

Oral Presentations

An oral presentation consists of a **15-minute talk** by the student(s) involved in a project, followed by approximately **5 minutes of questions** from the audience. High quality PowerPoint slides and/or other appropriate materials, such as handouts, typically accompany oral presentations.

Each presenter is expected to work closely with a faculty mentor in the weeks and months leading up to Scholars Day to develop an organized, informative, and polished presentation, and to prepare related materials. Some basic tips for PowerPoint include:

- Avoid long sentences on slides; use short bullet points instead
- Light backgrounds with dark text are typically easiest to read
- Include pictures, charts, tables, or other graphics where appropriate
- Font should be size 24 or larger

PowerPoint slides must be saved on a flash drive. Students must verify that their slides operate properly on a PC before Scholars Day - and remember to bring the flash drive with them on the day of the event!

Presenters are encouraged to practice their presentations several times – before an audience, if possible. This will help you feel more comfortable discussing your project, projecting your voice, and will better prepare you to stay within the 15 minutes allotted.