

## Presentation Outline and Event Details for Advanced Finalists in The Website Design Competition

Hello to our Finalists,

When you present your website to our judges, you will have 4-5 minutes. If you are working in a team of two girls, then BOTH of you are expected to speak during that 4-5 minutes. The judges are keeping time. You will be penalized if you talk too long.

Introduce yourself. Example: "Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_\_. I am \_\_\_\_ years old and attend \_\_\_\_\_ High School."

SMILE while you are talking. Even if you aren't normally an animated person, ACT animated. The judges want to see that you had fun making your website. Be proud of your hard work and fabulous design. Smile. Let your excitement and enthusiasm show!

If the emcee hadn't used the F11 feature to make your site full screen, you should do that yourself.

Keep in mind that the judges WILL have seen your websites already. Therefore, judges want to hear about things that they <u>can't see</u> on your site. So, don't tell them "This is my \_ page. I put an image of a \_ on it." That would be boring because the judges already know that.

In other words, you could express your excitement about your items, but please don't repeat the information that the judges have already seen in your site.

Instead, you could tell them about:

- The software you learned how to use; don't say "I used Photoshop."
  Instead say, "I learned about using Photoshop and was surprised at how easy/difficult it was to do \_\_\_\_\_ to an image."
- How you chose the design for your pages
- Your favorite part of the project
- Why you chose a particular image
- Why you chose a particular font or wallpaper
- o Any reactions to or opinions about different browsers or software

If your website happens to have an error(s) that is obvious to the audience and judges, you need to acknowledge that in your presentation. You made the finals because the rest of your website created scores that were high enough to overcome the error(s). A few of you have sites with error messages on your images. DEAL WITH IT in your presentation. Don't be embarrassed. Instead, be bold and talk about learning that one tiny error in your code (capital I on your image instead of lower case I, for example) created the problem. Acknowledge to the judges that it's one of

life's lessons. Think of it like a job interview, when you might be asked about a mistake you made in life. Acknowledge it. Vow to learn from it.

You DO want to play your audio or video, but only for a brief moment to illustrate that you did include it, as required. You could talk about why you chose that particular audio or how you got the idea for it. Don't use up 15 seconds of your 4-5 minutes by playing the whole thing. The judges will have already seen it/heard it. Know where the mute button is on the keyboard that will be at the podium!

When you give your presentation, try to keep the mouse from jumping around. When you open a page, move the mouse to the side and keep it there until you are ready to go to another page or to demonstrate a mouse-over effect. Speak normally into the microphone and enunciate clearly. Imagine you are speaking to someone standing in front of you. If you get too close to the microphone, it will sound breathy and your "p's" will "pop."

Some details about the Blue Care Network venue and the process:

- 1. When you arrive, you will receive the printed program. That's when you will learn the order of the presentations. It's a random selection, so you might be first or last or somewhere in between. Beginner finalists do not present their sites to the judges. Instead, Beginner finalists' sites undergo another level of scrutiny before the event to determine the winners, who will be announced on Dec. 3.
- 2. If you arrive early enough, you may go to the podium and examine the laptop you'll be using. Try clicking on your site to see if you can find it quickly. We'll be using MCWTwebdesign4girls.net Finalists page, which should be available with the links by Wednesday. You may choose any browser.
- 3. Finalists will sit in the front two rows. The seats will have names on them.
- 4. Blue Care Network has 2 large overhead screens so that the 100+ audience members will have no problem seeing your site.
- 5. Eight judges will be sitting at tables in the rear. The judges are from our partner companies. They have high ranking positions in those companies, such as CEO, CIO, Manager, etc.
- 6. We're hoping to have a social media station set up so that you can take selfies. Use it early and often! Invite your family or teacher to be in a photo as well. We have two hashtags for the event: #IMadeTheMCWTFinals and #MCWTFinals. During the two breaks, we'll use tagboard.com to find your posts, no matter where you post it. You may start using the hashtags today! BCN usually has a beautiful Christmas tree in the atrium. It offers a nice backdrop for photos as well.
- 7. After the event ends, we ask that you remain for a few more moments while we take full group pictures of all finalists. (See the competition website home page for 2015's finalists' group photos.)
- 8. It's important to RSVP with your name and the name of any of your guests. BCN security needs the names. You will receive a separate email about it. Please, no small children should attend.
- 9. You MUST provide a photo release signed by a parent. You will receive that shortly in a separate email.
- 10. Refreshments will be provided in the atrium throughout the event.

Please don't hesitate to email us with any questions. WebDesign@mcwt.org