

4-H/Tropicana Public Speaking Program

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The 4-H / Tropicana Public Speaking program offers educational materials and awards to assist teachers in providing public speaking instruction to 4th, 5th, and 6th graders. The most important part of the program is the instructional component of the program where the student learns to write and present a speech. Every student who participates receives a certificate of participation. The less important part of the program is the competitive component. Some students are motivated by competition and will put greater effort into their project to aim for obtaining a high ranking.

The competitive portion of the program offers ribbons to the top three speakers in each classroom, medallions to the top three speakers in each school division (4th and 5th graders are the Elementary Division and 6th graders are the Middle School Division), and plaques to the top four speakers in the county for each of the Divisions.

The UF IFAS Brevard Extension Office will coordinate the County Competition. **The County Competition will be held May 21, 2015, 6:30pm at the Brevard Extension Service Office 3695 Lake Drive, Cocoa, FL 32926. Please note there is no District Competition this year.**

INSTRUCTION

All instruction is provided by the classroom teacher or their resource people. A suggested five-day curriculum is provided for the teacher along with a tip sheet for every student.

EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

A number of printed materials are available to you.

Teacher Lesson Plans - this curriculum guide provides step-by-step suggestions for teachers to implement the weeklong program in their class. One for each teacher.

Tips For Giving A Great Speech - One (1) for each student.

Parents Information Letter - One (1) for each student

Score Sheet - One (1) per student, to be used by teacher / judge.

Certificate of Participation - One (1) for each student.

SPEAKING CONTEST RULES

Speeches must be the original work of the student. Students must use the same topic for classroom, school, and county competitions. It is permissible to make changes to the speech to improve it, based on learning at the different levels of competition. Of course, offensive material or language is not permitted.

Speeches should last between two and three minutes. Speeches that are less than two minutes are penalized five (5) points for every second they are under or over the time limit allowed. The maximum penalty for timing is a 10-point deduction. (See "Judging" for additional information.)

Students may not use visual aids, props, pictures, or costumes.

Students may work from note cards, an outline, or memory. No points are awarded or subtracted based on this format.

Each speaker should be introduced by an emcee that will indicate the student's name, classroom, and the title of the speech. **Speakers should not begin their speech with this information.**

Students will speak with a microphone at the County Competition. We will have a podium at the County level and students may use the podium or they are permitted to move about the stage. Please note this is change in previous years.

For school and county competitions: It is recommended that students dress in attire that is comfortable such as pants for boys and slacks or a skirt for girls. Suits and dresses are not necessary. Parents are encouraged to help their child select an outfit that makes them feel comfortable and confident.

JUDGING

A score sheet is provided that will be used at the county contest and should be used for school level contests. Teachers may choose to use a different scoring criteria at the classroom level contest but there are enough scoresheets provided to remain consistent throughout the competition. The classroom contest may be judged by the teacher but school level contests should utilize others to serve as judges.

For your school contest, we recommend using a minimum of three impartial judges representing different areas of expertise (such as teaching, business, and civic organizations). It is also valuable to have a diverse panel of judges including males, females, and minorities. Local Toast Master Chapters are often willing to assist with judging. The judges have a very difficult job and we recommend announcing that the decision of the judges is final.

SCORING CRITERIA

Composition of Speech:

Choice of material - student uses original material, subject is unique

Effective introduction - interesting, captures attention and indicates the topic

Effective body or main portion of speech - a logical and smooth flow of material

Use of language - effective selection, combination and use of words

Effective conclusion - summarizes material and concludes speech effectively; not too abrupt

Time length - automatically receive 10 points if within time limit; any penalties will be marked by staff tabulating the results.

Presentation of Speech:

Audience bond - establishes and maintains eye contact with members of the audience

Delivery - fluent and smooth and appears relaxed

Pronunciation - correct

Articulation - clear, easy to understand

Volume - appropriate volume level; effective changes to volume level throughout speech

Speed - speaks at a speed that can be understood, varies speed and uses pauses effectively

AWARDS

Tropicana Products, Inc. provides awards for a maximum of two divisions - a 4th/5th grade division and a 6th grade division.

Classroom Contest

Ribbons are provided for the first, second, and third place winners in each classroom.

School Contest

Medallions provided for the first, second, and third place winners at each school. Two sets are provided if a school has both elementary (4th/5th) and middle (6th) divisions.

County Contest

Plaques will be presented to the first, second, and third place winners and one honorable mention for each division. Tropicana Products, Inc. also provides a scholarship to 4-H Camp for the 1st place winners in each division.

REGISTERING YOUR SCHOOL -

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