



## 4-H Written Communication Contest 2018

Contest: Song Writing

### Rules and Guidelines

1. Entry must be the original work of the youth entering the contest.  
(Entries that are plagiarized will be disqualified.)
2. Entry must be family-friendly and age-appropriate.
3. Entry must be typed or neatly printed on 8.5"x11" paper.
4. Entry must contain the youth's name, address, e-mail address, age, date of birth, school, grade, and parent/guardian name.
5. Age category is determined by your age on December 31. Junior entries are for ages 9-13. Senior entries are for ages 14-18.
6. Two (2) junior entries and two (2) senior entries will be selected to advance to the State Written Communications Contest.
7. Please submit entry by January 29, 2018 to [christy.martin@uky.edu](mailto:christy.martin@uky.edu) or to the following address:  
Russell Co. Extension Office  
c/o Christy A. Martin  
2688 S. Highway 127  
Russell Springs, KY 42642

### Notes:

- A stanza is similar to a paragraph in a book. One or two stanzas make up a verse in a song and usually give the details of the song. A song usually contains 2-3 stanzas. Sometimes stanzas contain rhyming elements like in poetry; rhyming words usually occur at the end of the lines but not always.
- The chorus is a section of lines that are generally the "catchy" part of the song. The chorus often contains the title of the song.
- Songs can be written to original music that you compose. Songs could also use the format and music of another song (i.e. a children's song, a popular song, or a religious song).
- Song should follow the following format:  
Title  
Verse 1 (1 or 2 stanzas)  
Chorus  
Verse 2 (1 or 2 stanzas)  
Chorus  
Bridge (optional)





## 4-H Written Communication Contest 2018

Contest: "What 4-H Means to Me" essay (500 words minimum)

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### Notes:

- An essay is a short piece of writing on a particular subject.
- A general guideline is to have 5 paragraphs in an essay in the following format:  
Paragraph 1 — Introduction — should grab the readers attention with a "hook." Then highlight your thesis (statement of what you want to discuss) and the main points that you want to write about.  
Paragraph 2 — expand on 1st main point  
Paragraph 3 — expand on 2nd main point  
Paragraph 4 — expand on 3rd main point  
Paragraph 5 — Conclusion — give an allusion to the "hook" in the introduction and then restate your thesis. A conclusion should be about 4 sentences.
- The essay should be a minimum of 500 words.



Disabilities  
accommodated  
with prior notification.

## 4-H Written Communication Contest 2018

Contest: Original Monologue

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4. Entry must contain the youth's name, address, e-mail address, age, date of birth, school, grade, and parent/guardian name.
5. Age category is determined by your age on December 31. Junior entries are for ages 9-13. Senior entries are for ages 14-18.
6. Two (2) junior entries and two (2) senior entries will be selected to advance to the State Written Communications Contest.
7. Please submit entry by January 29, 2018 to [christy.martin@uky.edu](mailto:christy.martin@uky.edu) or to the following address:  
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c/o Christy A. Martin  
2688 S. Highway 127  
Russell Springs, KY 42642

### Notes:

- A monologue is a speech in a story, movie, or play given by a performer (such as a comedian), or it is a speech made by a performer where he or she is the only character talking. An example is when you are hearing only one side of a telephone conversation. Another example is where an actor talks to someone not visible on stage or directs the conversation to the audience or out over the audience. A monologue could also be a letter or a diary entry read aloud.
- When writing a monologue, try to answer these questions before you begin. What can the character reveal through the monologue? What does the monologue tell us about the character or the situation that he or she is in? What can the monologue tell the audience about his or her personality? What is motivating the character?





## 4-H Written Communication Contest 2018

Contest: Press Release (1000 words max)

### Rules and Guidelines

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4. Entry must contain the youth's name, address, e-mail address, age, date of birth, school, grade, and parent/guardian name.
5. Age category is determined by your age on December 31. Junior entries are for ages 9-13. Senior entries are for ages 14-18.
6. Two (2) junior entries and two (2) senior entries will be selected to advance to the State Written Communications Contest.
7. Please submit entry by January 29, 2018 to [christy.martin@uky.edu](mailto:christy.martin@uky.edu) or to the following address:  
Russell Co. Extension Office  
c/o Christy A. Martin  
2688 S. Highway 127  
Russell Springs, KY 42642

### Notes:

- A press release is a written account of the 5 basic elements of a news story along with additional details. (The 5 elements of a news story are as follows: **Who** — who is the story about; **What** — what happened; **Where** — where did it take place; **When** — the date and time it happened; and **Why or How** did it occur.)
- A press release is printed in a newspaper or magazine. It may or may not include a photo.
- Share the most important information first and then work your way down to include details that are not as interesting or urgent. This style of writing is called an **inverted pyramid**.
- On the top left side of the page you should start with FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE followed by a few spaces and the date of the writing of the press release. Always include the name, e-mail, phone and fax numbers of the contact person. Skip a few lines and title your press release and then write the article covering all the main parts outlined listed in the first bulleted point.
- The press release should be a maximum of 1000 words.



## 4-H Written Communication Contest 2018

Contest: Public Service Announcement

### Rules and Guidelines

1. Entry must be the original work of the youth entering the contest.  
(Entries that are plagiarized will be disqualified.)
2. Entry must be family-friendly and age-appropriate.
3. Entry must be typed or neatly printed on 8.5"x11" paper.
4. Entry must contain the youth's name, address, e-mail address, age, date of birth, school, grade, and parent/guardian name.
5. Age category is determined by your age on December 31. Junior entries are for ages 9-13. Senior entries are for ages 14-18.
6. Two (2) junior entries and two (2) senior entries will be selected to advance to the State Written Communications Contest.
7. Please submit entry by January 29, 2018 to [christy.martin@uky.edu](mailto:christy.martin@uky.edu) or to the following address:  
Russell Co. Extension Office  
c/o Christy A. Martin  
2688 S. Highway 127  
Russell Springs, KY 42642

### Notes

- A public service announcement (PSA) is a short version of a press release that includes just the vital information of WHO? WHAT? WHERE? WHEN? and WHY?
- A PSA is usually transmitted electronically, via radio or television, in a short spot of 10-60 seconds.
- When writing a PSA, the words PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT should be written at the top middle of your paper followed by a few spaces and then the date that you would like your announcement to air.
- Next include the name, phone number, e-mail, and fax number of the contact person.
- Skip a few lines and title your announcement, in bold letters, by the name of the event, followed by a short, complete explanation of what you want aired.
- A PSA should be sent about three weeks before it should be aired.





## 4-H Written Communication Contest 2017

Contest: Poetry

### Rules and Guidelines

1. Entry must be the original work of the youth entering the contest.  
(Entries that are plagiarized will be disqualified.)
2. Entry must be family-friendly and age-appropriate.
3. Entry must be typed or neatly printed on 8.5"x11" paper.
4. Entry must contain the youth's name, address, e-mail address, age, date of birth, school, grade, and parent/guardian name.
5. Age category is determined by your age on December 31. Junior entries are for ages 9-13. Senior entries are for ages 14-18.
6. Two (2) junior entries and two (2) senior entries will be selected to advance to the State Written Communications Contest.
7. Please submit entry by November 17, 2017 to [christy.martin@uky.edu](mailto:christy.martin@uky.edu) or to the following address:  
Russell Co. Extension Office  
c/o Christy A. Martin  
2688 S. Highway 127  
Russell Springs, KY 42642

### Notes

- A poem is a piece of writing that usually has figurative language and that is written in separate lines that often have a repeated rhythm and sometimes rhyme.
- Poems should be 3-25 lines.
- Poems should be written in the following format:  
Title  
Poem  
Author  
Include entry information from item #4.

