

SELF DETERMINED PROJECT DAY
Youth Center
Sunday, August 5, Noon - 5:00 PM
BOB HORTON, Assistant Superintendent

General Guidelines

1. Age of Participants:
 - Junior (4-H age 13 and under)
 - Senior (4-H age 14 and older)
2. Participation Rules:
 - Winner of any one class in 2011 is not eligible to participate in the same class for 2012.
 - Members must be enrolled in a 4-H 365 project for the 2012 program year and selected at the county level to participate in this event.
 - Self Determined projects on the topics below are judged on separate days as designated in the 2012 Ohio 4-H State Fair Guidebook and maybe subject to different guidelines:
 - Airplanes = STEM Day
 - Computers = Engineering Excitement Day
 - Digital imaging = Photography Day
 - Electric radio-controlled vehicles = Electric Radio-Controlled Vehicles Day
 - Natural resources = Natural Resources Day
 - Quilts = Quilt Day
 - Small pets (reptiles, ferrets, caged birds, etc.) = Companion Animal Day
 - Rocketry = STEM Day
 - Woodworking = Woodworking Day
3. Type of Evaluation:
 - Participant will have a personal interview evaluation which will consist of an oral interview with a team of judges along with a review of the participant's project book, tabletop display, and sample of project work.
 - Judges will evaluate participant on the following basis (also see sample score sheet):
 - Quality of Oral Presentation (25%),
 - Overall Appearance of the Display (10%)
 - Clarity of the Display (10%)
 - Depth and Thoughtfulness of Project Idea (10%)
 - Sample of Project Work (10%)
 - Overall analysis of the member's project experience (35%).
4. Participant Requirements:
 - Check in at the 4-H registration desk in the Youth Discovery Center between 10:00am – 11:45am.
 - Bring a completed 4-H 365 project record book.
 - Bring a display mounted on a 36" high by 48" wide cardboard tri-fold display board with 12" wings. The display must include Title of the Project, Background - historical or general information about your topic, Areas of Interest - areas of your project you chose to focus on, Results - what you did, Conclusion - what you learned.
 - Each participant will be limited to a 48" wide by 15" deep tabletop space in which to exhibit all materials. Electrical connections and additional exhibit space are not available to exhibitors, nor are exhibitors allowed to bring an electrical generator.
 - Participants will be required to set up their display on the day of the event between the hours of 10:00am - 11:45am. Participants must set up their display on their own with no outside assistance.
 - The contest will begin promptly at 12:00 noon. All participants must be in place and ready for judging at that time. Latecomers will not be admitted into the competition or allowed to display. Immediately following the presentation of awards at 4:00pm, participants are required to remove their exhibit from the building by 5:00pm.
 - Contestants are responsible for the safety of their display and display items at all times.

Classes

J-1 Self Determined Project, Junior

J-2 Self Determined Project, Senior

Awards and Sponsors

1. All participants will receive a participation ribbon sponsored by The Ohio State Fair.
2. Approximately twenty percent (20%) of the top participants in Class J-1 and J-2 will be eligible to receive Outstanding of the Day ribbons sponsored by The Ohio State Fair.
3. Approximately ten percent (10%) of the top participants in Class J-1 and J-2 will receive Superior ribbons sponsored by The Ohio State Fair.
4. Four qualifying individuals will be selected from the superior ribbon winners of each class to receive a clock trophy in the following categories:
 - Cultural Arts
 - Citizenship, Leadership and Community Service
 - Science, Engineering and Technology
 - Personal Enrichment and Everyday Living
5. The 2012 clock trophies are sponsored by **Friends of 4-H**.

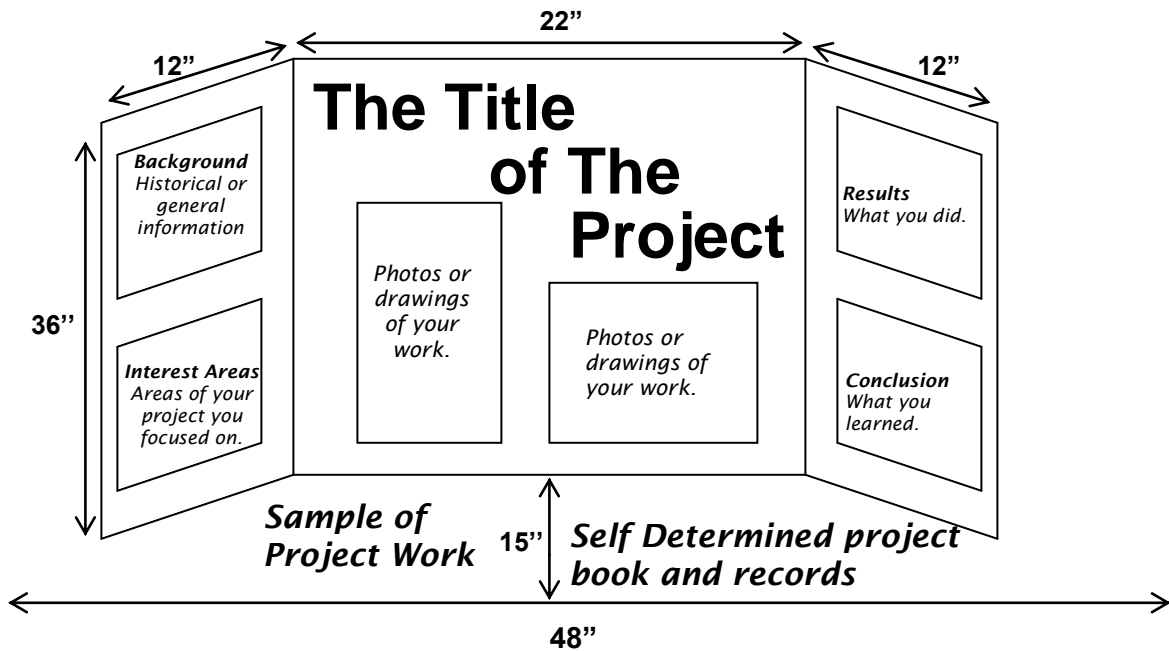
2011 Clock Trophy Winner

J-1 Junior – Clark Mutti, Tuscarawas

J-2 Senior – Mikayla Brown, Hancock

Contest Requirements for 3-Sided Cardboard Tabletop Display

Your display is a way of showing others what your project is about. The display alone is not the project, but it is nevertheless important. As with all parts of your project, you should take time to do it right. The diagram below gives the required components and their placement for a basic 3-sided display. However, your own creativity will determine how your display looks. In your own words, use narrative and/or bulleted points for the sections labeled Background, Areas of Interest, Results, and conclusion.



Material

Due to limited space, participants are required to display their project work on a 36" high by 48" wide cardboard tri-fold display board with 12" wings. In addition, each participant will be limited to a 48" wide by 15" deep tabletop display space. Additional exhibit space and electrical connections are not available. The display board itself can be handmade or purchased.

Color

Before you go any further, decide what colors you will use. If your background needs painting, an acrylic paint works best. Choose contrasting colors for lettering. If you are in doubt about your combination, get another opinion.

Lettering

Your title can be cut out of construction paper, poster paper, or other materials and attached (taped or glued) to the display board. Display boards can also be lettered by hand, first in pencil, and then retraced in marker.

Drawings

Drawings and sketches should always be drawn in pencil first and then retraced.

Photos

Every project display does not need photos, but if you have a camera, you might consider recording your progress. If photos are included with your project records, they should be placed at the end. Photos on your display board should be labeled.

Your Presentation to the Judges

You must consider your presentation as important as any other part of your project. Practice will make the difference in how well you present yourself to the judges.

Here is a step-by-step approach to organizing the ten minutes you have with your judges:

1. Introduce yourself. "Hello, my name is _____."
2. Give the title of your project. "The title of my project is _____."
3. Explain the background of your project. "The background of my project is _____."
4. Tell the judges how you got interested in your project topic.
5. Explain your areas of interest. "The areas that I chose to explore in my project were _____."
6. Talk about your results. If you have charts, graphs or a notebook, show them to the judges and explain them. If results are shown on your display, point them out. Also be sure to show them a sample of your project work.
7. Explain what you have learned. If you think that you had some problems or error in your project, don't be afraid to admit these.
8. Tell the judges what you might do in the future to continue your project. What would you have done differently if you were to do the project again?
9. Of what interest would your project be to other 4-H members?
10. "Do you have any questions?" If you do not know the answer to a judge's question, then say, "I am sorry, but I do not know the answer, but I think it is _____."
11. Thank the judges.

Other Tips for Presenting

It is very important to use your time well. You will want to impress your judges with your project, your knowledge and your enthusiasm. All people are affected in one way or another by the way we look, the way we talk, and the way we act. Adults are usually impressed with good manners and nice clothes.

Here are some tips:

1. Wear nice clothes.
2. Stand up straight on both feet. Don't sway from foot to foot.
3. Look straight into the eyes of your judges. Pay attention to both of your Judges.
4. Stand to the side of your exhibit when talking.
5. Get the judges involved in your project. Let them see, taste, smell, hear or hold a sample of your project work. Point out important points using your display.
6. Do not chew gum or candy.
7. Speak loudly enough to be heard by both of your judges.
8. Smile
9. Be polite.

Self Determined Project Day Score-Sheet

Member Name: _____ County: _____

Exhibitor number _____ Display Location: _____

Title of Self Determined Project: _____

Project Category (check one): [] Cultural Arts; [] Citizenship, Leadership, Community Service,
[] Science, Engineering, Technology; [] Personal Enrichment, Everyday Living

Level of Performance

QUALITY OF ORAL PRESENTATION (25)

- well prepared and articulate
- acceptable for age of member and difficulty of project
- needs improvement

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High Low

OVERALL APPEARANCE OF THE DISPLAY (10)

- excellent, well organized, labeled
- good, most items easy to find
- poor, not very clear, not all labeled

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High Low

CLARITY OF THE DISPLAY BOARD (10)

- excellent, well organized, labeled correctly
- good, most items easy to find
- poor, not very clear, not well labeled

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High Low

DEPTH AND THOUGHTFULNESS OF PROJECT IDEA (10)

- the project challenging enough for others to try
- not a very challenging or thought provoking project

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High Low

SAMPLE OF PROJECT WORK (10)

- sample is appropriate, informative, and shows effort
- sample is acceptable, somewhat informative and shows some effort
- sample is less than desirable, minimally informative and shows little effort

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High Low

PROJECT ANALYSIS (35)

- description of background is thorough
- areas explored are significant and meaningful
- level of project intensity and results are significant and meaningful
- number and level of things learned are significant and meaningful
- project book and record are complete and representative of project experience

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High Low

Comments:

(examples)

- all display components are present, clear, well-written, spell checked, sound presentation
- missing one or two display components, not real clear, but good presentation
- missing display components, not spell checked, poorly written, weak presentation.

[White – Exhibitor's Copy]
[Yellow – Judge's Copy]