

WASHINGTON STATE GRANGE PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTESTS

FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 2023

GRANT COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS – MOSES LAKE



YOUTH DEPT – AGES 14 AND OVER

There will be three categories this year along with three age divisions are as follows:

- 14-21 years of age
- 22-35 years of age
- 36+ years of age

The age of the contestant as of January 1 will determine the age group. For state, regional and national public speaking contests, props will be allowed, but must be appropriately sized for the room. Points can be deducted for props.

Category A: Prepared speech

Contestant's choice of topic. Contestants in Category A will be required to answer an impromptu question at the end of their speech. The questions will be related to the contestant's chosen speech topic. Speeches must be a minimum of 3 minutes and a maximum of 5 minutes.

Category B: Impromptu Speeches

An impromptu speech is delivered without preparation or thought ahead of time. No note cards are used, and topics are generally drawn. We hope that by establishing an impromptu speech category that members will build confidence and participate in the prepared speeches or the Grange commercial speech category.

Impromptu speeches should be at least one minute in length and not longer than 5 minutes. The

timekeeper will hold up hand when the 1-minute mark has been reached and the 4½ minute mark has been reached so speaker knows when he/she can stop.

Participants will draw two topics, select their choice of the two and return the other one. Competition will be held at the Regional Conferences – You need not have participated in a state competition to participate. Participants must notify National Director of intent to enter prior to the beginning of the contest.

Public speaking will be judged on the following criteria:

- Voice: Spoke clearly, easy to understand;
- Stage Presence: dressed Neatly and appropriately, posture, nervousness, etc.;
- Expression: Delivered speech with enthusiasm and emotion;
- Confidence in speaking, content of speech;
- Clarity of thoughts and ideas on topic.

One point will be deducted for every 30 seconds a participant is under or over the time established. Score sheet will be returned to entrants.



Category C: Grange Commercial

A Grange commercial is an advertisement promoting the Grange. Contestants must film and edit themselves doing a commercial for the Grange. Can include up to five people in the commercial. Commercial should last between 30 and 60 seconds. The participants must include a written script. Commercials must be submitted to the state director by the opening of the State Grange Convention.

Prizes: National Grange will provide ribbons to the top three entrants in each division and age category at the regional level. One overall winner from each region will be selected to showcase at the National Grange Convention. To advance to the National Convention, Grangers must compete in their local region. Impromptu Public speaking category entries are not eligible for Best of Show. Each Best of Show that show cases at the National Grange convention will receive \$100.

WA STATE GRANGE CONTEST INFORMATION:

Participants in Category A (Prepared Speeches) should notify the State Youth Director by June 1 of their intent to enter the contest. Participants in Category B should notify the State Youth Director prior to the contest at the State Convention. Participants in Category C must submit their entry to the State Youth Director prior to the opening of the State Grange Convention. The state contests will be held during the State Grange Convention in June of each year.

First place winners in each age group of Category A will be eligible to enter the Regional Public Speaking Contest in August. The cost of attending the regional conference (registration fee, hotel, transportation, etc.) is the

responsibility of the contestant. There is no limit on entries in Categories B and C at the regional level.

Prizes: State prizes in each age group of Category A (Prepared

Speech) are: First Place, \$100; Second Place, \$75; and Third Place, \$50. State prizes in each age group of Category B (Impromptu) and C (Grange Commercial) are: First Place, \$15; Second Place, \$10; and Third Place, \$5.

JUNIOR GRANGE

JUNIOR GRANGERS – AGES 5-13

All Juniors are encouraged to participate in this public speaking contest. You may enter one time in all three categories. The speech contest will take place during State Convention. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Junior room at convention to enter. Winners at the State level will win a cash prize and be eligible to compete at the regional level.

Categories:

Impromptu- (State level only) The contestant will draw 2 topics from a mystery bag and choose one topic to give a speech on. The contestant must meet a minimum of 1 minute with no more than 3 minutes for their speech.

Short Story- The contestant may present an original short story or poem of their choosing. The contestant must meet a minimum of 1 minute with no more than 3 minutes for their story.

Prepared- Delivered an original prepared speech on one of the following topics:

- The Junior Grange Theme of the Year (See National Grange Handbook)
- Any Topic of your choice

The contestant must meet a minimum of 3 minutes with a maximum of 5 minutes for their prepared speech.