

## 4-H Dramatic Interpretation Competition

**Objective:** To have 4-H youth practice oral communications skills using creative movement, body language, vocal tones and facial expressions to engage the audience in the performance.

### Guidelines:

1. The presentation should be committed to memory. Use of note cards, scripts or other visual aides will not be permitted.
2. Dramatic presentations may be performed by one actor or a two actor team.  
**Monologue** – One actor performs an interpretation of a dramatic work.  
**Duet** – Two actors perform an interpretation of a dramatic work.
3. The dramatic interpretation will demonstrate an actor's presentation skills and ability to engage the audience.
4. The presentation may be an original or published play, script, short story, prose or poem.
5. **Age Division:** Junior Division: 8-12 years by 4-H age, Senior Division: 13-19 years by 4-H age
6. **Time Limits:** Introductions will be included in the time limit.  
Point deductions will begin within 30 seconds of the allotted time:  
Junior Division : 3-5 minutes  
Senior Division : 7-10 minutes
7. Judge(s) will score the dramatic interpretation. Each contestant will be given a "final rating" based on the average of the scores. Judge(s) scores are final.

### Definitions of Terms Used in Score Sheet:

- A. **Introduction:** The 4-H member should state the title of their dramatic interpretation. The 4-H member may include a brief description of the work to be performed. The introduction will be included in the overall presentation time limits.
- B. **Overall Technical Presentation:**
  1. There is a clear transition from introduction to dramatic performance.
  2. The actor utilizes creative skills to engage the audience and gain their interest in the performance.
  3. The actor will demonstrate knowledge of script through memorization and recall. Improvisation should be transparent and consistent with the theme of the dramatic act to be performed.
  4. Pronunciation/Enunciation: Words are clearly stated, distinguishable and understandable.
  5. Voice Control: Voice changes in volume, pitch and speed are consistent with the dramatic work being performed.
  6. Voice Projection: The actor utilizes effective control of voice and diaphragm to ensure that all members of the audience are able to hear the performance.
  7. Eye contact with the audience is encouraged; however, the actor should avoid staring at the floor or ceiling.
  8. Gestures and appropriate movement should be consistent with the theme of the dramatic work being performed. The actor utilizes body movement to portray characterization of the act being performed.
- C. **Overall Artistic Presentation:**
  1. The actor is prepared, eager and committed to the performance.
  2. Costuming, hair, makeup, accessories and grooming are consistent with the characterization of the act or character being performed.
  3. Facial expression, body movement and voice control are effectively utilized for character portrayal.
  4. Use of costume, props, music and sound effects creatively set the stage for the act.
  5. The actor adapts a published script (i.e. adapting an 18<sup>th</sup> century Shakespeare monologue to a 21<sup>st</sup> Century character) or writes and performs an original play.
  6. The actor is confident in the use of the stage and demonstrates a planned choreography of movement which enhances the character portrayal.
- D. **Finale:**
  1. The actor is able to conclude the performance and transition from character performance to audience engagement.
  2. The actor ends the performance with an appropriate bow.
  3. The actor encourages questions from the audience and is able to demonstrate knowledge of the act performed and character interpretation.

## SCORE SHEET FOR DRAMATIC INTERPRETATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ 4-H Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Junior Division       Senior Division       Monologue       Duet

Title of Presentation: \_\_\_\_\_

Dramatic Presentation Skill	Score	Comments
<b>Introduction (15 Points)</b> Attention getting opening; title of dramatic interpretation and description of the act to be performed.		
<b>Overall Technical Presentation (40 Points)</b>  Provide clear transition from introduction to performance. Creatively engages the audience Knowledge of script Pronunciation/Enunciation Voice Control Voice Projection Eye Contact Gestures and Appropriate Movement		
<b>Overall Artistic Presentation (30 Points)</b> Energy Level/Enthusiasm Appearance Expressiveness Creativity Originality Stage Presence		
<b>Finale (15 Points)</b>  Clear transition from performance to closure. Concludes performance with appropriate bow Provides clear response to audience comments or questions		
<b>Overall Performance Score</b>		
<b>Total Performance Time:</b> <b>Jr. Div: 3-5 minutes      Sr. Div: 7-10 minutes</b> Deduct 1 point for every 30 sec. under or over time.		<b>Ratings:</b> <b>Excellent      90-100      (Blue)</b> <b>Good            80- 89      (Red)</b> <b>Worthy          70 &amp; Below (White)</b>
<b>Final Score</b>		<i>Judge's Initials:</i> _____