City Presentation Tips

This year, presentations will be given via recorded video rather than in person. The presentation will not be followed immediately by Q&A with the judges – that’s a separate deliverable!

Prepare the Presentation:

- Review the How to Make a City Presentation Video student handout on page 73 and online at futurecity.org/resources (filter for Handbook & Student Handouts).
- Create an outline of the main points your team wants to make. Your City Essay outline is a good starting point. Remember to review the rubric as you design your video presentation.
- Write a script based on your outline. The script is what each member of the team will say during the presentation. It needs to sound natural and not as if you’re reading your essay out loud.
- Decide which team presenter will say which part of the script. Write each person’s lines on note cards and practice, practice, practice! Get really comfortable with your part so that you don’t spend the whole presentation staring at your note cards! They’re just there if you forget something.
- Take advantage of moments to be especially creative. In the beginning, you want to grab the attention of your audience. Then enthusiastically share details about your future city and its innovative and futuristic features. At the end, you want to make the audience members wish they could live in your city!
- Use your City Model segments. Point out innovative features and interesting landmarks in your city. You can also use other visual aids during your presentation, such as posters, slides, and props. Review the rules starting on page 81 of the Handbook.
- Dress appropriately for your presentation. You can wear costumes that work with the role that you’re playing.

Practice the Presentation:

- Rehearse the presentation until the three presenters feel confident.
- Practice giving your presentation in a virtual environment. You might need to define cues among team members to ensure a smooth recorded video.
- Have friends or family members record your practice and then review it with your team and make adjustments as needed. Reviewers can use the rubric to help give good feedback.
- Take turns being coach and presenter. After each practice presentation, have peer coaches discuss the following:
  - What parts of the presentation were clear and informative?
  - Were there any points they didn’t understand?
  - What was one thing they liked about how their peers presented?
  - Did the presenters look into the camera? How were their gestures, tone of voice, and pace of the delivery?
  - How did the presenters use the model and other visual aids?

Record the Presentation:

- Speak clearly and audibly.
- Look into the camera and be confident.
- Share your enthusiasm about your future city and solutions to the Living on the Moon challenge.
- Remember to have fun!