

BUFFALO - PEPIN COUNTY 4-H FESTIVAL OF ARTS — GUIDELINES

PURPOSE of the 4-H Festival of Arts is to provide the opportunity:

- 1) for 4-H members to share their arts and communication skills and talents with others.
- 2) for 4-H members to further develop their skills in communicating through the arts with constructive feedback on their efforts.

GENERAL GUIDELINES:

- 1) Throughout the program, participants and others will not leave or enter the room while a group or individual is performing.
- 2) Please respect the time guidelines and scheduled performance times in each category.
- 3) All Festival participants must be enrolled Buffalo or Pepin County 4-H members.
- 4) When selecting material for presentations, please keep in mind that 4-H is a family organization. Presentations should be appropriate for audiences of all ages.
- 5) Each category has a specific set of criteria that will be used by the judges. A summary of the criteria has been included in the description section of each category.
- 6) Some exhibits and entries may be photographed or video recorded for viewing at a later date or online. By participating you provide your consent and release of media use.

COMMUNICATION ARTS

- 1) Description -The following categories may be individual or team.
 1. **Memorized selection:** Prose, poetry or any other piece, which must be memorized. No notes allowed.
 - Judging criteria: selection is appropriate for exhibitor; exhibitor introduces him/herself; neat appearance/good posture; voice is natural; speaks clearly; uses variety in volume and pitch of voice; maintains rate and pace of speech; poise; originality; eye contact; facial expressions; and shows evidence of practice.
 2. **Prose-reading:** include stories, narratives, anything not written as a poem; should be presented as a reading. No props.
 - Judging criteria: selection is appropriate for exhibitor; exhibitor introduces him/herself; neat appearance/good posture; voice is natural; speaks clearly; uses variety in volume and pitch of voice; maintains rate and pace of speech for selection; poise; originality; eye contact; facial expressions; shows evidence of practice and uses script effectively.
 3. **Poetry-reading:** may be original poem or a selection written by someone else, either in verse form or open-ended; should be presented as a reading. No props.
 - Judging criteria: selection is appropriate for exhibitor; exhibitor introduces him/herself; neat appearance/good posture; voice is natural; speaks clearly; uses variety in volume and pitch of voice; maintains rate and pace of speech; poise; eye contact; facial expressions;

performs poetic elements of the selection; maintains poem's rhythm; uses pauses that enhances the delivery; incorporates own emotion; and shows evidence of practice.

4. **Original speeches:** A speech written by the speaker on any subject, preferably one pertaining to his/her 4-H project work. Notes permitted.
 - Judging criteria: topic is worthwhile and practical; exhibitor introduces him/herself; neat appearance/good posture; grasps interest from the start; states a purpose; main idea is clearly developed and supported with details; well crafted organization of the speech; effective transitions; summary of the speech's main points; welcomes questions and responds accordingly; voice is natural ; poise; originality; shows evidence of practice; speaker is interesting; eye contact; and uses note cards effectively.
5. **Storytelling:** Original or from a book, told as if to younger children. No poetry allowed. Presented without using notes; costumes or props are encouraged and facial expression and gestures are allowed.
 - Judging criteria: selection is appropriate for exhibitor; exhibitor introduces him/herself; neat appearance/good posture; gets audience's attention; voice is natural; speaks clearly; uses variety in volume and pitch of voice; maintains rate and pace of speech; poise; eye contact; facial expressions; story "comes alive" ; interesting to younger children; shows evidence of practice and uses props effectively.
6. **Play Reading:** 1 or 2 readers are to make their selection "come alive" without the use of costumes and props. Hand movements and facial expressions acceptable; movement around stage unacceptable. A play reading should be presented as a reading.
 - Judging criteria: selection is appropriate for exhibitor; exhibitor introduces him/herself; neat appearance/good posture; voice is natural; speaks clearly; uses variety in volume and pitch of voice; maintains rate and pace of speech; poise; eye contact; faithful to script and read with accuracy; satisfactory interpretation of lines; establishes a character and maintains it throughout; uses facial expressions; shows evidence of practice and uses script effectively.
7. Time Guidelines - Maximum time for above categories: **10 minutes for all categories**. No minimum time limit.
8. Judging will be Danish and eligible for premium for all communication arts categories.

SOLO AND DUET MUSIC PERFORMANCES

- 1) Description - may be individual or a team of two.
 - a) **Vocal:** (classical, comical, etc.)
 - b) **Novelty:** (lip sync, variety, etc.)
 - c) **Instrumental:** (piano, trumpet, flute, etc.)
 - d) **Dance:** (Irish, tap, jazz, etc.)
 - Judging criteria for **solos**: exhibitor effectively and interestingly incorporates his/her expression into performance; the pitch is pleasant and appropriate for the selection; the sound is desirable and pleasant; the performer exercises clear and clean enunciation; the performer is easily heard and volume is suitable for audience; selection is performed at correct tempo; the pattern and flow of sound is accurate; performer utilizes varied tones and volumes to accentuate the performance; phrases are connected appropriately to the music; selection is suitable for the performer's age and audience; performer is poised and appropriately dressed; and the performance is interesting and holds audience's attention.
 - Judging criteria for **duets**: criteria are the same as above with the addition of the following: both performers are actively involved and exhibit cooperation in performance.
 - Judging criteria for **dance**: performance includes an interesting and varied series of actions;

performer effectively incorporates his/her own expression into the performance; appropriate pattern and flow of movement is maintained; movement is carried out with grace and accuracy; uses adequate space on stage; demonstrates conviction and poise; maintains suitable level of energy and enthusiasm; performance is suitable for performer's age and audience; performer is poised and appropriately dressed; and the performance is interesting and holds audience's attention.

2) Judging will be Danish and eligible for premium for all music categories.

3) Music for accompaniment should be recorded. Participants are responsible for bringing a device to play accompanied music. A piano or shared device for playing music will not be provided.

DEMONSTRATIONS, ILLUSTRATED TALKS AND ACTION CENTERS

1) Description - may be individual or in teams.

a) **Demonstrations and Illustrated Talks:** either teach someone how or show and tell how to do something

1. Consists of 4 parts - a) introduction, b) body, c) conclusion, d) questions from audience
2. Visuals and charts can be used. Use maps, charts, posters, graphs, photos, slides, videos or models to explain.

- Judging criteria: exhibitor makes introduction of him/herself and demonstration; neat appearance/good posture; topic is worthwhile and practical; speaks clearly; poise; originality; well prepared; holds audience's attention; shows evidence of practice; coordinates work and speech; equipment is present and suitable; visuals are used; welcomes questions and responds accordingly.

b) **Action Center** (informal): a show and tell with an emphasis on showing.

1. Presenter(s) carry on conversation with passersby (no seated audience)
2. People watching take part by - a) watching and listening; b) talking with demonstrator; c) trying things with senses; d) judging things; e) asking questions
3. Handouts may be used (instructions, directions, recipes)
4. Posters or pictures can be used to show key steps or to show a close-up view.

- Judging criteria: exhibitor makes introduction of him/herself; neat appearance/good posture; maintains a high level of energy and enthusiasm; project is innovative, interesting & purposeful; speaks clearly; poise; well prepared; holds audience's attention; shows evidence of practice; coordinates work and speech; equipment is present and suitable; welcomes questions and responds accordingly.

2) Judging will be Danish and eligible for premium for all demonstrations, action centers and illustrated talks.

3) Time Guidelines:

- a) 15 minute maximum for demonstrations
- b) 15-30 minutes for action center

GROUP MINI-DRAMA

1) Description – Group mini-dramas must have three or more performers. Produced with **minimal** props (no special lighting, hay, straw, candles or open flames) and costumes, they may be performed in a classroom. Examples include skits, puppetry, or creative dramatics.

- Judging criteria: selection is appropriate for group; performers are easily heard; uses variety in volume and pitch of voice; maintains rate and pace of speech; poised; eye contact, satisfactory interpretation of lines; establishes characters and maintains throughout; facial expressions; well practiced; appropriate use of props and stage sets; appropriate costumes; excellent stage presence; evidence of teamwork; all members actively involved and expressing enthusiasm.

2) Judging will be Danish and eligible for premium for all group mini dramas.

3) Time Guidelines - A maximum time limit of 20 minutes, including set-up and take-down. No minimum time limit.

GROUP PLAY READING

- 1) Description -
 - a) Group must consist of 3 or more participants
 - b) Readers are to make their selection "come alive" without the use of costumes and props.
 - c) Hand movements and facial expressions are acceptable. Movement around the stage is not acceptable.
 - d) Presented without microphones or artificial devices.
 - e) Scripts are to be used.
 - f) Play readings will be performed in a classroom.
 - Judging criteria: selection is appropriate for group; performers are easily heard; uses variety in volume and pitch of voice; maintains rate and pace of speech; poised; eye contact, satisfactory interpretation of lines; establishes characters and maintains throughout; facial expressions; well practiced; excellent stage presence; evidence of teamwork; all members actively involved and expressing enthusiasm.
- 2) Judging will be Danish and eligible for premium for all group play readings.
- 3) Time Guidelines – Maximum time limit is 12 minutes

Reasonable care will be given when handling Art, Craft, Photography and Marketing exhibits. However, please note that exhibits are entered at your own risk.

MARKETING

- 1) *Entry Labeling – All Marketing items will have a 3"x5" index card listing a brief description of materials used and work done to make the exhibit. Also describe how the marketing item is intended to be used. Writing must be legible or deduction to placing may occur.
- 2) Description - All items submitted will be displayed together. Any item is acceptable that can be used for promotion of 4-H. All entries must have at least one green clover with the four H's. Examples would include posters, placemats, tabletop design, sweatshirts, etc. that promote 4-H visually.
 - Judging criteria: exhibit reflects the promotion of 4-H in an interesting manner; is innovative and original; is neat and professional in appearance; contains accurate and positive 4-H information; successfully conveys a promotional 4-H message; and exhibit is appropriate for intended audience.
- 3) Time Guidelines - All articles will be judged during the Festival. Exhibits will be released when judging is complete and must be taken home at that time.
- 4) Judging will be Danish and eligible for premium for marketing.

PHOTOGRAPHY

- 1) Description - Photos submitted must be 4" x 6" photos. *Photos may be color or black & white, standard or digital, or any appropriate subject. Photos must be mounted on top of poster board (black or white) measuring 11"x7". **Only current work done by the 4-H member will be allowed. Last summer's County Fair exhibits are eligible for exhibit at this Festival, however articles shown at any prior year Festival of Arts are not eligible.***
 - Peer judging criteria: lighting is appropriate for the subject; exhibit reflects appropriate composition techniques; photo is unique and holds interest of intended audience; photo is clear, sharp and lacks obvious mistakes; photo has a main center of interest and is suitably

displayed in the frame; photo communicates a clear and purposeful viewpoint or message.

- 2) Judging will be conducted by 4-H members present at the Festival using peer judging criteria above.
- 3) Exhibit Limit - ***Each exhibitor is limited to one entry in each photography category listed below. A total of no more than 10 entries only is allowed.***
 - Person (Individual)
 - People (Group)
 - Scenic
 - Flower
 - Wild or Zoo Animal
 - Domestic Animal
 - Unusual Perspective or Abstract
 - Architecture
 - Seasonal or Holiday
 - Any other

ARTS & CRAFTS

- 1) Description – All arts & crafts entries will be displayed by grade only. ***Only current work done by the 4-H member will be allowed. Last summer's County Fair exhibits are eligible for exhibit at this Festival, however articles shown at any prior year 4-H Festival of Arts are not eligible.***
 - a. Art is considered any item of original design.
 - b. Craft is considered any item made from a kit or from specific instructions/guidelines.
- 2) Exhibit Evaluation -
 - **Art** peer judging criteria: exhibit is innovative and original; illustrates the exhibitor's unique creativity; exhibit demonstrates workmanship and skill; exhibit is aesthetically pleasing; skill needed is challenging, yet suitable for age; appropriate finishing perfects the exhibit.
 - **Craft** peer judging criteria: exhibit reflects the craft was completed according to basic directions; exhibitor has incorporated his/her own unique creativity into exhibit; the exhibit is neat & clean; exhibit demonstrates workmanship and skill; exhibit is aesthetically pleasing; skill needed is challenging, yet suitable for age; appropriate finishing perfects the exhibit.
- 3) Judging will be conducted by 4-H members present at the Festival using peer judging criteria above.
- 4) Exhibit Limit - ***Each exhibitor is limited to five entries in each category of art and craft. A total of no more than 10 entries only is allowed.***