

**DATE:** January 5, 2024

**MEMO TO:** All South Plains District 2 County Extension Agents

**SUBJECT:** 2024 D-2 4-H Educational Presentations, Public Speaking and 4-H Talent Showcase

**FROM:** Felice Acker  
Castro County CEA-FCH  
Committee Chair

Natalie Snowden  
Floyd County CEA-FCH  
Committee Co-Chair

**CONTEST DATE:** Monday, May 6, 2024  
**CONTEST LOCATION:** First Baptist Church Floydada  
401 S. Main  
Floydada, TX 79235

**4-H Online Opens:** April 1, 2024  
**4-H Online Closes/Deadline** Monday, April 15, 2024  
**No Late Entries!**



**ENTRY FEE:** \$10 (for each contest entered)

**Registration for all Contests:** 10:00a

**Contests will begin:** 10:30a (if you are in multiple contests the order of your day will be given at check-in)

**Awards:** Will be presented in each room at the end of all the contests in that room.

**CONTACT:** Felice Acker, (806) 683-8111 or fracker@ag.tamu.edu

The 2023-2024 Educational Presentation/Public Speaking/4-H Talent Showcase Contests will be conducted In Person at First Baptist Church-Floydada. *All agents need to assist with Educational Presentations, Public Speaking, and 4-H Talent Showcase Contests. This is the preliminary letter about the contest. Additional letters with judging assignments and responsibilities will be sent closer to the contest.*

South Plains - District 2 4-H  
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## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION for District 2:**

- **There is No limit on the number of entries a County may have!**
- **All Ages—EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS—may register only ONE educational presentation category or public speaking. There will be an additional CHARGE of \$10 per contest if entering a 4-H Talent Showcase and Educational Presentation.**
  - Agricultural & Natural Resources
  - Animal Science
  - Beef
  - Family and Consumer Sciences
  - Health & Wellness
  - Horse
  - Open
  - Promote 4-H
  - Public Speaking
  - Safety & Injury Prevention
  - Science, Engineering, Technology, and Math (STEM) **NEW**
  - Sheep and Goat **NEW**
  - Swine **NEW**
- **Juniors and Intermediates. (Juniors 3rd-5th grade; Intermediates 6th-8th grade)**
  - **May compete together but will be entered in the intermediate age group. They may not compete with the Senior Age Group.**
  - **4-H TALENT SHOWCASE: may register for multiple 4-H Talent Showcase categories at the additional cost of \$10 a category.**
- **SENIOR Age: 4-H Talent Showcase may enter one contest that is a Wednesday at State Contest and one Thursday Contest. Each Contest is \$10.** The entries can be either an individual or a team.
- **The 4-H Talent Showcase categories are:**
  - Choreographed routine (Wednesday at State for Seniors)
  - *Variety Show* (Wednesday at State for Seniors)
  - Musical/instrumental (*Wednesday Contest* at State for Seniors)
  - Vocal (Wednesday at State for Seniors)
  - Poetry/Prose (*Thursday* at State for Seniors)
  - 4-H Skit (was Celebrate 4-H) (Thursday at State for Seniors)
  - Solo/Band Performance (Thursday at State for Seniors)

### Special Note for Seniors from the State Roundup Guide

A 4-H member **must** present/enter the SAME entry for which they qualified throughout all levels of the contest – county, district and state. The only modification to an entry once it has been entered at any level and advances to the next, is enhancements to the entry based upon feedback from the judges. Complete alteration of the entry will result in disqualification at the next level of competition. Documentation of presentation information will need to be shared from a county to district to state level.

PUBLIC SPEAKING Time limit is 5-8 minutes!

- **MULTIPLE Contests**—if you register for multiple contests, we will do our best to have you compete early in the contest with the lowest entries so you can then go to your other contests. Be prepared to leave the room and immediately compete in your other category.

### **Awards**

Placings will be announced in each room on the day of the contest, as each room completes its contests.

### **Texas 4-H Roundup**

Refer to the **2024 Texas 4-H Roundup Guide**. Requirements for all contests are given in the 2023-2024 Texas 4-H Roundup Handbook, which is available on the web at:

**READ THE 2024 ROUNDUP GUIDE FOR RULES AND REGULATIONS ON EACH CONTEST AND NOTE ANY CHANGES.** Please be aware of overall changes and ones specific to each category.

Participants are required to participate in District Roundup to qualify for State Roundup. County Agents are responsible for making sure the members are entered correctly according to the rules of the contest concerned.

[https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/roundup\\_handbook\\_2024.pdf](https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/roundup_handbook_2024.pdf)

### **State Qualifiers**

Educational Presentations, Public Speaking - 3 entries per district

4-H Talent Showcase - 2 entries per category per district

Sample Score sheets and project information can be found at the Texas 4-H Roundup website

<https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/events/roundup/>

If participants need any type of accommodation to participate in this program or have questions about the physical access provided, please contact the county office or Bailee Wright (806) 746-6101 at least two weeks before the event.

If you have suggestions or comments, please notify Felice Acker immediately. We look forward to a quality 4-H experience for everyone!

CC: Michael Clawson

## Educational Presentations Category Descriptions

\*These are taken from the 2024 Texas 4-H Educational Presentation Category Guide [https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/educational\\_presentation\\_descriptions.pdf](https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/educational_presentation_descriptions.pdf)

It is your responsibility to make sure you have entered the correct contest. Agents please review descriptions with families and ensure they are in the most appropriate category.

Category	Description
Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR)	<p>The relationship between agriculture and natural resources is essential because agriculture relies heavily on natural resources like fertile soil, water, and sunlight. Sustainable agricultural practices aim to manage these resources in ways that ensure their long-term availability while minimizing negative impacts on the environment. Topics could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Topics related to agriculture: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Practice of cultivating plants for food, fiber, medicinal plants, and other products used by humans.</li> <li>○ Farm and ranch economics</li> <li>○ Meat science</li> <li>○ Dairy cattle</li> <li>○ Topics related to activities such as planting, growing, harvesting, and managing crops.</li> <li>○ Ag technology</li> <li>○ Farm Safety</li> <li>○ <i>Topics related to the breeding and raising of livestock or small animals should be under those specific categories: Beef, Sheep &amp; Goats, Swine, Horse, Animal Science</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>● Topics related to natural resources: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Entomology</li> <li>○ Forestry</li> <li>○ Range Science</li> <li>○ Water Conservation</li> <li>○ Horticulture</li> <li>○ Wildlife &amp; Fisheries</li> <li>○ Shooting Sports</li> <li>○ Soil &amp; land management</li> <li>○ Outdoor education</li> <li>○ Environmental Stewardship</li> <li>○ Food Production and Food Security</li> <li>○ Other ANR field of study</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Youth will relate information to knowledge or skills learned in the field of Agriculture and Natural Resources.</p> <p><i>Note : You must choose only one category but Ag Technology related topics could be submitted under the STEM category. Farm Safety related topics could be submitted under the Safety &amp; Injury Prevention category.</i></p>

Animal Science	<p>The topic focuses on the study of animals that are smaller in size and often kept as pets, including but not limited to dogs, cats, rabbits, guinea pigs, and birds. This presentation aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of various aspects related to the care, behavior, health, training, and well-being of small animals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Topics could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Anatomy and Physiology</li> <li>○ Nutrition</li> <li>○ Housing and Enrichment</li> <li>○ Healthcare and Preventive Medicine</li> <li>○ Behavior and Training</li> <li>○ Reproduction and Breeding</li> <li>○ Common Diseases and Vet Care</li> <li>○ Pet Selection and Responsible Ownership</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Presentations focused on large animals must be entered respectively in the Beef, Sheep &amp; Goats, Swine or Horse category or those focused on Wildlife should be in the Agricultural and Natural Resources category</p>
Beef	<p>A beef educational presentation pertains to the delivery of information regarding a range of relevant subjects, both present and future-oriented.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Topics could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Advanced reproductive technologies</li> <li>○ Animal Husbandry</li> <li>○ Effective nutritional management practices</li> <li>○ Optimal animal health strategies</li> <li>○ Considerations in breeding and genetics</li> <li>○ Behavioral insights in beef cattle</li> <li>○ Understanding beef carcasses and end-products</li> <li>○ Analysis of production costs</li> <li>○ Fundamental aspects of overall herd management</li> <li>○ Insights into cattle marketing strategies</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>These presentations may be tailored to specific sectors within the beef industry, including cow-calf, stocker, or feedlot segments. The aim is to provide comprehensive knowledge to individuals engaged in beef production and management, enabling them to make informed decisions that enhance the efficiency, sustainability, and profitability of their operations.</p>
Family & Consumer	<p>Family and Consumer Education (FCE) is a subset of Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) that specifically focuses on educational programs and initiatives aimed at enhancing the knowledge, skills, and well-being of individuals and families. The subject matter of Family and Consumer Education encompasses a range of topics designed to empower individuals with practical life skills,</p>

	<p>promote healthy family dynamics, and contribute to the overall betterment of society. Topics should be centered around improving the well-being of individuals and families by addressing various aspects of daily life.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Topics can include but are not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Life skills education</li> <li>○ Family dynamics and relationships</li> <li>○ Financial literacy and management</li> <li>○ Consumer education and decision making</li> <li>○ Nutrition and healthy eating</li> <li>○ Culinary arts and food science</li> <li>○ Fashion and interior design</li> <li>○ Home management and organization</li> <li>○ Parenting and child development</li> <li>○ Consumer education and decision making</li> <li>○ Communication and Conflict Resolution</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><i>Please review the description for Health &amp; Wellness and Safety and Injury Prevention for topics pertaining to those subject areas.</i></p>
<p>Health &amp; Wellness</p>	<p>Health and wellness refer to the state of well-being that encompasses physical, mental, emotional, and social well-being. Health and wellness involve the conscious pursuit of optimal health through lifestyle choices, practices, and attitudes that promote vitality, resilience, and a high quality of life. The topics covered encompass a range of subjects relevant to youth health and wellness, encouraging active living, and chronic disease prevention.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Topics could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Physical Activity and Exercise</li> <li>○ Mental Health and Stress Management</li> <li>○ Sleep Health</li> <li>○ Substance Abuse Prevention</li> <li>○ Disease Prevention</li> <li>○ Heart Health</li> <li>○ Environmental Health</li> <li>○ Preventing the spread of the cold and flu / Covid-19</li> <li>○ Body Image and Self-Esteem</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Presentations should focus on healthy lifestyles, chronic disease prevention and wellness, not illness/treatment. It is suggested that project experiences in this area include topics aimed at youth health/wellness, the promotion of active living, and chronic disease prevention.</p> <p><i>Please review the description for Family Consumer Education and Safety and Injury Prevention for topics pertaining to those subject areas.</i></p>

Horse	<p>The educational presentation aims to encompass the theoretical and hands-on proficiencies acquired within the 4-H horse project. The presentation can cover various aspects of horse care, management, training, and usage. It aims to provide both theoretical understanding and practical insights to the audience. The goal is to empower the listeners with valuable information and techniques that they can apply in real-life scenarios involving horse projects, such as improving their ability to care for horses, manage their well-being, enhance their training, and make informed decisions about horse-related activities</p> <p>Topics could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Breeds</li> <li>• Anatomy</li> <li>• Nutrition</li> <li>• Health and Veterinary Care</li> <li>• Behavior and Training/Showmanship</li> <li>• Grooming and Maintenance</li> <li>• Tack and Equipment</li> <li>• Housing and Facilities</li> <li>• Riding Skills and Techniques</li> <li>• Breeding and Reproduction</li> <li>• Equine Careers</li> <li>• Ethics and Welfare</li> <li>• Horse-Related Legislation and Regulations</li> <li>• Equine Industry Trends</li> </ul> <p>These topics provide a well-rounded understanding of horse care, management, and horsemanship, catering to both newcomers and experienced individuals in the 4-H horse project. The presentation aims to empower participants with the knowledge and skills needed for responsible horse ownership, successful project management, and participation in horse-related activities.</p>
Open	<p>This contest serves as an option for youth participants when their presentation does not align with the predefined categories. This category enables participants to showcase their unique ideas, creativity, and skills. It encourages innovative thinking and provides an opportunity for youth to explore subjects that are important to them even if those subjects do not fit within the existing educational presentation category.</p> <p><i>Make sure your topic does not fit better within another category before selecting Open.</i></p>

Promote 4-H	<p>Participants are encouraged to select a target audience not affiliated with 4-H and exhibit a promotional approach that effectively communicates the principles and values of the 4-H program. The presentation should demonstrate their marketing and promotional skills by effectively showcasing and explaining the essence of 4-H. The presentation serves as a delivery method to enhance the visibility of 4-H among audiences in and outside the 4-H community</p>
Safety and Injury Prevention	<p>An educational presentation on safety and injury prevention addresses the importance of safeguarding oneself from potential hazards and minimizing the risk of injuries. This presentation aims to inform and educate the audience about strategies and practices that contribute to their well-being in various environments, including home, school, work, and recreational settings. The goal of this presentation is to empower individuals with information and tools that enable them to make informed decisions, minimize risks, and create safer environments for themselves and those around them.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Suggested presentation topics include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Safety Awareness</li> <li>○ Safe Practices</li> <li>○ Home Safety</li> <li>○ Fire Safety</li> <li>○ First Aid/Emergency care</li> <li>○ Transportation Safety</li> <li>○ Digital Safety</li> <li>○ Recreational Safety</li> <li>○ Emergency Preparedness</li> <li>○ Farm Safety</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><i>Please review the description for Family Consumer Education and Health and Wellness for topics pertaining to those subject areas.</i></p> <p><i>Note : You must choose only one category but Farm Safety related topics could be submitted under the Safety &amp; Injury Prevention category.</i></p>
<b>NEW!!</b> Science, Engineering, Technology and Math (STEM)	<p>This presentation aims to illuminate the synergies between STEM disciplines by examining how technology, research, and cutting edge ideas converge, it fosters an understanding of how scientific advancements can revolutionize methods, boost efficiency, and address contemporary challenges in the field. Through this exploration, the presentation seeks to inspire an appreciation for the dynamic relationship between STEM evolution.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Possible topics could be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Biotechnology</li> <li>○ Ag technology</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Biogenetics</li> <li>○ Bioengineering</li> <li>○ Mechanical Engineering</li> <li>○ Space Exploration and Astrophysics</li> <li>○ Green Energy and Sustainable Technologies</li> <li>○ Virtual Reality (VR) and Augmented Reality (AR)</li> <li>○ Cybersecurity and Data Privacy</li> <li>○ Robotics and Automation</li> <li>○ Coding and Programming</li> </ul> <p>Note : You must choose only one category but Ag Technology related topics could be submitted under the STEM category.</p>
<b>NEW!!</b> Sheep and Goat	<p>A sheep and goat educational presentation involves providing information on a wide array of pertinent subjects, encompassing both current and forward-looking aspects related to the raising of sheep and/or goats, as well as the utilization of their meat, milk, or fiber.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● These presentations can include discussions on:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Animal Husbandry</li> <li>○ Reproductive technologies</li> <li>○ Effective practices for nutritional management</li> <li>○ Optimal strategies for animal health</li> <li>○ Considerations in breeding and genetics</li> <li>○ Behavioral insights specific to sheep and goats</li> <li>● Analysis of production costs</li> <li>○ Fundamental elements of comprehensive herd management</li> <li>○ Insights into marketing strategies for sheep and goats</li> <li>○ Reproduction and breeding techniques</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>These informative sessions can be tailored to focus on either sheep or goats or both, and topics may span various aspects, such as diverse breeds, lambing or kidding and care of ewes and does, wool production and processing (if applicable), and approaches to marketing lamb meat and wool products.</p>
<b>NEW!!</b> Swine	<p>Swine related presentations can cover a diverse range of topics, from basic swine anatomy and breeds to advanced swine management practices, ensuring that attendees gain valuable insights into every aspect of swine care and production.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● These presentations can include discussions on:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Animal Husbandry</li> <li>○ Breeds</li> <li>○ Anatomy</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Nutrition</li> <li>○ Health and disease management</li> <li>○ Behavior/handling</li> <li>○ Market trends</li> <li>○ Reproduction and breeding</li> <li>○ Housing</li> <li>○ Market trends/economics</li> </ul> <p>These presentations should provide a comprehensive exploration of swine care and production, covering topics from swine breeds and anatomy to advanced management practices, fostering a deeper understanding of the world of pigs for participants of all levels of experience</p>
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### Public Speaking

Public Speaking	<p>Individuals will present a 5 to 8-minute talk suitable as a platform speech or radio broadcast. Individuals will present a 5 to 8-minute talk suitable as a platform speech or radio broadcast. The presentation should serve to persuade others regarding a particular issue or concern. Props and visual aids are not permitted, and recordings of any type may not be used. Contestants should be prepared to answer questions concerning the subject matter of their presentation.</p> <p>Suggested presentation topics: Current events, youth issues, or other topics related to youth</p> <p>Topic resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Print media (e.g. newspapers, magazines, scholarly journals)</li> <li>• Broadcast media (e.g. television, cable, radio)</li> <li>• E-media (email, internet, websites)</li> </ul>
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#### 4-H Talent Showcase (Formally Share the Fun)

\*these are taken from the Texas 4-H State Share the Fun Letter found here

[https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/talent\\_showcase\\_2024.pdf](https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/talent_showcase_2024.pdf)

Category	Description
Wednesday At State Roundup	
Choreographed Routine	An entry may consist of one (1) to nine (9) participants. No speaking to form a skit or story line. The act requires choreography and can be demonstrated through twirling, pom pom squad routines, jump rope teams, basketball dribbling exhibitions, or dance (jazz, tap, country & western, ballroom, etc.). Sign language presentations to music have been added to choreographed routines. However, if a participant is SINGING and SIGNING, this entry should be entered in the Vocal Category. All 4-H members entered in the category must be a part of the act. Acts may use recorded music on CD or digital music player but may not use an accompanist. Judged on material chosen, talent, creativity, showmanship, costuming, and material chosen. Four (4) minutes for set-up and break down; maximum of six (6) minutes for presentation for a total of ten (10) minutes per act.
Variety Show	An entry may consist of one (1) to nine (9) participants. This is an acting category. Variety show, also known as variety arts or variety entertainment, is entertainment made up of a variety of acts including sketch comedy, magic, acrobatics, juggling, and ventriloquism and other acts that do not fit into the other six categories. Acts cannot incorporate 4-H related material or theme. (Otherwise, it would be categorized as Celebrate 4-H.) Creativity is encouraged, but the degradation of any individual or organization is not permitted. May incorporate music, vocal selections, and/or choreographed routines, but these aspects cannot be more than half of the performance. Judged on material chosen, talent, creativity, showmanship, costumes and props. Four (4) minutes for set-up and break down; maximum of six (6) minutes for presentation for a total of ten (10) minutes per act.

Musical/Instrumental	An entry may consist of one (1) to nine (9) participants. Musical presentation may be musical instruments accompanied by background recorded music or an instrumental performance only. No accompanist will be allowed. Participants may not sing or incorporate a skit, poetry, prose, or choreography with their act. Judged on talent, showmanship, musical presentation, and material chosen. Four (4) minutes for setup and break down; maximum of six (6) minutes for presentation for a total of ten (10) minutes per act.
Vocal	An entry may consist of one (1) to nine (9) participants. Vocal presentation may be done a cappella or with an accompaniment CD, iPod, or other mp3 player. No accompanist will be allowed for this category. All members in the act must be singing. No lip sync will be allowed. Contestants may not present skits, poetry or other speaking during the act. They may, however, move around the stage and incorporate choreography with their presentation for the purpose of enhancing their showmanship. Sign language may be added to enhance the performance, but entries that strictly showcase sign language without vocal presentation are not permitted in this category. They must be entered in Choreographed routines. Judged on talent, showmanship, vocal presentation, and material chosen. Four (4) minutes for set-up and break down; maximum of six (6) minutes for presentation for a total of ten (10) minutes per act.
Thursday at State Roundup	
4-H Skit	An entry may consist of one (1) to nine (9) participants. May be a 4-H based story line, promoting 4-H, community service, a project or activity. This category may also address a specific youth issue and present ways in which this issue can be addressed through 4-H efforts. May incorporate music, vocal selections, and/or choreographed routines but these aspects cannot be more than half of the performance. Skits can be humorous, creative and make fun of but not degrade Extension employees or the 4-H program. All 4-H members entered in the category must be a part of the act. Judged on material chosen, talent, creativity, showmanship, costumes and props. Four (4) minutes for set-up and break down; maximum of six (6) minutes for presentation for a total of ten (10) minutes per act.

Poetry/Prose	<p>An entry may consist of one (1) to nine (9) participants. Acts which showcase poetry or prose are required. The act may NOT incorporate vocal, musical, and/or choreographed routine. This category does not require 4-H related material, however, if an original poem or prose piece showcasing 4-H is written, this would be acceptable. Every 4-H member entered in the category must be a part of the performance on stage. All material must be memorized. No script may be used during the performance. Judged on material chosen, message, talent, presentation style, props/costuming. Four (4) minutes total for set-up and break down; maximum of six (6) minutes for presentation for a total of ten (10) minutes per act.</p> <p>Defining Poetry and Prose: Poetry is generally characterized by structured meter and rhyme that tells a story or provides a message to the reader. Prose is distinguished from poetry by its greater variety of rhythm and its closer resemblance to the patterns of everyday speech. Another description might be an excerpt from a larger piece such as a play or book</p>
Solo/Band	<p>An entry may consist of one (1) to nine (9) participants. This act incorporates a combination of vocal and musical/instrumental talents. Acts that are vocal only or musical/instrumental only are not to be entered in this category. All 4-H members entered in the category must be a part of the act by playing a musical instrument, singing, or both (solo performance must play an instrument and sing). Participants MUST incorporate singing in the acts, but cannot incorporate skits, poetry, or prose. They may, however, move around the stage and incorporate choreography with their presentation for the purpose of enhancing their showmanship. Judged on talent, showmanship, musical presentation, vocal presentation when applicable, and material chosen. Four (4) minutes for set-up and break down; maximum of six (6) minutes for presentation for a total of ten (10) minutes per act.</p>