

## AGRICULTURAL PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST

Kathryn Kelly, Superintendent

Entry Fee:	\$30 per individual – NO LIMIT ON INDIVIDUALS
Entry Deadline:	October 4, 2024 – through Late Fees – \$100.00 cash only
<b>Date of Contest:</b>	<b>October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024</b>
Registration:	8:00 a.m. – Brazos County Expo Complex
<b>Time of Contest:</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b> – Brazos County Expo Complex
Final Round:	Immediately following Preliminary Round
Awards:	Immediately following Final Round

1. All rules apply to the Agricultural Public Speaking Contest. Please refer to the General Rules and Junior Show Rules.
2. Age Divisions will be broken down into a junior division, exhibitor grades 3-8 and a senior division, exhibitor grades 9-12.
3. Contestants in each division will be divided into groups depending on category. Categories must be indicated upon entry by October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024; category changes after entry deadline will not be permitted.
4. Abstracts, literature cited submission page, and statement of originalities all must be submitted at time of entry. There will be no exceptions. **Incomplete entries will not be accepted.**
5. The top two in each category will advance to the finals.
6. Business attire or official 4-H/FFA attire is recommended.
7. Contestants are required to upload the following items at the time of entry to Livestock Docs:
  - (a) Abstract (200-300 words)
  - (b) Literature Cited Submission Page (minimum of 5 references). Cited in APA or MLA Format.
  - (c) A statement of originality signed by the contestant, parents, and AST/CEA must be attached to each copy of the speech.
  - (d) Manuscripts are not required to be officially submitted; however contestants must have a copy available on contest day to provide Show Management if Requested.
  - (e) If a contestant chooses to not follow the documentation guidelines outlined, point deductions will be taken at the discretion of the Superintendent, Show Management and Judges.

**EMAIL DOCUMENTATION TO [AVERY@BRAZOSVALLEYFAIR.COM](mailto:AVERY@BRAZOSVALLEYFAIR.COM)**

8. The use of props of any kind is prohibited. Violation will result in disqualification.

9. Each speech shall be a minimum of six (6) minutes in length and a maximum of eight (8) minutes. Time point deductions will be as follows:

Under six minutes –  
one point per ten  
seconds  
Over eight minutes  
– one point per ten  
seconds

Judge can stop student at 10 minutes if they are still speaking.

10. Each judge will get to ask each contestant a question. Each answer will be no longer than 90 seconds.

11. Each contestant will enter their speech in one of nine **categories**. A contestant may enter one **category** only. There are subject matters which may be appropriate in more than one **category**. The final determination of all speeches will be at the discretion of the Superintendent and Show Management. The **category** the student wishes to enter must be submitted with the original entry form.

12. Previous 1<sup>st</sup> place winners in Junior and Senior Divisions must select a new speech topic to remain eligible to enter the contest in subsequent years.

13. Participants will receive one-day, free admission (good for the 2023 fair only) to the Brazos Valley Fair and Rodeo October 18<sup>th</sup> – October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

**Categories:**

**Agribusiness:** Any current and future subject that deals with topics such as cooperatives, sales, service, communications, entrepreneurship, marketing, finance, commodities, hedging, advertising, etc.

**Agricultural Advocacy/Communications:** Any current or future subject that deals with the process or act of communicating agricultural related information to the public.

**Agricultural Policy:** Any current or future subject that deals with topics such as domestic farm issues, international trade, international competition, rural economic development, legal issues, animal rights, subsidies, price supports, etc.

**Agri-science/Agricultural Technology:** Any current or future subject that deals with topics such as biotechnology, biogenetics, bioengineering, mechanical engineering, new agri-technology applications, global positioning and other satellite technology, computer applications, etc.

**Animal Science:** Any current or future subject that deals with any aspect of the dairy, equine, poultry, sheep, goat, swine, beef or specialty animal industries.

**Agronomy/Horticulture:** Any current or future subject that deals with any aspect of the horticulture and/or agronomy industries including floriculture, fruit and/or vegetable production, nursery operations, turf and landscape management, crop production, or specialty crop production

**Natural Resources:** Any current or future subject that deals with topics such as soil, water, air, water quality, wildlife, forestry, aquaculture, conservation, recreation, recycling, energy environmental issues, etc.

**Livestock Show Ethics:** Any current or future subject that addresses any aspect of the ethics practiced in the livestock show industry.

**Western Heritage:** Any current or future subject that deals with topics such as Western history, culture, or heritage.

**Awards:**

Junior Grand Champion Overall- Buckle

Junior Reserve Champion Overall – Plaque

Senior Grand Champion Overall- Buckle

Senior Reserve Champion Overall – Plaque