

PREPARED PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST



Entry Deadline: -----March 1, 2019

Contest: -----March 11, 2019 at 8:00 a.m. Check-In 9:00 a.m. Contest Start (Events Center)

Awards: ----- In Conclusion of Contest (Events Center)

The prepared public speaking contest is designed to enhance the communication skills of future leaders as well as promoting interest in the various facets of agriculture including natural resources and policy making. The Rio Grande Valley 4-H and FFA participants are challenged to write and present a speech in one of the following areas: Animal Science, Plant Science, Natural Resources, Agribusiness, Ag Policy, and Agricultural Technology & Communications.

This event will be ruled by the RGVLS General Rules plus the following special rules:

1. Entry- fee \$10.00 per entry. Fee along with three (3) copies of the manuscript with bibliography and certificate of authenticity is due in RGVLS office on or before March 1, 2019. Each contestant may only enter one speech. A bibliography in APA style must accompany each manuscript.

2. Originality-The manuscript and speech presentation must be the contestant's own effort. A statement of originality must accompany each entry.

3. Eligibility-Participation is limited to individuals who are members in good standing of 4-H Clubs or FFA Chapters in the State of Texas.

4. Age Groups:

Junior-8 years old and in the 3rd grade, but not more than in the eighth grade.

Senior- At least 9th Grade, but not graduated from high school nor more than 18 years old.

5. Format:

A. Presentations will be judged by a panel of 2-3 judges.

B. The Junior age group MAY be combined into one division for judging depending on number of entries. The top two contestants will compete for Grand Champion and Reserve in the Finals. If entries allow for separate divisions, all division winners will compete in the Finals.

C. Senior contestants will be divided into their respective divisions. Winners of each division will then face-off in the Finals to select a Grand and Reserve Grand Champion.

6. Time Limit:

A. Juniors - Each Speech shall be a minimum of four (4) minutes and a maximum of six (6) minutes.

B. Seniors - Each Speech shall be a minimum of six (6) minutes and a maximum of eight (8) minutes.

Deductions will be applied to overall score if time is under/over the allotted time. Time point deductions will apply as follows: one point for each 10 seconds over or under the allowed time.

7. Question/ Answer Period: A three minute question/answer period will follow each speech. At the end of three minutes, time will be called and all questioning will end. If time is called during the student's answer, the contestant may complete his/her answer. Only official judges may ask questions of the contestants.

8. Attire: Business attire or official 4-H or FFA dress is recommended.

9. Props: The use of props of any kind is prohibited. Violation will result in disqualification.

10. Score Sheet: The manuscripts will be reviewed and validated by show officials prior to the contest. A separate panel of judges will evaluate and score the presentations. Judges' comments will be returned to CEA or AST following the contest.

11. Results: The contest results as announced will be final.

12. Divisions

- A. Agribusiness-Any current or future subject that addresses topics such as cooperatives, sales, service, journalism, communications, entrepreneurship, marketing, finance, commodities, hedging, advertising, etc.
- B. Agricultural Policy-Any current or future subject that addresses police or legislation on the following: domestic farm issues, international trade, international competition, rural economic development, legal issues, animal welfare, subsidies, price supports, etc.
- C. Animal Science-Any current or future subject that addresses any aspect of the dairy, equine, poultry, sheep, goat, swine, beef, or specialty animal industries.
- D. Plant Science-Any current or future subject that deals with any aspect of horticulture and/or agronomy industries. This may include such areas as floriculture, fruit and/or vegetable production, nursery operations, turf and landscape management, crop production, specialty crop production, etc.
- E. Natural Resources-Any current or future subject that addresses topics such as soil, water, air, water quality, wildlife, forestry, aquaculture, conservation, recreation, recycling, energy environmental issues, etc.
- F. Agricultural Technology & Communications-Any current or future subject that addresses topics such as bio technology, bio genetics, bio engineering, mechanical engineering, farm safety, use of technology, research, laser, satellites, computers, embryo transfer, etc.

13. Awards: Jr & Sr division champions-Rosette

Jr & Sr reserve division champions-

Rosette Jr Grand Champion-Buckle

Jr Reserve Grand Champion-Buckle

Sr Grand Champion- Buckle and \$500 Scholarship

Sr Reserve Grand Champion-Buckle and \$250 Scholarship