

What actions do you think should be taken to build a better society?
What would you change if you could?
What do you want other people to care about?

HOW TO ENTER

Write a 400-600 word opinion piece on what matters to you and why. Entries must be typed on A4 paper. Strictly one entry per student. All entries must be accompanied by a signed entry form. Entry forms are available from your teacher or can be downloaded at www.whitlam.org/whatmatters

JUDGING CRITERIA AND INFORMATION

Judging criteria and further information is available at www.whitlam.org/whatmatters, where you can also view the 2011 winning entries.

CLOSING DATE

Friday 4 May 2012.

STUDENT PRIZES

Prizes are awarded in 4 categories: Years 5/6, 7/8, 9/10 and 11/12.

- \$350 for each category winner and \$200 for each category runner-up. Winners and runners-up will receive their prize at an awards ceremony, following their participation in a Young Writers Forum run by *The Writing Workshop*, on 17 August 2012 at the University of Western Sydney's Parramatta campus. Winning entries will be published in print and online.
- An overall competition winner, announced at the awards ceremony, will receive a laptop with software donated by Officeworks.
- The Year 11/12 category winner will also be offered the opportunity to participate in ReachOut.com's ReachOut Reporters multimedia content producing program (www.reachout.com), receiving professional training and the opportunity to be published online and paid for their work.
- The category winners from Years 5/6, 7/8 and 9/10 will each receive a full-day creative writing workshop donated by *The Writing Workshop*, conducted by award-winning author Bernard Cohen.

All entrants will receive a certificate of participation.

SCHOOL PRIZES

All schools participating in the competition go into the draw for a chance to win one of five Officeworks vouchers valued at \$1,000 each. School winners will be announced at the awards ceremony on 17 August 2012.

KEEP IN TOUCH

on Facebook at www.facebook.com/whatmatterscomp, and also make sure you check out the awesome TV program that was made by TVS about last year's competition at www.whitlam.org/whatmatters

For more information see your teacher or visit our website www.whitlam.org or call 02 9685 9187

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What Matters 2012

It's Time To Write