**JCLAA JUNIOR LIVESTOCK SHOW**
**AGRICULTURAL PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST**

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| **Superintendents:** | Gwen Welty and Brittany Brake-Baird |
| **Entry Deadline:** | December 1, 2026 |
| **Entry Fee:** | $20 |
| **Contest Date:** | Monday, December 14, 2026 |
| **Location:** | Rio Vista High School, 100 Eagle Drive, Rio Vista, TX 76093 |

**Contest Schedule for Monday, December 16, 2026:**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Check in** | 8:00 am | Rio Vista High School Cafeteria |
| **Orientation** | 8:30 am | Rio Vista High School Cafeteria |
| **Contest – Preliminary Round** | Following orientation | Assigned speaking room |
| **Contest – Finals Round** | Following category judging | Assigned speaking room |
| **Awards** | 2:00 pm (or at conclusion of contest) | Rio Vista High School Cafeteria |

## CONTEST REQUIREMENTS

**1. RULES/REGULATIONS/ELIGIBILITY:** Entries made in this contest must meet all the requirements of the JCLAA General Rules and Regulations. Eligible entries must be Johnson County FFA, 4-H, or FCCLA members.

**2. ENTRY APPLICATION/FEES/REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:**

- Registration will be conducted on www.judgingcard.com with a deadline of 11:59 PM on December 1, 2026. Late entries will not be accepted.
- Entry fees are $20 per speaker.
- Contestants must submit contestant age division, speech category, and title of speech at time of entry. Contestants failing to submit all materials by entry deadline are subject to disqualification.
- In order, exhibitors must submit a single pdf document consisting of:
    - Cover page: speech title, exhibitor name, age division (junior intermediate, or senior), and category
    - Abstract
    - References: APA format
        - Refer to Purdue OWL for APA formatting instructions: https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_formatting_and_style_guide/index.html
    - Statement of Originality
- All documents must be submitted online by the entry deadline listed above.
- A full manuscript is not to be uploaded.

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**3. AGE DIVISIONS:**

- Junior: 3rd grade through 5th grade
- Intermediate: 6th through 8th grade
- Senior: 9th through 12th grade

**4. SPEECH CATEGORIES:**

- Each contestant will enter their speech in one category. The category must be declared on the entry form when submitted. There are topics which may be appropriate in more than one category. The contestant is responsible for selecting the most appropriate category. Change of selected category will not be allowed. Categories consist of:
    - Agribusiness and Communication: Any current or future subject that addresses topics such as cooperatives, sales, service, entrepreneurship, marketing, finance, commodities, futures, hedging, advertising, online marketing program, agri-tourism, computers, journalism, communications, social media, public relations, etc.
    - Agricultural Policy: Any current or future subject that addresses topics such as domestic farm issues, international trade, rural economic development, politics, animal rights, law, subsidies, price supports, etc.
    - Agriculture Technical Systems: Participants may choose any current or future subject that deals with topics such as bioengineering, mechanical engineering, farm safety, use of technology, research, laser, satellites, etc.
    - Animal Science: Any current or future subject that addresses any aspect of the dairy, equine, poultry, sheep, goat, swine, beef, specialty animals, embryo transfer, biotechnology, biogenetics, bioengineering as it pertains to Animal Science, etc.
    - Natural Resources: Any current or future subject that addresses topics such as soil, water, air, rural water, water quality, wildlife, forestry, aquaculture, conservation, recreation, recycling, energy, environmental issues, biotechnology, biogenetics, bioengineering as it pertains to Natural Resources, etc.
    - Plant Science: Any current or future subject that addresses any aspect of the horticulture and/or agronomy industries including floriculture, fruit and/or vegetable production, nursery operations, turf and landscape management, crop production, specialty crop production, biotechnology, biogenetics, bioengineering as it pertains to Plant Science, etc.
    - Food Products and Processing: Participants may choose any current or future subject that deals with topics such as production, processing, marketing, distribution, development of agricultural commodities and resources, including food, fiber, handling, and safety, biotechnology, biogenetics, bioengineering as it pertains to Food Products and Processing, etc.

**5. CONDUCT OF CONTESTANTS:**

- Any speech with obscene language will be disqualified.
- Business attire or official 4-H/FFA/FCCLA attire is recommended.
- The use of props of any kind is prohibited. Violation will result in disqualification.

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**6. CONTEST FORMAT:**

- **SPEECHES**
  - The speech presentations will be judged by a panel of 2-3 judges.
  - If there are more than 15 entries in a category, show management reserves the right to randomly divide into sub-categories. The top two entries in the sub-category will advance to the category finals.
  - The top two contestants in each category will advance to the overall contest final round.
- **TIME**
  - **Junior and Intermediate Divisions:**
    - Each speech shall be a minimum of five (5) minutes and a maximum of eight (8) minutes. Contestants will be penalized one (1) point per second on each judge's score sheet for being more than eight (8) minutes or less than five (5) minutes. Time commences when the contestant begins talking.
  - **Senior Division:**
    - Each speech shall be a minimum of six (6) minutes and a maximum of eight (8) minutes. Contestants will be penalized one (1) point per second on each judge's score sheet for being more than eight (8) minutes or less than six (6) minutes. Time commences when the contestant begins talking.
- **QUESTION/ANSWER PERIOD:** A five-minute question/answer period will follow each speech. At the end of five minutes, time will be called, and all questioning will end. If time is called during the contestant's answer to a question, the contestant may complete his or her answer. Only official judges may ask questions of the contestants.

**7. SCORING:** A panel of judges will evaluate and score the presentation. Judges' comments will be available to CEA/AST/FCCLA Advisor by January 1.

**8. RESULTS:** The contest results as announced will be final.

**9. AWARDS:**

**Buckles**:
Overall Senior, Intermediate, and Junior Grand and Reserve Champions

**Banners:**
Senior, Intermediate, and Junior Category Grand and Reserve Champions

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**STATEMENT OF ORIGINALITY**

**Contestant Name:** _____

**Chapter/Club:** _____

**4-H/FFA/FCCLA Advisor:** _____

We, the undersigned, do hereby certify that the speech entitled:

_____

is the result of the contestant's own originality, effort, and ability. All information considered direct quotes or phrases, specific dates, figures and other materials are marked in "quotes" in the speech and identified in the References page submission. We understand that failure to properly cite other works represents plagiarism and will automatically disqualify the contestant.

**Contestant Signature:** _____ _____
Signature Date

**4-H/FFA/FCCLA Advisor Signature:** _____ _____
Signature Date

**Parent/Guardian Signature:** _____ _____
Signature Date

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**SCORE SHEET**

**Speaker Name: _____ Age Division: _____ Category: _____**

| **Composition & Organization** | **Superior** | **Excellent** | **Good** | **Fair** | **Poor** | **Comments** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Introduction | | | | | | |
| Attention of Audience Gained | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | |
| Importance of topic established | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | |
| Purpose clearly stated | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | |
| Body | | | | | | |
| One central theme | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | |
| Information accurate (sources cited) | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | |
| Information current | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | |
| Logical sequence | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | |
| Summary – Major points emphasized | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | |
| Appropriate content for category | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | |
| **Delivery** – Deduct points for notecard use | | | | | | |
| Appearance | | | | | | |
| Grooming, Dress, Poise & Posture | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | |
| Appropriate vocal dynamics & clarity | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | |
| Correct use of grammar | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | |
| Eye contact with audience | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | |
| Appropriate use of gestures & body language | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | |
| Uniqueness of presentation | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | |
| Audience appeal | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | |
| Educational value | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | |
| Questions | | | | | | |
| Accuracy of answers | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | |
| Poise & self-confidence | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | |
| **Speech Topic/Creativity** | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | |
| **Totals** | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | |

**Time: _____**

Junior and Intermediate: Minimum 5 minutes – Maximum 8 minutes
Senior: Minimum 6 minutes – Maximum 8 minutes

Time Deductions:
Under minimum time: 1 point per second
Over maximum time: 1 point per second

**TOTAL SCORE:** _____ 100 points total maximum

**TIME DEDUCTIONS:** _____

**FINAL SCORE:** _____