



## 4-H Public Presentations Contests

Kim Peters ..... Co-Superintendent  
[kim.peters@colostate.edu](mailto:kim.peters@colostate.edu)  
Jessica Counts. .... Co-Superintendent

### Contest Dates:

**Saturday, August 27:**

**Interpretive Reading**

**Sunday, August 28:**

**Demonstrations and Illustrated Talks**

**Time: 8:00 am**

**Location: 4-H Auditorium – Colorado State Fairgrounds**

**Participant's Entry Fee: \$10 per person**

**Registration Deadline:**

**August 8**

Each county office will issue **one check payable to CSU Extension** for county entry total.

Mail by **September 30** to:

**State Fair Contests**

CSU State 4-H Office

4045 Campus Delivery

Fort Collins, CO 80523-4045

**Age Divisions:** All ages are as of December 31 of the previous year:

- Juniors: 8-10 years of age
- Intermediates: 11-13 years of age
- Seniors: 14-18 years of age

**Gate Passes:** Counties are responsible for ordering and distributing gate passes for contestants. The superintendent will not be sending passes.

**Lodging:** Lodging in the **State Fair/4-H Growing Minds Dormitories** is available. **Pre-registration is required.**

### **Demonstrations & Illustrated Talks**

Class 443 Individual Junior

Class 444 Team Junior

Class 445 Individual Intermediate

Class 446 Team Intermediate

Class 447 Individual Senior

Class 448 Team Senior

### **Interpretive Reading**

Class 449 Interpretive Reading Junior

Class 450 Interpretive Reading Intermediate

Class 451 Interpretive Reading Senior

### **Public Presentation Contest Rules:**

Please see contest-specific section for additional rules pertaining to each division.

1. The contest will begin at 8 a.m. Awards will be given after each program. Superintendents will schedule each class after entries are received and will email a tentative schedule out to participants to let them know when they should arrive.
2. Contestants must be enrolled 4-H members in one of the following age categories:
  - a. Junior: 8-10 years 4-H age
  - b. Intermediate: 11-13 years 4-H age
  - c. Senior: 14-18 years 4-H age
3. Each county is limited to three entries per class. The top three blue ribbon winners from each age division and class can compete at the state contest. In addition to awarding blue ribbons using the Danish System, counties should have judges rank their top blue ribbons winners in each class to select State Fair entrants.
4. Presentations must be directly related to 4-H projects or activities that members are enrolled in. 4-H members are asked to be sensitive to the diverse audience that attends the fair. All materials to be presented are subject to review by the county extension office. Materials which are deemed inappropriate by the county will not be allowed.
5. Members may use their 4-H dogs, cats, or pocket pals that are identified in 4-H Online in their presentations. We are not able to accommodate larger animals, such as livestock or horses.
6. The only public presentation division that allows teams is Demonstrations & Illustrated Talks. A team shall consist of two 4-H members. Both team members may be from the same age division. If they are not, they must compete in the division of the oldest member.
7. Time limits are event and age specific. Two points will be deducted from the total score on each judge's score sheet for every 30 seconds over or under the event and age division time limits. After the individual has been introduced by the superintendent, the time will start once the contestant begins to speak and end when they stop speaking. For demonstrations, timing ends at the end of the presentation and does not include the question and answer period.

Please check the rules for each division for more details. For Demonstrations and Illustrated Talks, an additional five minutes is allowed for set-up and take down.

	Junior	Intermediate	Senior
Demo & Ill. Talk	4-6 min	6-8 min	8-10 min
Interpretive Reading	3-5 min	4-6 min	6-8 min

8. Each individual and team will be expected to provide their own visual aids, props, or special equipment. The contest will provide a table, projector, screen, microphone, and easel. **If contestants need more than one easel, they should bring the second easel.** A podium will not be provided. A laptop will be present for presenters to use with the projector. Participants should bring their presentation on a flash drive, but are encouraged to bring their own computer to present with (along with any special adaptors) as a backup. **If you have additional special needs, please email the contest superintendent.** Early arrival on the contest day is suggested for setting up any equipment.
9. A tentative contestant order will be emailed in advance of the contest. Contestants must contact the superintendents to notify them if they are competing in another event that may conflict with this contest. Attempts will be made to make accommodations within reason, and with advance notification.
10. Awards: Junior, Intermediate, and Senior team and individual participants will be ranked 1-10. Champion and Reserve Champion individuals and teams will be designated in each age division.

**Demonstrations & Illustrated Talks Division Rules:**

1. Each Demonstration and Illustrated Talk will be timed. Senior demonstrations must be between 8–10 minutes in duration. Intermediate demonstrations must be between 6–8 minutes in duration. Junior demonstrations must be between 4–6 minutes in duration. Two points will be deducted for each 30 second over or under the time limit. Participants will be given a 30-second warning before end of the time period. An additional five minutes is allowed for set-up and take down.
2. Only the judges will ask questions to presenters at the end of their presentations. There will be no questions

from the audience. Generally, each judge asks one question, but some judges may choose to ask a follow-up.

**Interpretive Reading Division Rules:**

1. Members deliver a rendition of a piece of pre-written material. The pre-written material should be a selection from a book, poem, story, etc., and should be 4-H appropriate. This area is not intended for presentation of original material written by the presenter. Members may choose which selection or multiple portions of a text to present but may not change the content. Content should be cohesive and transition smoothly from one portion to the next.
2. During the beginning of the reading, speakers should introduce their piece and explain the significance of the material.
3. Costumes and small props can be used but they need to be simple and minimal and not detract from the strength of the presenter. Everyone will be expected to provide their own equipment. General equipment and supplies such as tables and chairs will be furnished when requested in advance of competition.
4. Each Interpretive Reading will be timed. Senior readings must be between 6–8 minutes in duration. Intermediate readings must be between 4–6 minutes in duration. Junior readings must be between 3–5 minutes in duration. Two points will be deducted for each 30 seconds over or under the time limit. Participants will be given a 30-second warning before end of the time period.