



2026 Racine County 4-H
Communication Performing Arts Festival

Saturday, April 25, 2026

1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Union Grove Elementary School

1745 Milldrum St, Union Grove, WI 53182

Judging will take place from 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm, **participants must check in no later than 2:00 pm**, unless otherwise stated in your confirmation letter. The awards ceremony presentation will begin at approximately 4:15 pm, or at the conclusion of judging and conclude at approximately 5:00 pm.

*Open to all registered 4-H members

*All entries must be your own work and must have been made **after** the **2025 Racine County Fair**.

*Entries are to remain on display until the conclusion of the festival.

*Projects made for this year's festival may be entered at the 2026 Racine County Fair, as long as you are enrolled in the relevant project on 4Honline.

*You may enter as many festival classes as you wish, even if you are **NOT** enrolled in that project. For example: if you are not enrolled in the Photography project, you may still enter Photography in the festival.

*The Communication Performing Arts Festival is a free, family event. Family and friends of all ages are encouraged to attend.

*Face to face is the method of judging for all entries, **except** for Creative writing, Posters and Performing Arts. Written feedback will be provided for those classes.

*Grade division will be considered during judging.

*Registration form, detailed category descriptions and judging criteria sheets will be available. More detailed information for each class can be found in the Racine County 4-H Communication Performing Arts Festival Participant Guide.

All registration forms are **due** by **Tuesday, February 24, 2026 at 4:30 pm**. Registration will be completed on a sign up genius link. Here is the link

Late registration forms will be dropped one placing.

Creative writing and Posters (Classes A and B) are due to the Racine County Extension office in Burlington, 1072 Milwaukee Avenue, Burlington, WI 53105, by Wednesday, March 25, 2026 by 4:30 pm. Late entries will be dropped one placing.

GRADE DIVISION GUIDELINES

K5-2nd Grade	1-4 minutes or up to 500 words
3rd-4th Grade	3-7 minutes or up to 1,00 words
5th-7th Grade	5-9 minutes or up to 1,500 words
8th-12th Grade	7-12 minutes or up to 2,000 words

2026 COMMUNICATION PERFORMING ARTS FESTIVAL CLASSES:

CLASS A / POSTERS

>Judging based on Information Given/Idea Expressed (simplicity, originality), Art/Design/Lettering (pleasing composition/attractive, dynamic/eye-catching/original. Use of color) and Construction (materials texture/shape/size, durability, neat/easily read lettering).

>Must be 14 x 22 inches in size, horizontal or vertical.

>Must be 4-H related AND have 4-H or the 4-H Clover design as part of your poster.

>**On the back**-describe where the poster might be displayed AND list your name, club, and grade level on the back of the poster.

Entry options:

*Painted or hand drawn

*3-D and/or computer-aided

>**Poster entries are due to the Racine County Extension Office in Burlington by 4:30 pm on Wednesday, March 25, 2026. Please provide a copy of your registration form with your entry.**

CLASS B / CREATIVE WRITING

>Judging based on 60% Composition, 10% Grammar, 10% Punctuation, 10% Spelling, and 10% Neatness.

>Must be neatly printed or typed, double-spaced, on one side of the paper only.

Entry options:

*Poem (any length)

*Short Story (see word count above)

*Essay (see word count above)

>**Creative Writing entries are due to the Racine County Extension Office in Burlington by 4:30 pm on Wednesday, March 25, 2026. Please provide a copy of your registration form with your entry.**

CLASS C / DEMONSTRATIONS

- >Face to face judging based on Demonstration Quality (introduction, single theme, understandable/steps logical, conclusion), Delivery (audible/clear announcement/varied tone. Equipment set up and use, visual aids, confidence/poise, knowledge of subject, smile, eye contact), Teamwork if appropriate and falling within the TIME guidelines. (See time guide above).
- >Show the audience how to “do” or “make” a project or activity using visual aids.
- >If needed, please provide tables and easels.

CLASS D / SPEAKING-ORIGINAL SPEECH

- >Face to face judging based on Introduction, Composition and Content (easy to understand, single main point, evidence), Delivery (clear, friendly/relaxed, interesting, effective gestures/movement, visual aids (optional), smile/eye contact), Conclusion, and Teamwork, if appropriate. (See time guide above.)
- >Speeches should be an original work, regarding any topic.
- >Visual aid and/or electronic slides are optional.
- >Notes may be used, as long as they are used with skill - not to read completely for your speech.

CLASS D / SPEAKING-DRAMATIC READING

- >Face to face judging based on Introduction, Composition and Content (easy to understand, single main point, evidence), Delivery (clear, friendly/relaxed, interesting, effective gestures/movement, visual aids (optional), smile/eye contact), Conclusion, and Teamwork, if appropriate. (See time guide above.)
- >Participant selects written prose or poetry, either original work or by another author.
- >More than one selection may be chosen to meet time requirements. (See grade level time guide above).
- >Delivery must convey your personal interpretation of the material you have chosen.
- >Cloverbuds (K5-2nd) may also choose to recite the Pledge of Allegiance and/or the 4-H Pledge from memory.

CLASS D / SPEAKING-PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT (PSA)

- >Face to face judging based on Introduction, Composition and Content (clear message, easily defined target audience, relevant message, effective language, accurate material), Delivery (clear, friendly/relaxed, varied pitch/tempo/inflection, proper pronunciation) and Conclusion.
- >Length: 60 seconds or less (all ages).
- >Tell the audience who, what, where, when and why in a fun and creative way.
- >Present as if you will be heard on your local radio station.

CLASS E / PHOTOGRAPHY

- >Face to face judging based upon Technical Quality, Composition, and Storytelling Ability.
- >Must be mounted on 11 x 14 inch poster or matte board.
- >Use rubber cement or photo mounting spray. Do **NOT** use photo corners.
- >Photos may be color or black and white.

ENTRY OPTIONS:

- Enlargement - any subject (must be at least 5" x 7" but no larger than 8" x 10")
- Collection of four individual images (individual images should be no larger than 4x6)

CLASS F / COMPUTERS

- >Face to face judging based on Subject Matter (Purpose, Knowledge, Organization and Accuracy, Creativity, Quality), Educational Value (Worthwhile, Easily Understood) Member Knowledge (Subject/Software, Learn, Recommend Changes, Explain Process).

ENTRY OPTIONS:

- Flyer 8.5" x 11" sheet printed on one side
- 4 page newsletter, print back to back on 8.5" x 11" paper
- Multi media presentation of no more than 10 minutes in length (include printout)
- Tri-fold, 6 panel brochure with text/graphics on each panel-unfolded size 8.5"x11"
- Original art created on a computer
- Design created on a computer (landscape, garden, home, building or CAD/CAM design)
- Word cloud with at least 50 words describing a topic.
- Computer generated scrapbook, 12 pages, 8.5" x 11" paper size
- Animation created using online website or software (claymation, animal cartoon)
- Digital video and edit to finished length of no more than 5 minutes. Provide the original and the edited version.
- Website for your 4-H club, 4-H project or other youth organization
- Single page ad
- Use programming language to perform a task - include a printout of the result of the program
- Build a computer and install the operating system
- Create an item using 3-D printing, including a diagram of model with support structures

CLASS G / CREATIVE ART

>Face to face judging based on Technical Quality, Composition and Creativity.

ENTRY OPTIONS:

- Children's book with illustrations (hand drawn or computer graphics)
- Scrapbook of a 4-H trip, family trip, special event or any other topic
- Original drawing or painting (16" x 20" maximum size)
- Original sculpture or 3-D art
- Any other art medium that tells a story visually
- Book review shoebox diorama

CLASS H / DISPLAY/MODEL

>Face to face judging

ENTRY OPTIONS:

- 3-D model (legos, model cars, house design, etc.)
 - Scrapbook
 - Wood creations
 - Educational booth
 - Homemade game
 - Farm display
- >Many more options these are just a few
- >Display/Model may not be larger than 4' x 4'
- >Should be educational

CLASS I / PERFORMING ARTS

>Judging based on Performers (smile factor, enthusiasm/ease/confidence, appearance/costuming), Selection (appropriate for age, audience response, teamwork) and Delivery (tone, quality and accuracy, interpretation, technique).

>All types of talent are welcome.

>Please provide your own keyboard if needed.

>Please submit your audio file of record music via email to Amy Gehrand

amy_gehrand@att.net and Devon Collery dbrozynski1@gmail.com **no**

later than April 13, 2026 by 4:30 pm.

>Provided will be a speaker and computer.

>Please limit **INDIVIDUAL** entries to no more than 5 minutes. Please limit **GROUP** entries to no more than 10 minutes.

>The "Best of Show" and "Reserve Best of Show" entries will receive a special award.

ENTRY OPTIONS:

- Musical (Instrumental or Voice)
- Dance
- Clowning Act
- Karaoke
- Juggling
- Drama (ex: group skits, club, Cloverbud skits, individual monologues, etc.)

ALL AROUND COMMUNICATOR

- >Open to participants **3rd-12th Grade**
- >Recognizes outstanding achievement supporting a theme the participant will come up with. **Entries eligible are from CLASSES A-H only.**
- >Performing Arts (Class I) entries are NOT eligible for consideration.
- >Select three exhibits from CLASSES A-H to be considered. (example: one entry from Class A, one entry is from Class D, one entry from Class H)
- >Please let Amy Gehrand amy_gehrand@att.net and Devon Collery dbrozynski1@gmail.com know your theme and which classes you have selected by **Monday, March 30, 2026 at 4:30 pm.**

Please reference the Racine County 4-H Communication Performing Arts Festival Participant Guide for detailed Class information.

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Wisconsin-Madison



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