

**New Format
for 2020!**

St. Mary's County 4-H Communications Contest



Join us for an **Online Version** of our
Public Speaking contest.
Friday, April 24th at 6:30 p.m. on Zoom*.

*NOTE: Some entries are due on April 23rd. Read the rules for details.
Connection details for the Zoom meeting will be provided to participants.

Please register by April 20th at
<https://go.umd.edu/smc4-Hcom20> or to missyr@umd.edu

Choose up to 2 speeches from:

- * Radio Spot
- * Extemporaneous Speech
- * Prepared Speech
- * Interpretation
- * Story Reading for the Clover Corner
Reading Challenge (New this year)

NEW FORMAT DETAILS:

- Only Radio Spot and Extemporaneous Speeches will be performed during the program on April 24th.
- For Prepared Speeches, Interpretations, and Story Reading, a video must be created and submitted to the 4-H Office by Thursday, April 23 at 12:00 p.m. (Noon). An .mp4 or .MOV file are preferred. There are several ways to record your speech – phone, Zoom, Skype, google hangout, video camera, etc. Details will be provided on how to submit your videos once you have registered.
- More information below and contest rules on back. Contact us with questions at cmallred@umd.edu

UNIVERSITY OF
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This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in any event or activity, please contact the University of Maryland Extension office at 301-475-4484 by April 17th.

Contest Details and Rules

Radio Spot –

Time Limits: 30 seconds for all age groups.

- Radio Spots should be exactly 30 seconds in length and may include a musical or sound effect introduction and/or background, but may not include a spoken introduction or “tag” by anyone other than the contestant. If music or a sound effect is used, the contestant must provide and operate the sound-making device.
- The participant must have access to phone to dial in or microphone for online computer access through Zoom. This is a live speech given the day of the contest (April 24th).
- Musical/sound effect introductions and endings are considered a part of the radio spot and must not cause the 30-second time limit to be exceeded.
- The spot should relate to 4-H, be original and be created by the contestant. Add a line that provides the St. Mary’s County 4-H website or phone number for more information.
- Radio spot will not be using video camera and can be done as a dial-in phone call or online.

Prepared Speech –

Time Limits: Juniors: 3 to 5; Intermediates & Seniors: 4 to 6 minutes

- Record yourself performing your speech and submit it by 12:00 p.m. (Noon) on Thursday, April 23rd. (This is not a live speech on the day of the contest.)
- Contestants may speak on any topic. It may be wise to discuss topics that could be considered controversial with your 4-H leader or educator before the contest.
- The speech may be written for a specific audience, such as a 4-H club, PTA, or a Rotary Club.
- Memorization is not encouraged. Only juniors may use a complete script. Talking from note cards for intermediates and seniors is allowed though should not be read verbatim.
- Performance will be evaluated based on the speech itself rather than the quality of the video. Please do not include special effects, music or distracting lighting/lighting effects. The emphasis is the speaker and their speech. Visual aids such as posters or presentation software (i.e. powerpoint, Keynote, etc.) are not permitted.

Interpretation –

Time Limits: Juniors: 1 ½ to 3 minutes; Intermediates: 2 to 4 minutes; Seniors: 3 to 5 minutes.

- Record yourself performing your interpretation and submit it by 12:00 p.m. (Noon) on Thursday, April 23rd. (This is not a live performance on the day of the contest.)
- An Interpretation is a memorized oral presentation of selected narrative from published works. Permitted works include dramatic or humorous plays or books or poetry, but not the script of a television show or any unpublished source.
- Speaker can speak or interpret in language of their choice. If using language other than spoken English, the participant must inform Extension Office a minimum of 10 working days before the event to ensure appropriately qualified judges are available.
- Contestants are to send a copy of the script for the judges, including a complete reference citation. Language other than English must be translated in these documents.
- Performance will be evaluated based on clarity of reading, appropriateness of the story, sharing of pictures, tone and performance of voices in the story. Please do not include

special effects, music or distracting lighting/lighting effects. Costumes are allowed and 1 prop is allowed. Visual aids such as posters are not.

Extemporaneous Speech –

Time Limits: Juniors and Intermediates: 2 to 3 minutes; Seniors: 3 to 5 minutes.

- The participant must have access to phone to dial in or microphone for online computer access through Zoom. This is a live speech given the day of the contest (April 24th)
- Extemporaneous speakers will be given three topics in the Zoom Chat box and choose one topic for their speech. Juniors and Intermediates may have up to 30 minutes and Seniors up to 15 minutes to prepare their talks. Contestants may use one side of up to one sheet of 8 ½ x 11 paper for their key word outline.
- Extemporaneous speakers will be shown time cards at correctly timed intervals indicating "1 MINUTE" "30 SECONDS", AND "STOP".

Story Reading for the Clover Corner Reading Challenge (up to 10 minutes) –

- Record yourself performing your interpretation and submit it by 12:00 p.m. (Noon) on Thursday, April 23rd. (This is not a live performance on the day of the contest.)
- Book selection must be appropriate for kids ages 5 to 7 years old.
- Performance will be evaluated based on clarity of reading, appropriateness of the story, sharing of pictures in the books as it is read, tone and performance of voices in the story. Please do not include special effects, music or distracting lighting/lighting effects.
- The top Story Reading presentations will be shared with the Clover Corner Reading Challenge (with your permission). Additional details and tips for the program can be found here: <https://go.umd.edu/4HCloverCornerGuide>