4-H CREATIVE WRITING PROJECT GUIDELINES

St. Joseph County 4-H - Youth Program
St. Joseph County, Michigan

PROJECT RULES

1. Exhibited writing for any age may be fiction, nonfiction or poetry.
2. Writings should be selected and developed with leader assistance.
3. Exhibitor may exhibit in his/her choice of appropriate age-level Creative Writing class, or Illustrated Writing class (all ages), or both.
4. **ATTENTION**: Creative Writing class writing **MUST** be types/printed on plain white paper. No colored and/or designer stationary allowed. All writings prepared using special paper / illustrations / creative effects must be exhibited under Illustrated Writing.
5. Writing done for school projects are ineligible.
6. Creative Writing age-specific class exhibits to consist of required number of writing for age group, with exhibitor’s one (1) best writing exhibited on 11” x 14” poster board, and remaining writings exhibited in a 3-ring binder notebook. Both the poster board and the notebook must be labeled with member’s name, “4-H age” by January 1 and club name. **NOTE**: Poster board is available at the St. Joseph County MSU Extension office.
7. **COMPLETED CREATIVE WRITING AND ILLUSTRATED WRITING PROJECT EXHIBIT(S) MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE ST. JOSEPH COUNTY MSU EXTENSION OFFICE BY SEPTEMBER 1.**
8. The Creative Writing project judge will read each exhibitor’s writing prior to the fair and complete an evaluation form regarding his/her work. The judge will then meet with the exhibitor one-on-one to discuss his/her writings during Still Exhibit Project Evaluation at fair.

PROJECT EXHIBIT REQUIREMENTS  (Ages are as of January 1 of the year exhibit will be evaluated at the St. Joseph County Grange Fair.)

CREATIVE WRITING (9-10 years old) - exhibit to include three (3) writings of at least two (2) different types of writings selected for “Suggested Writings” list.  (See Rule 3.)

CREATIVE WRITING (11-12 years old) - exhibit to include four (4) writings of at least two (2) different types of writings selected from “Suggested Writings” list.  (See Rule 3.)

CREATIVE WRITING (13-14 years old) - exhibit to include four (4) writings of at least two (2) different types of writings selected from “Suggested Writings” list.  (See Rule 3.)

CREATIVE WRITING (15-16 years old) - exhibit to include four (4) writings of at least two (2) different types of writing selected from “Suggested Writing” list (see Rule 3), or one (1) major writing of 10 or more pages selected with leader approval.  All writings must be typed.  Prose must be double-spaced.  Line spacing on poetry is at member’s discretion.  (If major writing is selected, it should be placed in a notebook, not on poster board as is required for “group of four” writings.)

CREATIVE WRITING (17-18 years old) - same requirements as for 15-16 year olds.

ILLUSTRATED WRITING (all ages) - Exhibit one (1) writing, any type, which has been illustrated in a creative fashion to enhance the impact of the writing, with the emphasis to be placed on the writing.  Method of display of illustrated writing is at the exhibitor’s discretion, and is open to creativity.  (Cartooning to be exhibited in Cartooning Department.)