UCONN
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE,
HEALTH AND NATURAL
RESOURCES
EXTENSION

Regional Public Presentation Competition
Hartford and Tolland County
Saturday February 10, 2024- 9:00 am-1:45 pm (there will be multiple rooms- if needed for larger turn outs)
Time subject to change to match registrations (Snow date Sunday February 11, 2024, 9:00 to time tbd)

Tolland County Extension Center: 24 Hyde Avenue (Route 30), Vernon Ct. (Exit 67 from Route 84)
Registration is due by February 2, 2024
Light refreshments are served: **Lunch is not provided.**
All 4-H members in good standing must engage in some form of public presentation every year. All Hartford and Tolland County 4-H members, registered in Zsuite for the current year, are invited to participate in this competition to help develop your skills. 4-H members (excluding Explorers) may present a demonstration, visual presentation (illustrated talk), or a speech. See page 2-4 for Guidelines, see page 5 for Registration.

Explorer
- **Explorer (5-6 years as of January 1, 2024)** and registered as an Explorer in Zsuite. Participation is only available at local/county level. No Explorer bracket at state level contests. "Show and Tell" only – not scored or compete against others.

Novice:
- **Novice (ages 7 – 8 as of Jan. 1, 2024)** will need to give a presentation that is 3-5 minutes in length.

Junior:
- **Juniors (ages 9 – 12 as of Jan. 1, 2024)** will need to give a presentation that is 3-5 minutes in length to be eligible for the new state event. Juniors (ages 9-12) will be able to participate in the State Public Speaking Contest in both the Speech category and the Visual Presentation category. Two county winners will be selected to represent their counties at the State Junior Public Speaking Event in the Speech and in the Visual Presentation category.

Senior
- **Seniors (ages 13 – 18 as of January 1, 2024)** will need to give a presentation that is at least 5 minutes but not more than 8 minutes in length. Two seniors from each county will be selected to participate in the State Public Speaking Contest on TBA. One will be in the Speech category, and one will be in the Visual Presentation category. A visual presentation may be a demonstration, an illustrated talk or a power point presentation. Teams are not eligible for the State Contest.

4-H members may choose any subject that is of interest to them. Think about your subject and begin to work on your presentation. It can be about your project, or a serious, humorous, or educational topic. Brief note cards are okay. 4-H members should refrain from reading their presentations from a written script. 4-H members may choose to use a lectern or may give their presentation without a lectern. A demonstration table and an easel will be available for demonstrations, team demonstrations and illustrated talks if you wish to use them. **4-H members wishing to use a *computer presentation for their illustrated talks must bring their presentation on a flash drive as well as an additional back up copy*.** Your visual presentation should be used to enhance your speech. Internet connection is **not** available.

Ribbons will be presented to all contestants and winners will receive a plaque and be announced from each county to present at the State Public Speaking Contest on TBA.
All 4-H members that make presentations at this regional event will be eligible to present their demonstrations, illustrated talks or speeches at The Big E in the New England Center during Connecticut 4-H Day.
The evaluation sheets for demonstrations, illustrated talks, junior speeches and senior speeches are available on forms page or by calling the Tolland County Extension Office.

Important: You must register for the contest to participate. 4-H members that are registered will be called by the evening before or by 7AM on the day of the contest in case the event must be rescheduled due to a **major** snow or ice storm.

UConn 4-H Public Speaking Contest
Guidelines & General Rules

Contest Objectives:
- To acquire skills, confidence, and poise in speaking to groups using interesting and familiar topic areas.
- To expand topic-based knowledge.
- To learn skills necessary to properly research and compile information on a specific topic.
- To learn organizational skills and ways to effectively express ideas in a logical and concise manner to a diverse audience whether in person or through electronic means.
- To evaluate skills and recognize accomplishment in a positive competitive atmosphere.
- To encourage the sharing of ideas using assorted presentation tools.

Contest Age Brackets:
- **Senior** – any youth 13-18 years of age as of January 1
- **Junior** – any youth 9-12 years of age as of January 1
- **Novice** – any youth 7-8 years of age as of January 1
    - Participation only available at local/county level
    - No Novice bracket at state level contests
- **Explorer** – any youth 5-6 years of age as of January 1
    - Participation only available at local/county level
    - No Explorer bracket at state level contests
    - "Show and Tell" only – not scored or compete against others.

Contest Presentation Categories:
- **Speech**
    - **Note Cards Only** – involves educating on a topic of interest without the use of visual aids, props or additional materials.
- **Visual Presentation**
    - **Demonstration** – involves doing something *(making, creating, finishing, etc.)* while educating the audience through explanation of the steps being performed.
    - **Illustrated Talk** – involves speaking to the audience with the aid of an illustration such as a diagram, chart, model, photo, etc.
    - **Electronic Media** – A demonstration or illustrated talk incorporating the use of electronic content such as PowerPoint, Prezi, etc.
- **Team Presentation**
    - Must compete through use of a **Visual Presentation** *(see above)* and not **Speech.**
    - All members of the groups must be meaningfully involved in the presentation.
    - If move onto level II *(virtual presentation)* all team members must all be in the same physical location to deliver presentation to virtual audience
    - Consult with county educator for group size limits.
    - All group members must be in the same age bracket to qualify beyond local/county level.
        - Any mixed aged team at local/county level must compete in bracket of highest aged member of team.
        - No novice/junior or junior/senior teams at level II or above

Contest Time Requirements:
- **Senior** *(13-18 years)* – presentation should be 5-8 minutes in length.
- **Junior** *(9-12 years)* – presentation should be 3-5 minutes in length.
- **Novice** *(7-8 years)* – presentation should be 3-5 minutes in length.

Contest Levels
- **Level I – Local/County Contests (In-person)**
  - Held through live events at the county level.
  - Coordinated by the county educator(s).
    - Can consist of one county or include a group of counties offering a contest in partnership as a regional event.
    - All materials necessary for completion of contest should be coordinated by the local/county contest facilitator.
  - Should take place from late January to the end of February.
  - Any speaker/presenter/team 9 yrs. or older who achieves a blue ribbon at the county level is invited to participate in the level II virtual state qualifier to take place in February.
    - Individuals have the option to move forward.
    - Or choose not to compete further.
- **Level II – State Qualifier Contest (Virtual)**
  - To take place in a **Virtual** contest via digital meeting portal *(Zoom, WebEx, etc.)*
  - Level II contests will take place **Tuesday and Wednesday, February 27 & 28, 2024** beginning at 6:30pm
    - Night 1 – Visual Presentation   • Night 2 – Speech
  - Qualified presenters will be invited to participate by direct email invitation by members of the state public speaking contest team.
  - All virtual contests will be facilitated by members of the state public speaking contest team or their designees.
    - A waiting room will be set up for presenters.
    - Participants will be invited to arrive in the waiting room 5-10 minutes before the contest begins (any late presenters will be admitted to the room between presentations so as not to disrupt person presenting at the time)
    - All youth presenters will be in the room at the same time, affording the opportunity to hear each other's presentations just as would happen during a live event. All who are not presenting will be asked to keep their microphone on mute.
    - As in past years' contests, 1 parent/coach will also be allowed into the room to view the presentations along with participants.
    - Only judges will be permitted to ask presenters questions.
- **Level III – State Finals Contest (In-person)**
  - Scheduled to take place live on **Saturday, March 16, 2024**
  - In the W.B. Young Building on the UConn Storrs campus.
  - The **top four** scorers from each division of the Level II contest will qualify to compete at the Level III contest.
  - Individual divisions will run simultaneously in assigned rooms throughout the building.
  - Opening and closing ceremonies will consist of all participants and invited guests, in W.B. Young Room 100
  - State finals will only be a half day event held in the morning.
  - Full details will be sent via email to those who qualify to compete at Level III.
  - County educators be cc'd on emails sent to youth representing their county.

  - State finals winners will be invited to participate in the Northeast Presentation Festival which takes place each fall.

- **NEW FOR 2024!!!!!!**
  - <u>The state 4-H Horse Program has made the decision to incorporate the state 4-H Horse Public Speaking opportunity into the regular 4-H public speaking contests.</u>
  - To qualify for the Eastern National Roundup youth must:
    - Be at least 14 years of age as of January 1, 2024
    - Present on a horse related topic
    - Qualify and compete at all three contest levels, achieving a blue Danish level score at state finals
    - Qualify in one of the recognized contest divisions: speech, individual visual presentation/demo or team visual presentation/demo.
    - Be available to compete in Kentucky (if qualify)
  - If multiple participants qualify, the top scorer in each division will be selected to represent Connecticut at the Eastern National Roundup

Other Information of Importance
- The same scoring rubric will be utilized at all levels of competition. Scoring rubrics will be provided by the state public speaking contest team to all local/county contest facilitators.
- A Google spreadsheet will be provided to all local/county contest facilitators to accurately record all those moving onto greater levels of competition.
- Judges are the only individuals allowed to ask follow-up questions during a public speaking contest at any level.
- The judges' decisions are final for all public speaking contests.
- All contest related questions should be directed to the local/county contest facilitator.

Important Public Speaking Contest Dates:

➔ January 18 – Public Speaking Virtual Workshop
➔ February 7 – Middlesex/New Haven Counties Public Speaking Contest (at Middlesex)
➔ February 10 – Windham County Public Speaking Contest
➔ February 10 – Middlesex/New Haven Counties Public Speaking Contest (at New Haven)
➔ February 10 & 11 – Fairfield County Public Speaking Contest
➔ February 10 – Hartford/Tolland Counties Public Speaking Contest
➔ February 17 – Litchfield County Public Speaking Contest
➔ February 23 – New London County Public Speaking Contest
➔ February 27 & 28 – Level II State Qualifiers
➔ March 16 – State Public Speaking Finals

Register for the February 10 – Hartford/Tolland Counties Public Speaking Contest
by Friday, February 2, 2024. Registration and instructions are on the next page.

PUBLIC SPEAKING REGISTRATION

Speech - It's best to use note cards only – involves talking about something of interest to you without the use of visual aids. The speech can be funny, serious, informative, or argumentative. No teams are allowed in this category.

Visual Presentations

<u>Demonstration</u> – The demonstrator is doing something. Making, creating, or showing the audience how to do something while talking about it.

<u>Illustrated Talk</u> – Involves talking about something while using an illustration such as a diagram, chart, model, or picture.

<u>Power Point</u> - A demonstration or illustrated talk that uses computer technology. For Power Point presentations you MUST have your presentation on a USB flash drive. A projector and screen will be provided. The Internet is **NOT** available in all spaces.

<div align="center"><u>Team Presentation</u></div>

Must compete through use of a **Visual Presentation** and not **Speech.**

- All members of the groups must be meaningfully involved in the presentation.
- If move onto Level II *(virtual presentation)* all team members must all be in the same physical location to deliver presentation to virtual audience
- Consult with county educator for group size limits.
- All group members must be in the same age bracket to qualify beyond local/county level.
  - Any mixed aged team at local/county level must compete in bracket of highest aged member of team (No novice/junior or junior/senior teams at level II or above)

Registration Form for Regional Public Speaking Contest due by February 2, 2024

1. Mail or drop off to the Tolland County Extension Center 4-H; 24 Hyde Avenue; Vernon, CT 06066 or 2. Call 860-875-3331 with all of the information or 3. You may also e-mail, with subject line: "2024 Regional Public Speaking", the information to tolland@uconn.edu by **February 2, 2024.**

Name_____ Age on 1-1-24_____

Street_____ _____

Town_____ Zip_____ County_____

Phone_____E-Mail_____

Title of presentation_____

<div align="center">Check age category:</div>
<div align="center">_____ <i>Explorer– ages 5-6 (county level only)</i> _____ <i>Novice– ages 7-8 (county level only)</i></div>
<div align="center">_____ <i>Junior – ages 9-12 or</i> _____ <i>Senior – ages 13-18</i></div>
<div align="center">Check presentation category:</div>

Speech_____

or

Visual Presentation – check one

Demonstration_____ Illustrated talk_____ Power Point_____

_____I will need to use a computer and projector for a visual presentation.

_____I will **not** need to use a computer and projector for a visual presentation.

Team Demonstration_____ Name of other Presenters_____

_____

 ***All visual presentations needing a computer and projector MUST be brought on a USB flash drive or on your computer. Internet connection is not reliably available *** <u>Contest date is February 10, 2024 (snow date 2/11/24)</u>