

MEMORANDUM TO: COUNTY EXTENSION AGENTS
TEXAS 4-H FACULTY

SUBJECT: 2010 STATE SHARE-THE-FUN CONTEST

Cheryl Newberry

FROM: CHERYL A. NEWBERRY
Extension Program Specialist-- 4-H
Share The Fun Superintendent

Howdy! I am pleased to provide you with the 2010 Texas 4-H Share-The-Fun Contest Rules and information. Please provide this information to your counties immediately so that they can become familiar with the information. Changes in the rules are noted in **BOLD**. Included in this packet are the following pieces:

1. General Rules & Information
2. Contest Category Descriptions
3. Definition of Terms for Score Sheets
4. **Six (6)** Individual Score Cards (one for each category)

NOTES:

1. A total of **6 categories** will be implemented for the 2010 contest.
2. The first and second place district winners in each of the **six (6) categories** qualify for State 4-H Roundup.
3. The first and second place entries in each category from District advancing to State may be from the same county. This is consistent with other Roundup contests (except Food Show and Fashion Show).
4. If a county has an entry in each category at District and each wins first or second, then they can all advance to State.
5. 4-H'ers may not enter the same category in which they have previously been part of a first place entry at State; however, they may choose one of the other categories.
6. Guidelines are more clearly defined on the amount of space allowed for storage of props in the general rules.
7. The Share The Fun Contest will be held on **Wednesday, June 9, and Thursday, June 10, 2010**. The Share-The-Fun Contest will be broken out over 2 days. **Youth may only compete in one Share-The-Fun Category each year.**
8. Location for the event will be Rudder Theater and Rudder Forum Theater.

More information for teams qualifying for State will be sent to those counties in Spring. If you have questions concerning Share The Fun for your DISTRICT contest, please contact your 4-H Specialist coordinating that event. If you have questions pertaining to the rules for the State Contest, please contact me.

cc: Kyle Merten

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**2010 TEXAS 4-H SHARE-THE-FUN CONTEST
GENERAL RULES & INFORMATION**

Superintendent: Cheryl A. Newberry
Extension Program Specialist–4-H, West Region

1. *There are six (6) categories, each with a separate description and score card.* Category descriptions are listed in State 4-H Roundup Guide and in the enclosed Contest and Category Descriptions. The six (6) categories are:
 - a) Poetry/Prose
 - b) Vocal
 - c) **Musical**
 - d) **Band**
 - e) Choreographed Routines
 - f) Celebrate 4-H

2. *The first and second place winners from each category at District will qualify for State 4-H Roundup.* If a county has an entry in each category at District and each wins first, then they can all advance to State. 4-H'ers may not enter the same category in which they have previously been part of a first place entry at State; however, they may choose one of the other categories.

NOTE: PARTICIPANTS MUST COMPETE WITH THE SAME MATERIAL AT ALL LEVELS OF COMPETITION –COUNTY, DISTRICT, STATE. FOR EXAMPLE, YOU CANNOT CHOOSE ONE SONG FOR YOUR ACT AND THEN CHANGE SONGS BETWEEN DISTRICT AND STATE. ACTS MAY FINE TUNE PERFORMANCES BASED ON CRITIQUES FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT JUDGING, BUT CHANGING MATERIAL COMPLETELY IS PROHIBITED.

3. Objectives of the category are listed in the State 4-H Roundup Guide and in the enclosed Contest and Category Descriptions.

4. To determine category for entry, refer to the descriptions on the enclosed Contest and Category Descriptions. County Extension Agents are strongly encouraged to review entries for proper category and appropriateness of material, and ensure that all other rules and regulations are followed.

5. Judges will determine:
 - 1) If an entry is in correct the category.
 - 2) The order of performance at the awards assembly at State Roundup.

6. All decisions by the judges will be final.

7. **The schedule for the Share-The-Fun Contest will be as follows:**

Tuesday, June 8, 2010

- 3:00-4:00 p.m. Vocal, Poetry/Prose, and Choreographed Routines will unload props
- 4:00-5:00 p.m. Orientation for Vocal, Poetry/Prose and Choreographed Routines in Rudder Theater

Wednesday, June 9, 2010

- 8:00 a.m. Judging begins in Rudder Theater for Choreographed Routines followed by Vocal
Judging begins in the Rudder Forum Room for Poetry/Prose
- 2:00 p.m. Musical, Band and Celebrate 4-H will unload props
- 3:00 p.m. Awards Program for Vocal, Poetry/Prose and Choreographed Routines in Rudder Theater
- 4:00 p.m. Orientation for Musical, Band and Celebrate 4-H in the Rudder Theater

Thursday, June 10, 2010

- 8:00 a.m. Judging begins in Rudder Theater for Celebrate 4-H
Judging begins in Rudder Forum Room for Musical followed by Band
- 3:00 p.m. Awards Program in Rudder Theater for Celebrate 4-H, Musical and Band

8. ***Can a 4-H member/team enter one Share-The-Fun Contest on Wednesday and another Share-The-Fun Contest on Thursday? NO!*** They must enter only one Share-The-Fun Category. However, whichever day they are not competing in a Share-The-Fun Contest, they may enter another contest.
9. Regulations for props should be followed. Props utilized must be able to go through doors that are 6 ft. wide and 7 feet tall. *Each entry will be allowed to bring props that will be able to be stored in a space that is 3 feet X 8 feet. Space at the State Contest is LIMITED!*
10. **Participants take risk with technical difficulties by using music on CD or Cassette that has been recorded from another source. The sound systems in both contest rooms are of high quality and may not play some types of files. If there are technical difficulties with your music because it will not play properly on the in house system, participants should be prepared with a back up CD/Tape player. Only ONE CHANCE to change out equipment will be allowed. If CD skips because of scratches, the performance will not be started over. Any other technical difficulties with in house equipment will be addressed on an individual basis as seen fit by theater staff and/or the Contest Superintendent.**

11. The following materials may not be used in any category: talcum powder, flour, pies, water, oil, feathers, **flower petals, HAY** or other substances which are hard to clean up, may cause damage, or be dangerous to participants. No roller skates, shoes with spikes, cleats, motorized vehicles, live animals or real fire arms will be allowed.
12. Time limits for all categories will be strictly enforced. **All categories** have a time limit of six (6) minutes for presentation and four (4) minutes for set-up and break down. A penalty of five (5) points per minute or part of a minute over the time limits allowed will be deducted from the total score.
13. Only **adult coaches and/or agents** will be allowed back stage, in the vicinity of the storage area of props, and to assist the 4-H members with set-up and break down of props and equipment. *4-H members or other youth who are not a part of the team **will not be allowed to assist with set-up or take down.***
14. **NO Accompanist will be permitted for any category. If music is required, it must be on a CD, cassette tape or performed by the contestant. See specific rules for each category for information related to this topic.**
15. During a performance adult coaches may give cues for music at the sound booth or back stage and help with costume/prop changes back stage. **They are NOT allowed to participate in any other form in the act while the act is going on.** Any voices heard during the performance from back stage must be either a participant OR a taped voice.
16. No flash photography or video taping will be permitted in any contest category. **NO EXCEPTIONS.** This includes photography and video taping of your own county entry.
17. Awards – All 4-H members participating in each category of Share-The-Fun at Texas 4-H Roundup will receive a participant award. The top three winners in each category as determined by the judges will receive award medals by Texas AgriLife Extension Service. Additional awards will be presented after State 4-H Roundup to the first, second and third place winners in each category. The awards will be announced at Texas 4-H Roundup.

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2010 TEXAS 4-H SHARE-THE-FUN CONTEST CONTEST AND CATEGORY DESCRIPTIONS

ENTRY: INDIVIDUAL OR GROUPS (Maximum of nine participants) – Poet/Prose, Vocal, Musical, Band, Choreographed Routines, Celebrate 4-H Categories

OBJECTIVES:

- ▶ To provide an opportunity for 4-H youth to develop a spirit of cooperation through working together to develop self-confidence through public appearance.
- ▶ To stimulate interest and encourage a broad-based recreation program in Texas 4-H at the club and county level.
- ▶ To encourage 4-H members to discover and develop their talents.
- ▶ To provide for social, cultural, and leadership development of 4-H youth.

CATEGORY DESCRIPTIONS:

1. **POETRY/PROSE**—maximum of nine (9) participants. Acts which showcase poetry or prose are required. The act may **NOT** incorporate vocal, musical, and/or choreographed routine. This category does not require 4-H related material, however, if an original poem or prose piece showcasing 4-H is written, this would be acceptable. Every 4-H member entered in the category must be a part of the performance on stage. **All material must be memorized. No script may be used during the performance.** Judged on material chosen, message, talent, presentation, style, props/costuming. Four (4) minutes total for set-up and break down; maximum of six (6) minutes for presentation for a total of ten (10) minutes per act.

Defining Poetry and Prose: Poetry is generally characterized by structured meter and rhyme that tells a story or provides a message to the reader. Prose is distinguished from poetry by its greater variety of rhythm and its closer resemblance to the patterns of everyday speech. Another description might be an excerpt from a larger piece such as a play or book.

2. **VOCAL**— maximum of nine (9) participants. Vocal presentation may be done a cappella or with an accompaniment CD/tape. **No accompanist will be allowed for this category and the vocalist(s) may not play an instrument.** All members in the act must be singing. No lip sinc will be allowed. **Contestants may not present skits, poetry or other speaking during the act. They may, however, move around the stage and incorporate choreography with their presentation for the purpose of enhancing their showmanship.** Sign language may be added to enhance the performance, but entries that strictly showcase sign language without vocal presentation are not permitted in this category. They must be entered in Choreographed routines. Judged on talent, showmanship, vocal presentation, and material chosen. Four (4) minutes for set-up and break down; maximum of six (6) minutes for presentation for a total of ten (10) minutes per act.

3. **MUSICAL– Individual entry only.** Musical presentation may be musical instruments accompanied by background tape or an instrumental performance only. **No accompanist will be allowed. Participants may not sing or incorporate a skit, poetry, prose, or choreography with their act.** Judged on talent, showmanship, musical presentation, and material chosen. Four (4) minutes for set-up and break down; maximum of six (6) minutes for presentation for a total of ten (10) minutes per act.
4. **BAND – 2 to 9 participants. All 4-H members entered in the category must be a part of the act by playing a musical instrument and/or singing. Participants may incorporate singing in the acts, but cannot incorporate skits, poetry, or prose. They may, however, move around the stage and incorporate choreography with their presentation for the purpose of enhancing their showmanship.** Judged on talent, showmanship, musical presentation, vocal presentation when applicable, and material chosen. Four (4) minutes for set-up and break down; maximum of six (6) minutes for presentation for a total of ten (10) minutes per act.
5. **CHOREOGRAPHED ROUTINES**— maximum of nine (9) participants. No speaking to form a skit or story line. The act requires choreography and can be demonstrated through twirling, pom pom squad routines, jump rope teams, basketball dribbling exhibitions, or dance (jazz, tap, country & western, ballroom, etc.). Sign language presentations to music have been added to choreographed routines. However, if a participant is SINGING and SIGNING, this entry should be entered in the Vocal Category. All 4-H members entered in the category must be a part of the act. **Acts may use taped music on CD or cassette tape but may not use an accompanist.** Judged on material chosen, talent, uniformity, creativity, showmanship, costuming, and material chosen. Four (4) minutes for set-up and break down; maximum of six (6) minutes for presentation for a total of ten (10) minutes per act.
6. **CELEBRATE 4-H –maximum of nine (9) participants.** May be a 4-H based story line, promoting 4-H, community service, a project or activity. **This category may also address a specific youth issue and present ways in which this issue can be addressed through 4-H efforts.** May incorporate music, vocal selections, and/or choreographed routines but these aspects cannot be more than half of the performance. Skits can be humorous, creative and make fun of but not degrade Extension employees or the 4-H program. All 4-H members entered in the category must be a part of the act. Judged on material chosen, talent, creativity, showmanship, costumes and props. Four (4) minutes for set-up and break down; maximum of six (6) minutes for presentation for a total of ten (10) minutes per act.

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**2010 TEXAS 4-H SHARE-THE-FUN
DEFINITION OF TERMS FOR SCORE SHEETS**

The information below is a guide for scoring. Each term used on the score sheets are defined in an effort to clarify what is expected in each performance category. There is a score sheet for each of the five (5) categories.

Inappropriateness in any category is not permitted and would change the score of that particular area dramatically and could lead to disqualification. For example, a brilliantly executed skit that depends upon the use of foul language would not be acceptable. Any inappropriate reference to sex, age, or handicap will lead to disqualification.

MATERIAL CHOSEN – This area refers to the appropriateness of the material selected. A vocalist should select the song that is within his/her voice range; a pianist should pass up the “showy” difficult piece for one he/she will play well. Material chosen also refers to the appropriateness of the selection for presentation before a 4-H audience. **The target audience should be around 13 years of age and be PG or G rated.**

TALENT – This is the performer’s actual ability to do what the activity or skill requires. In any musical classification, this includes items such as the quality of music tones, intonation, manner of uttering tones with regard to rise, fall, pitch, harmony, rhythm and any other attributes of an artistic presentation. In choreographed routine, it includes rhythm, timing appropriate gestures, memorization and artistic delivery. Judges should be aware that some of the performers have not had formal training.

CREATIVITY – Creativity is the ability to produce something new, unique, or original. An act may be original in the way it was developed and/or interpreted. Sometimes the act itself may not be original, but the costuming, staging, or delivery may show creativity. Additionally, the quality of the creativity should be measured.

SHOWMANSHIP – Showmanship is the stage personality of the performer. It can include poise, confidence, facial expression, projection of voice, projection of music, body movements, gestures, and the performer’s stage presence, depending on the category (see score sheets for specific criteria). It is the performer’s communication with the audience at all times. It is his/her ability to make smooth entrances and exits, to avoid awkward pauses, and to acknowledge the applause of the audience. It is the use of the microphone and special stage props if these are a part of the act. In general, it is the whole personality of the performer while he/she is on stage.

COSTUME AND PROPS – Costume and props should be appropriate and supportive of the act. For some acts, street clothes may be the most appropriate costume. If the special costumes are used, they should contribute to the effectiveness of the act. Props are the back drop and/or other items used to add character and meaning to the presentation. See rules # 7 and 8 under “Rules & Regulations” for more details on the appropriate size of props and items that cannot be used.

MESSAGE – Communication of an idea or theme. What is the underlying message that will be taught or presented?

PRESENTATION STYLE – Method of acting; distinctive or characteristic manner; overall excellence; skill or grace in performance and/or appearance.

VOCAL PRESENTATION – Exercising the power of producing voice, speech or sound, expressing one's self as to relate to character or message being portrayed.

MUSICAL PRESENTATION – Music selected is appropriate to the skill level of the individual or group; sound level of the musical presentation is at an appropriate level; instruments are tuned properly.

UNIFORMITY – Consistency in formation; presenting a consistent appearance; in step; synchronized.

AUDIENCE APPEAL – Evokes reaction from audience that is desired from the performance (laughter, clapping, serious, quiet)

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**2010 TEXAS 4-H SHARE-THE-FUN
SCORE SHEET**

**CATEGORY: CELEBRATE 4-H
(maximum of 9 participants)**

COUNTY: _____ DISTRICT : _____ ORDER OF PARTICIPATION: _____

NAME OF ACT: _____

JUDGING CRITERIA	JUDGE'S COMMENTS	POSSIBLE SCORE	ACTUAL SCORE
MATERIAL CHOSEN —appropriate for youth audience; features 4-H project, activity, community service or other related topic; <u>OR</u> addresses youth issue, current affair or world event.		10	
TALENT —ability to do what the activity or skill requires; memorization; acting ability		25	
CREATIVITY —produce something new, unique, original; creativity in delivery of act		25	
SHOWMANSHIP —stage personality; poise, confidence, expression, voice projection, gestures, stage presence		20	
PROPS/COSTUMING —appropriate and supportive of the act		10	
AUDIENCE APPEAL —evokes reaction from audience that is desired from the performance (laughter, clapping, serious, quiet)		10	
SUB-TOTAL SCORE		100	
PENALTY—TIME LIMIT *			
TOTAL SCORE		100	

*** NOTE:** Six (6) minutes will be allowed for presentation with four (4) minutes for set-up and break down of props and equipment for a total of ten (10) minutes per presentation. A penalty of five (5) points per minute or part of a minute over the time limit of six (6) minutes allowed for the presentation and four (4) minutes for set-up and break down of props will be imposed.

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**2010 TEXAS 4-H SHARE-THE-FUN
SCORE SHEET**

**CATEGORY: POETRY/PROSE
(maximum of 9 participants)**

COUNTY: _____ DISTRICT : _____ ORDER OF PARTICIPATION: _____

NAME OF ACT: _____

JUDGING CRITERIA	JUDGE'S COMMENTS	POSSIBLE SCORE	ACTUAL SCORE
MATERIAL CHOSEN—appropriate for youth audience; Poetry or Prose material		15	
MESSAGE—communication of a theme or idea		15	
TALENT—skills and ability to perform the presentation well		25	
PRESENTATION STYLE—method of acting; distinctive or characteristic manner; overall excellence; skill or grace in performance and/or appearance		25	
PROPS/COSTUMING—appropriate and supportive to the act		10	
AUDIENCE APPEAL —evokes reaction from audience that is desired from the performance (laughter, clapping, serious, quiet)		10	
SUB-TOTAL SCORE		100	
PENALTY—TIME LIMIT *			
TOTAL SCORE		100	

*** NOTE:** Six (6) minutes will be allowed for presentation with four (4) minutes for set-up and break down of props and equipment for a total of ten (10) minutes per presentation. A penalty of five (5) points per minute or part of a minute over the time limit of six (6) minutes allowed for the presentation and four (4) minutes for set-up and break down of props will be imposed.

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**2010 TEXAS 4-H SHARE-THE-FUN
SCORE SHEET**

**CATEGORY: Choreographed Routines
(maximum of 9 participants)**

COUNTY: _____ DISTRICT : _____ ORDER OF PARTICIPATION: _____

NAME OF ACT: _____

JUDGING CRITERIA	JUDGE'S COMMENTS	POSSIBLE SCORE	ACTUAL SCORE
TALENT —ability to do the activity or skills required; rhythm, appropriate gestures, memorization and artistic delivery		25	
UNIFORMITY —synchronized movement; consistency in formation		15	
CREATIVITY —ability to produce something new, unique, original		15	
SHOWMANSHIP —stage personality; poise, confidence, expression, gestures, stage presence		15	
COSTUMING —appropriate for youth audience; fits well and is flattering		10	
MATERIAL CHOSEN —appropriate for youth audience and the ability of performer		10	
AUDIENCE APPEAL —evokes reaction from audience that is desired from the performance (laughter, clapping, serious, quiet)		10	
SUB-TOTAL SCORE		100	
PENALTY—TIME LIMIT *			
TOTAL SCORE		100	

*** NOTE:** Six (6) minutes will be allowed for presentation with four (4) minutes for set-up and break down of props and equipment for a total of ten (10) minutes per presentation. A penalty of five (5) points per minute or part of a minute over the time limit of six (6) minutes allowed for the presentation and four (4) minutes for set-up and break down of props will be imposed.

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**2010 TEXAS 4-H SHARE-THE-FUN
SCORE SHEET**

**CATEGORY: MUSICAL
(Individual entry only)**

COUNTY: _____ DISTRICT : _____ ORDER OF PARTICIPATION: _____

NAME OF ACT: _____

JUDGING CRITERIA	JUDGE'S COMMENTS	POSSIBLE SCORE	ACTUAL SCORE
MUSICAL PRESENTATION – selection is appropriate to skill level; instruments are tuned properly; sound level is appropriate		30	
TALENT–ability to do what the activity or skill requires		25	
SHOWMANSHIP–stage personality; poise, confidence, expression, musical projection, gestures, stage presence		25	
MATERIAL CHOSEN–appropriate to youth audiences		10	
AUDIENCE APPEAL –evokes reaction from audience that is desired from the performance (laughter, clapping, serious, quiet)		10	
SUB-TOTAL SCORE		100	
PENALTY–TIME LIMIT *			
TOTAL SCORE		100	

* **NOTE:** Six (6) minutes will be allowed for presentation with four (4) minutes for set-up and break down of props and equipment for a total of ten (10) minutes per presentation. A penalty of five (5) points per minute or part of a minute over the time limit of six (6) minutes allowed for the presentation and four (4) minutes for set-up and break down of props will be imposed.
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**2010 TEXAS 4-H SHARE-THE-FUN
SCORE SHEET**

**CATEGORY: BAND
(2 to 9 participants)**

COUNTY: _____ DISTRICT : _____ ORDER OF PARTICIPATION: _____

NAME OF ACT: _____

JUDGING CRITERIA	JUDGE'S COMMENTS	POSSIBLE SCORE	ACTUAL SCORE
BAND PRESENTATION – selection is appropriate to skill level; instruments are tuned properly; sound level is appropriate; voices and music are balanced		30	
TALENT –ability to do what the activity or skill requires		25	
SHOWMANSHIP –stage personality; poise, confidence, expression, musical projection, gestures, stage presence		25	
MATERIAL CHOSEN –appropriate to youth audiences		10	
AUDIENCE APPEAL –evokes reaction from audience that is desired from the performance (laughter, clapping, serious, quiet)		10	
SUB-TOTAL SCORE		100	
PENALTY-TIME LIMIT *			
TOTAL SCORE		100	

* **NOTE:** Six (6) minutes will be allowed for presentation with four (4) minutes for set-up and break down of props and equipment for a total of ten (10) minutes per presentation. A penalty of five (5) points per minute or part of a minute over the time limit of six (6) minutes allowed for the presentation and four (4) minutes for set-up and break down of props will be imposed.
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**2010 TEXAS 4-H SHARE-THE-FUN
SCORE SHEET**

**CATEGORY: VOCAL
(maximum of 9 participants)**

COUNTY: _____ DISTRICT : _____ ORDER OF PARTICIPATION: _____

NAME OF ACT: _____

JUDGING CRITERIA	JUDGE'S COMMENTS	POSSIBLE SCORE	ACTUAL SCORE
VOCAL PRESENTATION—exercising the power of producing voice, speech, or sound; expressing one's self as to relate to character or message being portrayed		30	
TALENT—ability to do what the activity or skill requires		25	
SHOWMANSHIP—stage personality; poise, confidence, expression, projection of voice, gestures, stage presence		25	
MATERIAL CHOSEN—appropriate material for voice range		10	
AUDIENCE APPEAL —evokes reaction from audience that is desired from the performance (laughter, clapping, serious, quiet)		10	
SUB-TOTAL SCORE		100	
PENALTY—TIME LIMIT *			
TOTAL SCORE		100	

*** NOTE:** Six (6) minutes will be allowed for presentation with four (4) minutes for set-up and break down of props and equipment for a total of ten (10) minutes per presentation. A penalty of five (5) points per minute or part of a minute over the time limit of six (6) minutes allowed for the presentation and four (4) minutes for set-up and break down of props will be imposed.
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