



Present It With Power: The 4-H PowerPoint Event

2005 – 2006 Theme: *The Four Freedoms*

In an address to the American people more than sixty years ago, President Roosevelt outlined what he called **The Four Freedoms**. These are fundamental rights which people "everywhere in the world" ought to enjoy. They are the Freedom of Speech, the Freedom of Worship, Freedom from Want, and Freedom from Fear.

Using modern technology, it is your challenge to produce a PowerPoint presentation on this timely topic, **giving equal emphasis to each of the four freedoms**.

Present It With Power! lets you:

- Provide a youth voice on important issues.
- Practice responsible citizenship.
- Share your technical and creative abilities.
- Plan, organize and carry through on a challenging project.

What You Will Learn

- **Present It With Power!** helps you develop new skills so that you can make things happen.
- **Present It With Power!** helps you learn to research issues that are important to you and others.
- **Present It With Power!** helps you learn to explore your own personal design preferences and make decisions and choices.
- **Present It With Power!** helps you build skills that will be useful in school and in the world of work.

Who Can Participate

Any Alabama young person may participate in **Present It With Power** or any 4-H competitive event. However, you must be a member of an Alabama 4-H Club. It's easy and quick to join – just call or e-mail your county Alabama Cooperative Extension System Office for information (for contact information, go to www.aces.edu/counties).

If you and your friends are interested, you might wish to start a 4-H Project Club. It could focus on Citizenship, Tek-Arts, or Communications. For information, see **Starting a 4-H Club** (www.aces.edu/pubs/docs/V/VOL-0004/).

Present It With Power is a Junior and Senior 4-H Event. Your local Extension Office has information on local and regional **Present It With Power** events, as well as other 4-H activities.

Levels of Competition

For details on eligibility, see the General Event Policy.

- **Juniors:** 9 – 13 Years Old. Must be 9, 10, 11, 12, or 13 years old on January 1 of the current calendar year. (Compete only at local and regional level).
- **Senior – Level I:** 14 – 15 Years Old. Must be 14 or 15 years old on January 1 of the current calendar year.
- **Senior – Level II:** 16 – 19 Years Old. Must be 16, 17, 18 or 19 years old on January 1 of the current calendar year.

One youth from each Senior level will represent the twelve 4-H Regions at Alabama State 4-H Congress. Selection processes will be determined by each 4-H Region.

If you win as at State at Senior Level I, you cannot participate again at that level. If you win as a Senior Level II, you cannot participate again at that level. There are other exciting 4-H events that might interest you.

The Rules

- Your PowerPoint presentation is not accompanied by a speech. The presentation is your final product. Your presentation is played before the judges and audience just like you would show a video-tape.
- Senior presentations are 5-8 minutes long. Junior presentations are 3-5 minutes.
- A CD or diskette containing the presentation must be brought to the event, labeled with the eventant's name and county. This will not be returned.
- Presentations may only be made using PowerPoint software.
- All music, video, images, computer animations or text must be 4-H appropriate. (Ask your 4-H Leader if you need help in determining if something is appropriate.)
- A slide should be included with the name of the 4-Her who developed the project.

Each county, regional, and state competition site will provide a computer with CD and Floppy Drive, an LCD projector and a screen.

Parents' and Volunteers' Guide

Like all 4-H projects, this activity is just for young people. It is expected that the young person create an original presentation. The role of the adult helper is to support and encourage youth in their efforts, to ask and answer questions about the project, and to help youth learn specific techniques that they might use.



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Thinking It Through

Remember who your audience is: community leaders, other 4-Hers, people from different backgrounds than yours.

How do you want to organize your presentation?
Here's an idea:

- Write down what you want to say, your ideas and thoughts. This is your "screenplay."
- Think through the sounds, music and images you want to include. Do you want to have an audio track that includes you or someone else speaking? Write on your script where you want to insert music and images and spoken words.

Here Are Some Ideas That May Help

Text and Titles

- Use bullets and numbers to organize ideas in a list.
- No more than 5 lines per frame; no more than 6 words per line.
- Avoid hyphenation. It interrupts the flow of the message.
- Do not type in all caps.
- For readability, don't place words over graphics.
- Make slides easy to read; if it's hard to read, don't use it.

General

- Proofread carefully. No spelling errors
- Use appropriate levels of music and sound. Don't let the volume distract.
- Use video and animation that enhances the presentation.
- Use a variety of effects to make the presentation interesting and to help emphasize points.

Slide Layout

- Use consistent design throughout the presentation.
- Start and end with a dark frame.
- Have an attention-getting title.
- Keep it simple.
- Make sure your slides appear balanced.

The Day of the Big Event

Each county or region will schedule its own **Present It With Power!** competition. It may be part of a County Round-Up or Regional Congress. Some places may have the competition as part of a 4-H citizenship event. Some may have workshops that help young people build their technical skills and meet others with similar interests.

On the day of the event, always come prepared with a back-up CD or diskette of your presentation. A

good idea: bring a paper copy of your presentation, just in case there is a technical crisis.

Hint: Double-check the version of your presentation that is on the CD or diskette to make sure that it runs just as smoothly as the version that is on your hard drive.

Going to State Competition

Congratulations! If you make it to State Congress, you are among the best in Alabama! The judges recognize that you have come up with a really great presentation. Your hard work and your technical skill created something wonderful.

From these premier productions, the judges will recognize *The Best in Show*. This outstanding production will be made available to 4-H groups and civic clubs throughout the state of Alabama.

Career Connections

Skills that are developed through this project have direct connections to a number of exciting and rewarding careers. These include: Computer Web Site Design, Animation, Film Production, Fine Art, Sound Engineering, Advertising, Theatre Production, Teaching, and Museum Display. The Citizenship aspect is good preparation for government or political service, advocacy, and education.

Judging Guidelines

The selection of the judges is important to the success of the event. The ideal judge knows about video production or layout and design and can easily chat with young people. The selection of a political figure, a video or television producer, and a web site designer or computer graphic artist provides a perfect judging panel.

This is a "passive" event without an interview component. On the day of the event, all participants will have an opportunity to observe all the presentations. A facilitator will introduce the participant to the judges and then play the presentations.

Judges are encouraged to positively offer their comments on the originality of the production, what was most effective, and suggestions for improvement. The participants will be asked to leave the room while the judges make their selection of a "Best in Show." After the judges have made their decision, participants may return to the room and the judges will discuss the strengths of the "Best in Show" presentation.

Above and Beyond

All 4-H projects should be taken “above and beyond” just being a short-term activity. Awards and recognition throughout Alabama 4-H are not based on how well you do in competitive events; they are based on your all-round community service, leadership, and project work.

Here are a few ideas for taking your interest in PowerPoint and Citizenship to a level where you can both grow as a person and have an impact on the lives of others:

- Arrange a presentation of two or three different PowerPoint presentations to a community or civic club or an education group.
- Visit a television studio, the Alabama Cooperative Extension System Communications studios at AU or A & M, or a film production studio.
- Invite a professional videographer to talk with your club about his or her work.
- Put your presentation on a web site.
- Teach younger 4-Hers to make a PowerPoint presentation.
- Make a PowerPoint presentation about your school, your community, or some aspect of Alabama history.
- Arrange showings of your PowerPoint on the local cable channel.
- Create and show a presentation about local 4-H to the school board, city council or the county commission.

NOTE TO EVENT COORDINATORS

Some presentations made in one version of PowerPoint may be corrupted on a computer which has another version of PowerPoint. Text may appear too large or shapes may be distorted. Please arrange for participants to preview their presentation on the computer that will be used during the competition and make necessary adjustments.

Judging Guidelines: Present It With Power!

Participants will be judged on design, content, technical abilities, and the overall quality of their presentation.

Design:

- Easy to read
- Appealing style
- Illustrations are clear and good size
- Images, audio, video and graphs complement subject matter

Total Possible Score 30 _____

Content:

- Presentation covers the topic listed in event rules
- Presentation has a clear focus
- Topic is presented in a well-structured manner
- Content is interesting, keeps audience attention

Total Possible Score 30 _____

Overall Presentation:

- Effective use of time
- Information presented in an effective manner

Total Possible Score 40 _____

Total Possible Points 100 _____

Comments: