at: <https://forms.gle/TQfBoHF7BvrYNeHj8>
- **Entry deadline: January 13, 2025 (Monday) at 4:00 p.m.**

If you have questions or need assistance with your entry, please call the Extension Office (April Martell), 608-847-9329 or email april.martell@wisc.edu

TIPS TO CONTESTANTS

- May use notes.
- A table top lectern can be provided, if needed. Please request this in advance so we bring it along.
- Visual aids (pictures, charts) may **NOT** be used in the Speaking Contest and are encouraged for the Demonstration Contest.
- Timing of speeches and formal demonstrations will begin when contestants begin to speak.
New in 2025: all pieces will be timed. Pay close attention to time limits listed on pages 2-3 as they are specific in some instances to age and category.

HOW ARE YOUTH EVALUATED?

- The Judge's decision is final; no changes will be made in the placings.
- Evaluation forms are publicly available. They were mailed to 4-H families and live on the Juneau County 4-H website under Forms/Applications.
- Each speech and demonstration will be judged on its own merits and BLUE, RED, or WHITE ribbons will be used to represent placings. Cloverbuds will receive participation ribbons and not placing ribbons. All ribbons will be distributed at event.
- Speaking Contest premiums will be paid the day of the event.
- Grades 3-13th Demonstration participants will be paid through entering their demonstration at the Juneau County Fair.*
- Cloverbud Demonstration participants will receive premiums the day of the event.

Online Entry Portal:



2025 SPEAKING CONTEST GUIDELINES

Cloverbuds: May enter in Poetry/Prose (5 minute time limit, no minimum)

Grades 3-5: May enter in 2-3 minute Poetry/Prose and a 2-3 minute Speech

Grades 6-8: May enter in 3-8 minute Poetry/Prose and a 3-8 minute Speech

Grades 9-13: May enter in 8-15 minute Poetry/Prose and an 8-15 minute Speech

Poetry/Prose reading

- May be self-authored or written by another author.

Speeches

- ✓ Must be your original idea.
- ✓ Any topic is acceptable but should be one that you enjoy and family friendly.
- ✓ Quotes may only be used to supplement a point in your speech.

4-H Focused Testimony (NEW in 2023)

- Memorization is required
- Written by participant focused on why someone should join 4-H, a story about a 4-H ah ha moment, a 4-H educational moment
- May be used for Juneau County 4-H promotional purposes

Interpretive Speeches

- Memorization is required.
- No props, costumes, audiovisual aids.
- Ten minutes maximum for all grades.

Dramatic Interpretation

- Member chooses a piece of literature written by another person to act out (interpret).
- Genre: Plays, prose, or poetry.
- Dramatic interpretation materials are dramatic in nature.

Humorous Interpretation

- Member chooses a piece of literature written by another person to act out (interpret).
- Genre: Play, prose, or poetry.
- Humorous interpretation materials are humorous in nature.

Open Interpretation

- Choice of genre is unrestricted. (May include original work, unpublished work by others, or published material.)
- Genre unlimited – may include plays, poetry, storytelling, historical speeches, and thematic selections.
- Single member only.

NEW IN 2025:

All Poetry/Prose and Speeches will be **timed**. Look at the list at the top of this page as times vary by grade level. If there is a time range listed, you must meet the minimum time required and not go over the maximum time. If you fail to meet the minimum time, you will be dropped one placing. If you go over the maximum time, you will be dropped one placing for each minute you go over.

Practice timing yourself!

++++Keep in mind that age appropriate material and performance are expected. (an older youth reading word for word from a note card, a book etc. will get lower scores) ++++

2025 DEMONSTRATION CONTEST GUIDELINES

Cloverbuds: May enter an Individual Formal Demonstration, Individual Action Demonstration, Team Formal Demonstration with other Cloverbuds, Action Demonstration with mixed grade team, or Formal Demonstration with mixed grade team. *Time limit for all entries in this grade category: 10 minutes*

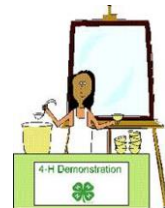
Grades 3-5: May enter an Individual Formal Demonstration, Individual Action Demonstration, Team Formal Demonstration with other 3-5th graders, Action Demonstration with mixed grade team, or Formal Demonstration with mixed grade team. *Time limit for all entries in this grade category: 10 minutes*

Grades 6-8: May enter an Individual Formal Demonstration, Individual Action Demonstration, Team Formal Demonstration with other 6-8th graders, Action Demonstration with mixed grade team, or Formal Demonstration with mixed grade team. *Time limit for all entries in this grade category: 10 minutes*

Grades 9-13: May enter an Individual Formal Demonstration, Individual Action Demonstration, Team Formal Demonstration with other 9-13th graders, Action Demonstration with mixed grade team, or Formal Demonstration with mixed grade team. *Time limit for all entries in this grade category: 10 minutes*

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What is a Formal demonstration?

- Given in front of an audience.
- **Time limit: 10 minutes.**
- Should be done in a speech format: Opening – Body – Closing—Time for Questions at end.
- Poster(s) summarizing your demonstration are strongly encouraged.



What is an Action demonstration?

- Usually an activity done at a table as people walk by where participants may actively try out what it is you are demonstrating.
- No set speech format.
- **Time limit: 10 minutes.**
- An action demonstration allows people walking by an opportunity to watch and listen, interact with the demonstrator, ask questions, or participate in answering questions or making something.
- Poster(s) summarizing your activity may be used.



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*Note: Grades 3-13 contestants must do their Demonstration at the Juneau County Fair, usually in the 4-H Food Stand. A sign-up sheet is available at the 4-H Food Stand. Members must enter their demonstration in Department 31J with a poster summarizing the formal or action demonstration and perform their demonstration at the Juneau County Fair to receive a fair premium.

++++NO LIVE ANIMALS ALLOWED IN THE BUILDING THIS YEAR +++++

New in 2025:

All demonstrations will be timed. If you go over the maximum time, you will be dropped one placing for each minute over. **PRACTICE AT HOME!**

An EEO/AA employer, Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming including Title IV, Title IX, and ADA requirements. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information, access, or other accommodations should contact 608-847-9329 prior to the event.