

Presentations Contest - Impromptu

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Overview & Eligibility

The Impromptu Contest emphasizes the need for participants to think clearly and effectively on a topic with a short amount of preparation time. It is open to participants of all age categories. Contestants can enter both the impromptu contest as well as the prepared presentation contest. Contestants must register in advance to participate.

Contest

The contest will run as follows:

1. In an effort to accommodate varying schedules, contestants will present in the order they show up for the contest within their selected one hour block.
2. The topic drawing and preparation rooms will be separate from the speaking room(s).
3. When it is a contestant's turn, they will randomly draw three topics from a pool of questions. The contestant will select the one they would like to give the presentation about and return the other two to the pool. No two contestants within the same age group will speak on the same topic.
 - a. Questions will be relative to today's youth and may include current events, 4-H, and/or social issues.
Examples of the type of questions include:
 - i. If I were an author, I would write about...
 - ii. One issue facing teenagers today is...
 - iii. If I could describe my personality as a tree, I would be a...
 - iv. What being involved in 4-H has taught me
4. Upon selection of the chosen topic, the contestant will be allowed 3 minutes to organize their thoughts before beginning the presentation.
5. Contestants will be allowed to organize their thoughts on a blank note card supplied at the event. Seniors are limited to one note card. Excessive use of notes may be counted against the contestant. This will be at the discretion of the judges.
6. Each speech will be timed. Two points will be deducted for each 30 seconds over or under the time limit. The following time limits have been set for each age group:
 - a. Seniors ~ 3-5 minutes
 - b. Intermediates ~ 2 ½ - 4 minutes
 - c. Juniors ~ Up to 3 minutes
7. Contestants may not use any costumes, posters, visual aids, or props for their presentations.
8. Contestants are not allowed to present any items to the judges.
9. A public address system will not be used.
10. Ties will be broken by the judges.
11. This contest will be held in the morning and afternoon in order to accommodate additional participants who may be competing in other events at Showcase Showdown. Contestants will be asked to choose a one hour block in which they will complete their presentation.

Awards

Awards will be given to the top ten presentations for each age division.

The top two seniors will be awarded a \$500 scholarship to attend a 4-H leadership conference of their choosing or the opportunity to compete at Western National Roundup.

If you are interested in supporting the Wyoming 4-H Program, please contact:

Wyoming State 4-H Foundation

Steve Mack, Director

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Phone: 307.766.5170 or Email: smack@uwyo.edu