Southeastern Michigan Junior Science and Humanities Symposium

Paper Presentation Guidelines

If your research paper is chosen for presentation at the symposium, you will need to prepare a 12-minute Power Point Presentation that you will deliver at the symposium. Wayne State University will provide laptop computers, projectors, and pointer for presenters to use. Bring your presentation in a flash drive.

Please follow the guidelines below for your presentation

Timing:
- The presentation may not exceed 12 minutes and is followed by a five (5) minute question-and-answer period. At the 12-minute point, the presentation will be stopped, even if the student speaker has not finished.

Session Moderator:
- A session moderator will aid the student speaker in maintaining the time and in fielding questions from the judges and audience.

Questions:
- Following the presentation, the session moderator will ask for questions from the judges, followed by questions from the audience.
- The speaker must repeat or paraphrase each question before answering it so the audience understands the entire dialogue.
- Questions intended to embarrass the student speakers will not be allowed by the session moderator.

Suggestions:
- Explain your research in enough detail so the audience understands what you did, how you did it, and what you learned. Be sure your presentation is logical and easy to follow. Make your message clear.
- Avoid jargon or terminology the audience might not understand. If it is essential to use specialized terms, remember to explain them briefly. Be prepared to define terminology used, if necessary.
- Graphs, tables and other illustrations may help explain your results. Remember to name the variables on each axis of a graph, and state the significance of the position and shape of the graph. Do not, however, read each number in the table/figure. Call attention instead to important points. You may not use exhibits or demonstrations during your presentation.
- Deliver your presentation at a comfortable pace. Time yourself. Classroom practice sessions provide an excellent "live" audience and help build confidence. Videotape the presentation, if possible. Avoid "ah's," "er's," or nervous mannerisms.