

2021 Legacy Junior Public Speaking Award

Further Information for Schools



Important Notification: Events will be subject to COVIDSafe Plan Restrictions.

The Legacy Junior Public Speaking Award is a national competition conducted through Australian secondary schools and colleges, in State, Independent and Catholic schools for students aged 12-14 years.

The Legacy Junior Public Speaking Award competition began in Melbourne in 1988 and the award commenced as a national competition in 1995. It spans approximately 7 months as it involves several eliminations rounds to reach the finals – including Regional, Preliminary, State Finals; followed by a winner and runner up compete at the National Final.

The aim of the Legacy Junior Public Speaking Award is to enhance the oral communication and public speaking skills of 12-14-year-old students and to help the younger generation to build confidence, appreciate the ideals of Legacy; voluntary and personal effort/sacrifice, care and compassion, mateship, and the importance of remembrance.

Who is eligible to compete?

Legacy Junior Public Speaking Award is open to Victorian government and non-government secondary schools. Each school can enter a maximum of four students per school or per campus. To be eligible for entry, students must be aged 12 years or up to 14 years on 1 January 2021. Students that turn 15 years old during the year of competition are eligible to compete.

How do schools enter the Legacy Junior Public Speaking Award?

To register for the public speaking, interactive Entry Forms are located on the Melbourne Legacy's website at www.melbournelegacy.com.au/schools for the schools to access and download, including location of Venue dates for Regional Finals.

Please complete the interactive Entry Form (one per student) with student's full details including signatures for permission for photographs, save a pdf copy of the Entry Form and then forward to Lisa Bennett, Events Officer at Melbourne Legacy by emailing publicspeaking@legacymelb.com.au by Friday 30 April 2021.

If students have not been selected by Friday 30 April 2021, please provide proposed number of students. The actual names of students along with their completed Entry Forms can be provided within 10 working days of the Regional Final in which the students are competing.

Teachers can select the closest Venue (one only for Regional Finals) for their school for the students to compete. Approximately 12 to 16 students per Venue from different Victorian schools will compete against one another.

Once completed Entry Forms are received from schools, confirmation details including, date, venue, times, student names, etc will be forwarded to the school.

How much does entry cost?

There are no fees for Victorian schools to enter the public speaking.

Criteria for Prepared and Impromptu Speeches

At each stage of the competition, students are required to present five minutes Prepared Speech and a two minutes Impromptu Speech.

The Prepared Speech can be on any topic of their own choosing on any subject relating to the ideals of voluntary service, social justice, caring, personal effort, personal sacrifice and/or mateship and the importance of remembrance. Topics are required to be noted on the Entry Form or advised prior to the day of competition. A warning bell will be given at 4 minutes then at 5 minutes.

The Impromptu Speech is to be of two minutes duration with five minutes preparation. The Chief Judge chooses the topic, which is given to all students competing at that particular Venue on the day. A warning bell will be given at 1½ minutes, then at 2 minutes.

What are the rules of the competition?

Other than the Criteria for Prepared and Impromptu Speeches, other conditions of the competition are:

- Cue or palm cards are permitted for Prepared and Impromptu Speeches.
- No props or external aids such as PowerPoint presentations are to be used.
- No mobile phones are permitted to be taken into the preparation area for the Impromptu Speech.
- Microphone or Lectern are permitted at Regional, Preliminary and Victorian Finals and use is at the discretion of the competitor.
- The Lectern is not permitted to be use at a National Final of this competition.

What are the adjudicators looking for?

The Legacy Junior Public Speaking Award is not for debating, elocution or acting. The competition is concerned with the competitor's effective use of language to convey a message or a point of view to an interested audience.

Choice of words, intonation, articulation, pace and pausing are all important in conveying the message in a speech. Anything which hinders the transmission of meaning or diverts attention from the speaker's presentation should be avoided. For example:

- Unnecessary and inappropriate gestures;
- Affected pronunciation;
- Over use of dramatics;
- Unnecessary movement around the stage;
- Irrelevant humour; and
- Mannerisms.

Adjudicators are required to give equal consideration to prepared and impromptu speeches in making their decision.

What the Adjudicators are looking for in the Prepared and Impromptu Speeches:

- Opening impact on audience:
 - ~ Introduction.
- Content:
 - ~ Relevance of subject matter
 - ~ Originality
 - ~ Speech structure (coherence, logic, development).
- Use of language:
 - ~ Appropriate choice of language
 - ~ Use of plain English.
- Delivery:
 - ~ Pace, intonation, volume, pitch, humour, body language, eye contact.
- Conclusion:
 - ~ An effective closing summary
 - ~ Was the audience absorbed in the presentation?

How does the competition run?

Schools may conduct their own internal competition to select four students for the Legacy Junior Public Speaking Award. Lisa Bennett, Events Officer, will then advise all schools the date and venue of their local final which will be held in May to August 2021.

- **Regional Finals – May to August 2021:**

Student's selected as winners at a Regional Final, the student's attends one of the Semi Finals, which are held in September 2021. (Please note at some venues two winners are chosen depending on the standard of the competition on the day).

- **Preliminary Finals – September 2021:**

Student's selected as winners at Preliminary Finals, compete in the Victorian Final of the Legacy Junior Public Speaking Award (venue to be advised).

Runner ups of Preliminary Finals will only compete if the winner is unable to compete at the Victorian Final of the Legacy Junior Public Speaking Award.

- **Victorian Final – October 2021:**

Two Victorian student finalists selected will compete in a National Final with other student finalists from other states.

What are the Prizes at each stage of competition?

- **Regional Finals:**

All students who compete at Regional Finals receive a Badge and Certificate.

- **Preliminary Finals:**

All students who compete at Preliminary Finals receive a Badge and Certificate.

- **Victorian Final:**

All students who compete at the Victorian Final receive a Medallion (engraved with student's name), Oxford Dictionary or another book and a Certificate.

The winner and runner up receive a personal trophy engraved with their name and school. Winner and runner up also receive a gift voucher each. Winner receives a \$300.00 and runner up receives a \$200.00 gift voucher.

The Perpetual Trophy of the Victorian Final of the Legacy Junior Public Speaking Award is engraved with the winner's name and school, which is held at the school for 12 months.

The winner and runner up of the Victorian Final of the Legacy Junior Public Speaking Award, who proceeds to the National Final (accompanied by one parent/guardian), costs for flights, accommodation, scheduled weekend activities with the other interstate finalists and their families is covered by Legacy.

- **National Final:**

All students who compete at the National Final receive a Medallion (engraved with student's name), book and a Certificate.

At the National Final of this award, a winner, runner up and third place are selected. The winner, runner up and third place student finalists each receive a gift voucher. Winner receives a \$500.00, runner up receives \$300.00, and third place receives \$150.00 gift voucher.

The Perpetual Trophy of the National Final of the Legacy Junior Public Speaking Award is engraved with the winner's name and school, which is held at the school for 12 months.

Contact details

For further information on the Legacy Junior Public Speaking Award, please contact Lisa Bennett, Events Officer, Melbourne Legacy on (03) 8626 0512 or email lisa.bennett@legacymelb.com.au

Completed Entry Forms:
By Friday April 2021 to publicspeaking@legacymelb.com.au
Lisa Bennett, Events Officer, Melbourne Legacy