

## NATA YOUNG SCIENTISTS OF THE YEAR AWARDS 2015

**The annual NATA Young Scientists of the Year Award competition is now open!**

*Students from primary schools across Australia can enter for a chance to win cash prizes!!*

**Entries close on Friday 18 September 2015**

### About the award

The NATA Young Scientists of the Year Award started in 2007 to foster an interest in science among schoolchildren, and in response to concerns that Australia's scientific expertise is in decline. Now in its eighth year, the competition encourages students to look at how science impacts on people's lives. Students from primary schools across Australia are invited to enter the competition to win cash prizes.

With 2015 being designated the International Year of Light and light based technologies (IYL), it seemed fitting that we make this year's theme '**Light up your life!**'

There are plenty of resources online around this theme. There are also IYL websites for [Australia](#) and [internationally](#).

The NATA Young Scientists of the Year Award initiative to encourage young scientists has been strongly supported by the Commonwealth and state governments.

The aims and purpose of the competition are:

- to promote to children the benefits and value of science
- to provide students with the opportunity to participate in science on a national platform
- to encourage students to apply their creativity to scientific solutions
- to demonstrate the importance of good presentation skills in science

### The Competition Rules

Entry to the NATA Young Scientists of the Year Award is **free** and open to individuals and class groups in **primary schools** across Australia.

There are three age groups eligible for this competition (birthdays as at 30 June 2014) from primary schools: 7 & 8 year olds; 9 & 10 year olds and 11 & 12 year olds.

This year's theme is '**Light up your life!**'

All submitted materials must be wholly designed and produced by the entrant(s).

**There is no limit to the number of entries that can be submitted to the Award from one school.**

The entries will be judged by a team of scientists from a range of disciplines.

The judges' decision will be final.

Each entry **MUST** be accompanied by an entry form downloaded from the NATA website and the student name(s) clearly written on the entry form. Please note that each student who enters will receive a certificate so it's important to ensure that student names can be clearly read.

Students are required to undertake an experiment or investigation around the theme of light. This could involve anything light related - from an investigation into solar power generation to how light can affect plant growth to use of light in medical diagnosis and treatment.

Each submission should contain a title, a written element and a visual element.

**Submissions MUST include a written project summary of no more than one A4 page.  
This should include the project's aims, execution and results.**

For the visual element, entrants could submit their projects in any form, such as:

- Pictures and words in a scrapbook
- A video or DVD presentation (**maximum five minutes**)
- Computer graphics or other digital media
- Poster 841mm x 591mm in landscape or portrait

## Entry

Entries should be sent to Diane Lyons, NYSYA 2015, PO Box 7507, Silverwater NSW 2128 for receipt no later than **18 September 2015**.

The entries **MUST** be accompanied by an official NATA entry form, which can be downloaded from the NATA website.

All entries will be acknowledged by email once received by NATA.

At the conclusion of the competition, all entrants will receive a certificate.

NATA cannot accept any responsibility for postal costs or damage to submitted entries.

Entries received after the closing date will not be considered.

## Announcement of the winners

Winners will be informed by telephone to the contact shown on the entry form, usually a teacher or Principal. The names of the winners will be posted on the NATA website and announced to national, regional and local media. NATA will liaise fully with winning schools prior to any announcement to the media.

No names, addresses or other information connected to the school or its pupils will be disclosed to media without prior consent of the school. NATA will seek to provide full cooperation with the schools, if required, in handling media enquiries.

NEW SOUTH WALES & ACT  
7 Leeds St  
Rhodes NSW 2138  
P O Box 7507  
Silverwater NSW 2128  
Tel: 02 9736 8222

VICTORIA & TASMANIA  
Level 1  
675 Victoria Street  
Abbotsford VIC 3067  
Tel: 03 9274 8200

QUEENSLAND  
628 Ipswich Road  
Annerley Qld 4103  
P O Box 1122  
Archerfield BC QLD 4108  
Tel: 07 3721 7300

SOUTH AUSTRALIA & NT  
Unit 1  
13 King William Road  
Unley SA 5061  
Tel: 08 8179 3400

WESTERN AUSTRALIA  
Business Centre  
Suite 7  
2A Brodie Hall Drive  
Bentley WA 6102  
Tel: 08 9486 2800

Freecall: 1800 621 666

National Association of Testing Authorities, Australia is a company limited by guarantee ABN 59 004 379 748

www.nata.com.au

Winning schools (with permission of their Department's media unit) may like to use award results to promote themselves to the local media.

As well as raising the profile of individual schools, publicity of this nature provides an opportunity to highlight the practical and fun side of science.

## Prizes

Winners will be chosen by a panel of judges.

The top ten in **each age group** will be selected and the following prizes awarded:

\$2,500 to the winner's school  
\$400 to the winning student or group  
\$200 to the second finalist  
\$200 to the third finalist  
\$30 book voucher to the remaining seven finalists

There will also be two Encouragement Awards of \$25 each.

## The Awards Presentation

First prize cheques and certificates will be presented to the winning schools at an appropriate school event. NATA will liaise directly with the winning schools to determine when this will take place.

## Enquiries

For any enquiries about the NATA Young Scientists of the Year Award, please contact Diane Lyons, Marketing & Communications Coordinator on (02) 9736 8255 or email [dlyons@nata.com.au](mailto:dlyons@nata.com.au)

NEW SOUTH WALES & ACT  
7 Leeds St  
Rhodes NSW 2138  
P O Box 7507  
Silverwater NSW 2128  
Tel: 02 9736 8222

VICTORIA & TASMANIA  
Level 1  
675 Victoria Street  
Abbotsford VIC 3067  
Tel: 03 9274 8200

QUEENSLAND  
628 Ipswich Road  
Annerley Qld 4103  
P O Box 1122  
Archerfield BC QLD 4108  
Tel: 07 3721 7300

SOUTH AUSTRALIA & NT  
Unit 1  
13 King William Road  
Unley SA 5061  
Tel: 08 8179 3400

WESTERN AUSTRALIA  
Business Centre  
Suite 7  
2A Brodie Hall Drive  
Bentley WA 6102  
Tel: 08 9486 2800

Freecall: 1800 621 666

National Association of Testing Authorities, Australia is a company limited by guarantee ABN 59 004 379 748

[www.nata.com.au](http://www.nata.com.au)