

email :

[admin@creationscience.org.au](mailto:admin@creationscience.org.au)



Creation Science Education Association of Australia,  
P. O. Box 1570,  
Thuringowa Central. Queensland. 4817. Australia.  
Monday 15 January 2018.

Dear Christian Teachers, Parents who home educate, and Friends in Churches and Christian families,

Here are the details of the 2018 competitions conducted by this Association. 2018 is the 21<sup>st</sup> year that our competitions present the National Science Theme from a Christian perspective. This year's National Science Theme is *Game Changers and Change Makers*. This theme derives from a modern scientific perspective that typically ignores the possibility of a Creator God and His designs, which impoverishes science and stunts students' understandings. Our topic, **Show how a Biblical worldview can inform scientific innovation**, provides an opportunity for students to study the scientific innovations of Christians, past, present and future. Students in your school, family or church are invited to participate. Students may complete and send their entries at any time during Semester 1, 2018.

Competitions are again offered in **six categories** : Song Writing, Writing, Poster, Science Project, Mathematics, and Drama. Hopefully you are able to include the 'Innovations' theme and the competitions in your **Semester 1 curriculum this year**, and allow your students to enter one or more of the categories. Enclosed are competition details about each of these categories. As far as we know, these are the only competitions of their kind that provide opportunities to promote teaching and learning Christianly. It has been observed that the 'doing' aspect of our competitions engage students with God as Creator, and set a consciousness of God as Creator in the minds of children from a young age.

Students are welcome to enter more than one category of competition. 'Participant of the Year' awards are made in each section to encourage students to enter as many categories of competition as they are able.

The attached competition details consist of **one broadsheet** for all of the categories together on the one page, **one A4 size entry form for each category** and **four pages of curriculum ideas for an integrated unit** for Year 1 – 12 students. For **pre-Year 1 children**, there is also a double-sided A4 size sheet of paper showing activities they could do to participate in the competitions. Some educators use the competitions as a focus for an **integrated approach** to a term's programming. Please print the attached pages and entry forms and distribute them amongst teachers on your school or church staff, or children in your family or home schooling group, who are interested in one or more of the categories of competition. Alternatively, more copies of the pages and entry forms can be posted if that suits your situation better.

Those educators who have to justify to some higher authority why they include the competitions in their curriculum planning might like to consult the respective subject areas as identified in the Australian Curriculum. Our competition judges **do not** require entries to satisfy Australian Curriculum requirements.

With the entry forms is a **checklist** for educators to use to type the names of all of their students who submit entries. **A typed list of your entrants would help us produce certificates accurately first time. Thank you.** All entrants who use a *competitive entry form* receive either a place-getter or a participation certificate. **All certificates are laminated unless you indicate otherwise.** *Non-competitive entry forms* are available for Pre-Year 1 to Year 12 students who want to be a part of what other children their age around Australia were doing but who cannot get to the stage of completing and submitting a formal entry, and who would be content with a participation certificate to acknowledge their efforts.

**We suggest that entries and entry forms from your school, college or family be mailed no later than Monday 25 June 2018 so as to arrive here by the closing date of 5.00 pm on Monday 2 July 2018. Entries that arrive after this time will not be judged but will receive participation certificates.**

There are no individual entry fees for each entry. The Creation Science Education Association of Australia is a not-for-profit volunteer community education organisation whose only source of income is by donations.

Looking forward to receiving entries from your school, family or church before the due date,

Yours scincerely,

**Phil Peachey**, Honorary Co-ordinator, Creation Science Education Association of Australia.

## **A special note about entry forms.**

**In 2016, we trialled non-competitive entry forms for Pre-Year 1 children, so that they could enjoy participating in the topic without having to be competitive.** In our competitions, this section includes children who are below Year 1, such as Preps, Pre-Preps, Kindergarten, Pre-Kindergarten, Reception, Transition, etc. Due to the young age of those children, we decided to give them the option of participating in activities related to the topic without having to formally submit an entry, and still receive a participation certificate. The trial allowed Pre-Year 1 children to be a part of what other children their age around Australia were doing, whereas otherwise they might not have participated. The trial was successful, judging by the number of non-competitive entry forms for Pre-Year 1 children that were submitted. For those wanting to use non-competitive entry forms for Pre-Year 1 children in 2018, they are in the **second** folder of entry forms on the competitions website.

**Last year, the trial was extended to other sections, from Year 1 to Year 12, for similar purposes.** Thus, students in those grades who wanted to participate in activities related to the topic, but who could not get to the stage of completing and submitting a formal entry, were still able to have their efforts acknowledged with a participation certificate. This trial allowed students in Years 1 – 12 to also be a part of what other children their age around Australia were doing, whereas otherwise they might not participate either. This trial was successful as well, judging by the number of non-competitive entry forms for Years 1 – 12 children that were submitted. For those wanting to use non-competitive entry forms for Years 1 – 12 students in 2018, they are in the **third** folder of entry forms on the competitions website.

While this option of non-competitive entry forms might suit some students, we anticipate that the majority of participants in all sections would use the competitive entry forms, and have their entries judged, which is a critical part of conducting a competition. While the non-competitive option might suit some students, **we would encourage as many students as possible to submit entries with competitive entry forms.** They are in the **first** folder of entry forms on the competitions website.

## **A special note about the Drama category.**

After last year's competitions, we did a survey of schools, inviting comment on aspects of our annual competitions. One common response was to suggest that, with the ongoing advances and widespread acceptance of modern technology in education, Information and Communications Technology (ICT) did not need to have its own category anymore. We had been thinking similarly, as more and more entries in recent years have been submitted electronically, showing that ICT has become a tool for a range of subjects rather than remaining a separate subject. **Thus, ICT is not offered as a category in this year's competitions.**

In its place, Drama is being reintroduced as a category. Drama was first offered in 2000, and ran until 2006, with some (excellent) plays being of up to twenty minutes duration. While people were interested in submitting Drama entries, the added tasks of recording and editing entries for submission with the technology of the time was, understandably, often beyond the capabilities and time constraints of many educators. However, in the past ten years or so, there have been ongoing advances and widespread acceptance of modern user-friendly technology in education with built-in videoing capabilities, such as digital cameras and mobile telephones, and the development of various editing software programmes. **Thus, Drama is re-offered as a category in this year's competitions.**

Entries may be in the style of puppetry, mime, creative movement, play, skit, news item, investigative journalism, interview, or advertisement. While the upper time limit for entries is ten minutes duration, some styles of Drama are more suited to short durations (eg. advertisement), and can get their message across succinctly. Effectiveness in communicating a message is more important than a time restriction.

While it is fun to film and clown around in front of a camera, remember to obtain the permission of everyone who appears in your entry before you proceed with filming.

It is possible that an anthology DVD of entries might arise from this year's Drama competition, depending on the quality of entries received. In previous years, the quality of entries had been outstanding, and copies of the resultant anthology were sent to all included on it at no cost to them, as a way of encouraging and edifying all concerned in their endeavours in witnessing for the Lord. As the immediate objective is the competition itself, we would not proceed with producing an anthology this year without first obtaining the approval of entrants.

## **Confidence growing through the competitions.**

In recent years, there has been a noticeable increase in the number of entries that have expressed credible creationist positions convincingly. Year after year, our judges have consistently encouraged higher standards in entries. There have been some really astounding entries in Science, Mathematics and Writing, which show our competitions are enabling students to express credible creationist positions confidently and soundly, which is an important development in our Creation Education endeavours.

The competitions have several objectives, some of which are as follows.

**First**, they provide opportunities to promote teaching and learning Christianly.

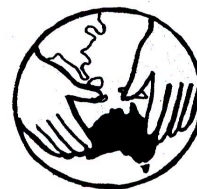
**Second**, the competitions have a 'doing' aspect that engages students with God as Creator, and set a consciousness of God as Creator in the minds of children from a young age. **Third**, they allow students to analyse information critically and to grow in confidence in presenting and defending credible Biblical creationist perspectives. This they can do without incurring penalty or prejudice, as a credible alternative to the heavily evolutionary flavour of the current secular educational landscape in Australia, that is showing itself increasingly intolerant of '*alternate understandings*', such as Christian perspectives.

2 Corinthians 10 : 4 – 5 reads '*For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ*' (NKJV). Every year it is exciting to see what entrants send in, but the last couple of years has been especially exciting, when more entries than ever were examples of the foregoing verses. Christianity is in a battle in this country, and it seems that these competitions are helping to prepare the younger generation to defend their faith with grace and assurance. That was not thought of as a goal when the competitions started twenty-one years ago, but in recent times God seems to be leading this endeavour in that direction in its contribution to education in Australia. May it be to His honour and glory, and may He be pleased to cause more of the younger generation to grow as His young people in the service of His Kingdom through these competitions. Amen.

**Attention : Phil Peachey,**

Honorary Co-ordinator, Creation Science Education Association of Australia,

Thank you for the notification about the 2018 Creation Science competitions.  
Please note my / our response(s) as follows.



**1. Please send .....** (how many) hard copies (ie. on paper) of the 2018 competition details.

who to (ie. contact name)	where to (ie. postal address)

**2. Please send the following entry forms :**

type of form	number of copies
competitive entry forms for Pre-Year 1 to Year 12 students (these are the standard entry forms)	
non-competitive entry forms for Pre-Year 1 children	
non-competitive entry forms for Year 1 to Year 12 students	

**3. I / We have something to say or ask concerning the 2018 competitions, as follows :**

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**4. Please send copies of the following forms :**

type of form	number of copies
Creation Education Resource Centre borrowing form (borrowing is free, but you pay return postage)	
Creation Education Activity Topics order form (there is no charge to participate in any of the Topics).	

**5. Any other matter about Creation Education I / we wish to raise at this time :**

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**6. I / We **would / would not** like to receive notifications of future Association events electronically (appropriate answer is circled). If 'would', my / our email address is :**

.....

Yours faithfully, ..... (please print)  
address (if different from question 1 above) :

.....

phone, fax or email : .....

**N. B. : I / we have kept a copy of this form for my / our reference.**