

2018 YOUNG REPORTERS FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AUSTRALIA

Entry Criteria

In order for your article, photo or video to be eligible for entry in the YRE Australian Competition, there are a few criteria you should adhere to.

- Your piece should investigate a local environmental issue/problem, propose possible solutions and then report through writing, photos, or video.
- Written articles should be no more than 1,000 words and can include illustrations and photos. All sources used must be referenced. Any photos and illustrations that are not original work must be credited and have permission for usage.
- Photos can be submitted alone or as part of a series/photo essay. Photos must be original work and should have a title and description of no more than 150 words to explain the link with environmental sustainability and/or a solution to the problem/issue.
- Videos should be no more than 3 minutes long and should be in documentary, reporter/interview style or PSA format. Videos should have a title and description and should be compatible with YouTube or Vimeo. Any photos and music which are not original must be credited and have permission for usage.
- Students may submit more than one piece and can work individually or in small groups.

Judging Criteria

The Australian YRE Jury selects and awards a winning article, photograph and video in each age category, as well as a runner up, or runners up.

Similar to the International YRE Jury process, Australian entries may be assigned a score of 0-5 based on how well the submission meets five criteria. Points are: **Excellent** - 5 points, **Very Well** - 4 points, **Well** - 3 points, **Fairly Well** - 2 points, **Qualified** - 1 point and **Does Not Qualify** - 0 points.

Composition i.e. form, structure, and quality (5 points)

- The submission should be well structured and, in the case of articles and videos, cover who, what, where, why, when, and how.
- The article or video should have a beginning, middle, and end.
- In the case of photographs and video, the picture/video technically and artistically should be well done i.e. well composed, of high quality, and impact.



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Fair, balanced, and objective reporting (5 points)

- The piece (article or video) should be balanced and fair in terms of representing different sides of an argument prior to offering a suggestion for potential solution.
- The quotes used should be from real, credible, sources.
- Scientific or statistical reporting should be accurate and supported by sources/ footnotes.
- The photograph or video is a fair representation, and the subject or audience has not been manipulated. Editorial alternations to photos or video (including but not limited to colour, contrast, definition, shadows, highlights, cropping, levelling, etc.) are permissible, as long as these alternations do NOT alter the reality of the subject or object of the photo/video.

Informative and well researched (5 points)

- The submission should cover relevant historical, economic, social and/or political implications and possible consequences.
- It should make a link to the bigger global picture.
- The solution presented should be thoroughly explained, well-argued and justified.
- The use of illustrations, pictures, supporting paragraphs, subtitles, etc., should be thought through.

Originality, style, and independence (5 points)

- The piece is original in its scope or style i.e. the participant has picked a challenging topic or created an innovative or moving piece.
- The participants should leave the school grounds i.e. engage in field work and interview people in person as well as on the telephone, not just use or quote online sources.

Dissemination (5 points)

- Dissemination through minimum three media outlets/events including internal school channels.
- Participants need to state the dissemination (genre of media outlet etc) that has been done.

In addition

The Jury is at liberty not to award in the case of too few submissions and to give more than one award in the case of exceptional entries in one or more age categories.



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