

# Finding your way to Senior Project Achievement

7 Steps that will get you to Rock  
Eagle in February for  
Project Achievement competition

# The road to Project Achievement

- Select a project area from list
- Prepare and submit a portfolio
- Narrow down subject matter from project category for presentation
- Research and prepare speech
- Decide upon visuals
- Practice

# Project Achievement basics

- Seniors are judged on two elements – presentation 50% and portfolio 50%
- Portfolios are scored separately from the presentation
- Portfolios can contain activities that are not specifically related to your speech topic

# Step # 1

- Select a project area – refer to the project list:

<http://www.caes.uga.edu/extension/irwin/4H/documents/srprojectlist.pdf>

- Most require an informative speech
- Exception:
  - Food Labs
  - Performing Arts
  - Fashion Revue

## Step # 2

- It's time to work on the portfolio!
- The next 11 slides will guide you through the requirements of the portfolio

# What is a portfolio

- A document that lists the activities in which you have participated for the calendar year
- Most of the portfolio is a bulleted list
- There are specific categories to use
- Two pages of supporting materials which are pictures showing you involved in the activities that you list

# Portfolio basics

- Portfolio is six pages:
  - letter of introduction from yourself to the judges
  - two typed pages of accomplishments
  - two pages of supporting materials
  - certification page
- Portfolios must be typed on white paper
- Margins must be at least  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch, font should be 10 point or larger

# Sections of the Portfolio

- Letter of Introduction (page # 1)
  - Main Project Work
  - Main Project Sharing and Helping
  - Leadership
  - Citizenship
  - Other Activities
  - Supporting Materials (pages # 4 & 5)
  - Certification Page (page # 6)
- Contained on two pages



# Letter of introduction

- Your introduction of yourself to the portfolio judge
- May include info about you, your family, reasons for joining 4-H
- How you became interested in your project
- Include your plans for the future, especially if they involve your project

# Main Project Work

- Work that you have done related to your project area
- Learning experiences in project
  - Classes, workshops, tours, etc.
  - List books, videos, or TV shows that relate to area
- Can include school classes



# Main Project Sharing and Helping

- Includes sharing/helping others in your project area
- May include:
  - Classes taught
  - Presentations
  - Exhibits
  - Project related community service

# Leadership

- Any leadership activities not included in main project area
- Holding office, serving on committees, etc.
- Activities are **NOT** limited to 4-H
- Use verbs such as: ***helped, led, organized, or taught*** to tell what you did

# Citizenship

- Any community service activities not listed under main project
- Activities to assist an individual or group
- Activities which will improve the community
- Not limited to 4-H

# Other Activities

- Anything else you have done not listed elsewhere in the portfolio.
- Can include:
  - School clubs, events
  - Other 4-H activities such as judging teams
  - Awards, honors
  - Church activities
  - Youth groups such as scouting
  - Sports teams

# Supporting Materials

- Pictures or articles which document the activities listed in the portfolio
- Photos may be staged such as:
  - Feeding or walking dog (category dog care)
  - Setting table or cooking, grocery shopping, clipping coupons, etc. (food category)

# Portfolio Due Date

- Be aware of the deadline to turn in portfolios to the Irwin County 4-H office. It is usually the same as the last day of school before the Christmas holiday break.

Don't wait till the last minute. Let's get started today!



# Step # 3

- Time to turn your attention to your project/presentation



# After the Portfolio is submitted

- Narrow your subject within your category
- Research/gather information to write your speech

# A Good Speech contains:

- Introduction – Hook the audience, introduce yourself, tell them what your speech will cover
- Body – The facts that you want to tell the audience about your subject
- Conclusion – Summarize your main points, refer back to your opening hook, leave your audience wanting to hear more or take action

# Time requirements


- A senior presentation should be 10-12 minutes in length
- Exceptions:
  - Performing arts – 4 minutes
  - Food labs – have specific time limits for each project
  - Fashion Revue – model garment that you have made and answer questions

## Step # 4 – Visual Aids

- A visual aid is something your audience can see which helps them understand your subject. Examples:
  - Posters
  - Pictures
  - Items
  - Showing how to do something

# Poster Pointers

- Big and simple is best. Words should be read from the back of room
- Main ideas or phrases
- Use plain, easy to read type
- Dark colors for type, light colors for background



## Step # 5 - Practice

- Know your material and make sure you can pronounce all words
- Speak clearly and distinctly
- Stand tall and straight
- Make eye contact with audience
- Use or interact with your visuals

## Step # 6

- Make an appointment and come to the 4-H office
- Give your speech to one of the 4-H staff
  - Make any changes that are recommended



# Step # 7

- Pack your bags!
- You're on your way for a weekend of competition and fun 4-H activities at Rock Eagle
- Southwest District Project  
Achievement is usually in February  
(check with Irwin County 4-H office to confirm)