



### **General Rules:**

1. Contestants must be from the ages of 14 to 19 as of January 1 of the contest year.
2. In order to compete, contestants must have actively participated in their local VAF-member fair, and their application must be signed by a local, sponsoring fair official. Participation is not limited to only junior fair board members. A young person who has served as a volunteer and an exhibitor is a good example of a logical candidate for this contest.
3. A letter of reference from a fair member must be submitted with the application, résumé, and essay. The letter should stress the applicant's leadership abilities and contributions to the local VAF-member fair.
4. Contestants must be present in the designated room at the conference hotel during the Virginia Association of Fairs Convention, by 10:00 a.m. on the contest date, to receive instructions.
5. Contestants should be dressed in professional attire and conduct themselves accordingly during the entire contest period.
6. In case of a tie for any placement based on numerical scores, the judging panel will be informed and consulted to break the tie after the completion of the contest.
7. Contest results will be announced at the Awards Banquet on Saturday night. The top six contestants will be notified and expected to stay for the banquet, although all competitors are encouraged to attend the banquet.
8. Top scorers in selected division(s) will present at the banquet.

### **Symposium:**

1. Contestants are required to create a PowerPoint presentation on the topic listed below with the option of also using photos, charts, and posters. A laptop and LCD projector will be available. Any other equipment needs should be provided by the presenter.
2. Presentations should be saved on a USB-type portable storage device or a recordable CD.
3. Presenters should not incorporate sound as speakers will not be available. Presenters should also refrain from using additional software, add-ons, movie clips, etc. so as to minimize possible technological glitches.
4. Two-thirds of the score from this component of the contest will be decided by two (2) adult volunteers. The remaining one-third of the score will be the average score given by each of the other contestants.
5. The score sheet for 4-H presentations and public speaking will serve as the basis for scores.

Composition (organization, use of language, knowledge of subject)	40%
Delivery (projection, fluency, voice, diction, enunciation)	45%
Response to Questions	15%
6. Adult and contestant judges may ask questions.
7. Delivery should exceed no more than five (5) minutes with a 30-second grace period allowed.

### **2010 Symposium Topic: The History of My Fair**

Prepare a presentation regarding the history of your sponsoring fair. This will likely involve interviewing key members of your community and conducting some research. Include a timeline of development where possible, and include photos/memorabilia as available. Other historical components you may wish to feature include locations of the fair, leadership, events offered, etc.

### **Letter of Reference from Fair Member (submit with application):**

Ask a member/volunteer/director of your fair board (non-relative) to write a letter of support for you, emphasizing your fair participation, service, and leadership. Include with your application.

### **Prepared Public Speaking Contest Rules:**

1. Presenters will deliver a prepared speech with the subject related to leadership and the fair industry.
2. Each speech will be from 4 to 6 minutes in length and scored 40% on composition, including organization of material and use of language, 45% on delivery, including projection, fluency, and voice control, and 15% on extemporaneous responses to questions asked by the judges.
3. Each contestant will submit at the contest check-in, three (3) copies of their prepared text. Speeches should be typed in 10- or 12-point Arial or Times New Roman font, and double-spaced. Print on one side of the paper only, and staple in the corner. Do not place in a folder of any kind, please. This text will be given to the judges in advance of the presentation and scored.
4. The order of presentation will be randomly assigned. Notes will be allowed, but points will be deducted for excessive use per the judges' decision. No other materials or devices will be allowed.
5. A podium may or may not be available, dependent upon hotel set-up.
6. Contestants who do not stay within the 4-6 minute time limit will be penalized 10 pts.

### **Extemporaneous Public Speaking Contest Rules\*\*:**

1. Contestants will have 30 minutes to prepare a 2 – 4 minute speech on a topic that is chosen by contest officials. Each contestant will be given the same topic.
2. The presentation will be scored using the same formula as the prepared portion of the contest.
3. Topics will pertain to the fair industry, from managing to marketing, presenting to post fair evaluation, etc.
4. Contestants will be allowed to use notes while speaking, but again, there will be deductions for excessive use.
5. There will be a 5 point penalty for each minute or part thereof that the time limit is exceeded.

\*\*Note: There is a possibility this portion of the contest will involve a group presentation. However, contest logistics could not be confirmed at the time of distribution of the packet. If it is feasible to conduct a group presentation, preparation and presentation time limits will change accordingly.

### **Résumé, Application, Interview Contest Rules:**

1. An official application and résumé must be submitted with the appropriate signatures by the deadline listed on the front page of the contest rules packet. Additional attached pages are acceptable.
2. Each contestant will, at the appointed time and place, participate in an interview with at least one judge to answer questions about their involvement in their local fairs, community, and other organizations. The judge(s) will review the application prior to the interview.
3. Contestants will be judged 50% on answers to three standard questions; 25% on poise, grammar, professional appearance; 25% on application neatness and completeness.

### **Essay (submit with application):**

1. Each contestant must submit a typed essay addressing the topic below. Essays must accompany the application or the contestant will be disqualified.
2. Essays will be judged on grammar, mechanics, spelling, creativity, content, and quality.

2010 Topic: How does a fair know when it is successful?

# 2010 Virginia Association of Fairs Youth Leadership Award Application

Complete and return by December 4, 2009. See front page of contest packet for details.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ St \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_ Birth date \_\_\_\_\_

Parents Names: \_\_\_\_\_

(Parents' Address if Different): \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

School Presently Attending: \_\_\_\_\_ Year/Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Local Fair Represented: \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_  
(\*Note: Fair must be a member of Virginia Association of Fairs.)

Attach a personal résumé that includes the following:

1. Fair participation and service. Include name, brief description, and years involved.
2. Community Involvement. List group name, years involved, and brief description of participation.
3. Work Experience, paid or volunteer. Include title, responsibilities, and dates.
4. Honors or Awards received.
5. Statement of your plans for higher education and your career goals.

*\*Résumé should follow accepted practices of resume writing, not just an itemized list..*

Include the required essay and letter of reference. See contest packet for details.

Signatures:

I certify that the applicant has been an active member of our fair and is eligible for this contest.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Sponsoring Fair Official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

I certify that all of the information contained within this application is true and correct and is all of my own work. I have read and understand the rules accompanying this scholarship contest.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Participant's Signature

*Local Newspaper Information (Optional)*

Name of Paper: \_\_\_\_\_ Town: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax Number: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_