

Miami-Dade County
1455 N.W. 107 Ave. # 906
Miami, FL 33172
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October 21, 2008

4th and 5th Grade Teachers & Media Specialist:

It is our pleasure to invite your school to participate in the 2008-2009 "4-H Tropicana Public Speaking Competition." Attached is a copy of the program guidelines, an entry form and a flyer. The Program is offered, free of charge to 4th and 5th grade students.

The public speaking curriculum is structured in such a way to compliment the normal classroom curriculum. Former teachers and participants stated that writing a speech has helped prepared their students for the "Florida Writes." Participating students develop and practice their public speaking skills for the opportunity to compete against students from other schools in a county-wide final competition where the best orators are given spectacular awards.

The annual 4-H Tropicana Public Speaking Program is sponsored each year by Tropicana, and administered by the Miami-Dade County/University of Florida 4-H Youth Development Program. The main goal of the program is to help all students develop necessary communication and public speaking skills.

There are three ways in which your students may participate:

<u>Level</u>	<u>Recognition</u>
1. Classroom	Certificate for all students & first, second, third place ribbons.
2. School-All 4 th and/or 5 th classes	First, second, third place medallions.
3. County-First place representative From each school	First, second, third place plaques.

How do you participate?

If your school is interested in participating, please complete and fax the enclosed "Entry Form" to the 4-H office on or before January 5, 2009. Please be sure to designate your school's coordinator teacher on the enclosed form. Following receipt of completed "Entry Forms", packets containing the educational materials and awards for your respective school will be mailed to the coordinator teacher. The tentative date for this year's final county competition is May 19, 2009. Specific information regarding the final competition will be sent to the coordinator teacher.

Thank you for helping to bring this enrichment activity to your students. If you should have questions please feel free to contact our office at: 305-592-8044.

Sincerely,

Alexander L Diaz
4-H Agent



General Guidelines for Teachers

The program is designed to give 4th and 5th grade students experience in preparation and delivery of a speech. Typically, there is a school competition to select the finalist for 4th, and 5th grade that will compete in the county finals. Each participating teacher should plan to spend one week on the program. The suggested outline has produced excellent results in the past. However, each classroom is different. Teachers may make changes in order to adapt to the activities of their students and the available time frame.

Student objectives:

- Recognize the necessity of obtaining as much information as possible on a given topic.
- Carefully organize the material to be presented in a timely and orderly speech.
- Develop a pleasing personal style before an audience.
- Acquire the ability to speak convincingly in public and to express ideas effectively.
- Develop confidence and poise.

Teacher responsibilities:

- Help students create, write and present speeches
- Choose the classroom winner to perform in the school competition
- Select one overall school winner (from each grade level to attend the county competition)
- Prepare the school winner for the county competition

Speech Guideline:

- Speeches must be specifically prepared for the program
- Speeches must be original and relate to the student's interest
- Speeches **should be no less than two minutes and no more than three minutes in length.** Penalties are given for shorter or longer speeches
- Students who participate more than one year must create a different speech each year
- No visual aids are allowed when giving a speech. No costumes, props or pictures. No acting

Note: Students may work from note cards, an outline or memory. No points are awarded or subtracted based on this format.



Awards

Classroom Contest

Ribbons to be presented to the first, second and third place winners in each classroom.

School Contest

Medallions to be presented to the first, second and third place winners at each school.

County Contest

Plaques to be presented to the first, second and third place winners and one honorable mention.

Judging

- Judging is based on two areas; composition and presentation. Each of these areas has 6 subjects for which the judges may award a total of 10 points each for a maximum of 120 points. The decisions of the judges at all levels are final.

COMPOSITION OF SPEECH

Choice of material: Student uses original material, subject is unique

Effective introduction: Interesting, captures attention and indicates the topic

Effective body or main portion of speech: A logical and smooth flow of the material

Use of language: Effective selection, combination and use of words

Effective conclusion: Summarizes material and concludes speech effectively; not too abrupt

Time length: Automatically receive 10 points if within the time limit; the staff that is tabulating the results will mark any penalties

PRESENTATION OF SPEECH

Audience bond: Establishes and maintains eye contact with members of the audience

Delivery: Fluent and smooth and appears relaxed

Pronunciation: Correct

Articulation: Clear, easy to understand

Volume: Appropriate volume level; effective changes to volume level throughout speech

Speed: Speaks at a speed that can be understood, varies speed and uses pauses effectively



4-H TROPICANA PUBLIC SPEAKING PROGRAM “Entry Form”



Please complete and return no later than **January 5, 2009** to:

Miami-Dade County 4-H office
1455 NW 107th Avenue, Suite # 906
Miami, FL 33172
or Fax to 305-592-8315

Name of School: _____
School Code: _____
School Phone #: _____
School Fax #: _____

Check the ways your students will participate?
Classroom_____ **School**_____ **County**_____

Full Name of Coordinating Teacher: _____
Ethnicity of Teacher_____ **Gender of Teacher** _____

Total # of Classrooms _____ **4th** _____ **5th**

Total # of Youth Per Grade _____ **4th** _____ **5th**

	Total youth break down by demographics (Both Grades)					
	White	Afro-American	Hispanic	Asian	Amer.Ind./Alaskan	Hawaiian/Pacific Islander
Total Males:						
Total Females:						

Sample Free Awards

Certificates:



Every youth that participates will receive a free certificate.

Ribbons:



Every first, second and third place winners of the classroom competitions will receive ribbons.

Medallions:



Every first, second and third place winners of the school competition will receive medallions.

Plaques:



Every first, second and third place winners of the county competition will receive plaques.