



# *Youth Speech Contest*

At the Hillsborough County Fairgrounds  
Entertainment Pavilion

November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023

7:00 pm

Rules:

1. Registration is online on a first come-first serve basis. Deadline to sign up is midnight October 28th
2. Entry is FREE to middle and high school students and open to Hillsborough County residents only.
3. Each contestant will receive two free tickets for entry to the Hillsborough County Fair.
4. Contestants will be broken into middle school and high school divisions and must be enrolled as a student in the applicable grade and under the age of 18 as of the beginning of the 2023/2024 school year.
5. The Hillsborough County Fair Association, Inc. does not discriminate against any person on the basis of age, race, color, sex, disability, religion or national origin.
6. The contestants must prepare and present the speech personally using the fair theme **“Rooted In Tradition”**.
7. Contestants are not permitted to use any visual aids, such as power point presentation or poster.

8. Each contestant should wear the official dress of their respective club (i.e. 4H, FFA, JROTC, etc.) Contestants that are not a member of an organization should dress to impress with business casual attire.

9. Speech Length:

Middle School Division – minimum 2 minutes, maximum 3 minutes

High School Division – minimum 4 minutes, maximum 5 minutes

\* One point deduction for each second under or over.

10. Each judge will individually rank the participants and then rankings from all judges will be averaged to determine the final placings. In the event of a tie, the judges will use the individual raw scores to determine the outcome.

11. All decisions by the judges are final. Arguing with our judges will result in your disqualification.

12. As a contestant, you agree to allow the Hillsborough County Fair Association to film and photograph you during the contest.

13. Registered contestants are required to check-in 30 minutes prior to the start time of the event. Failure to do so can result in your disqualification from the competition.

14. Order of appearance will be determined by a blind draw and posted prior to the start of the contest.

15. Each contestant will be judged on a point system of 1-100 according to the following categories:

Oral Communications: Tone, Precision and Clarity, and Command of Audience

Verbal Communications: Attention, Mannerisms, and Poise

Speech Content: Detail Oriented and Knowledge of the Topic

16. Prizes and ribbons to be awarded for each division as follows:

***1st Place \$100, 2nd Place \$50,  
3rd Place \$25***

# Youth Speech Contest Registration Form

Theme: "Rooted In Tradition"

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership: (circle one) FFA 4H JROTC Boy/Girl Scouts Independent