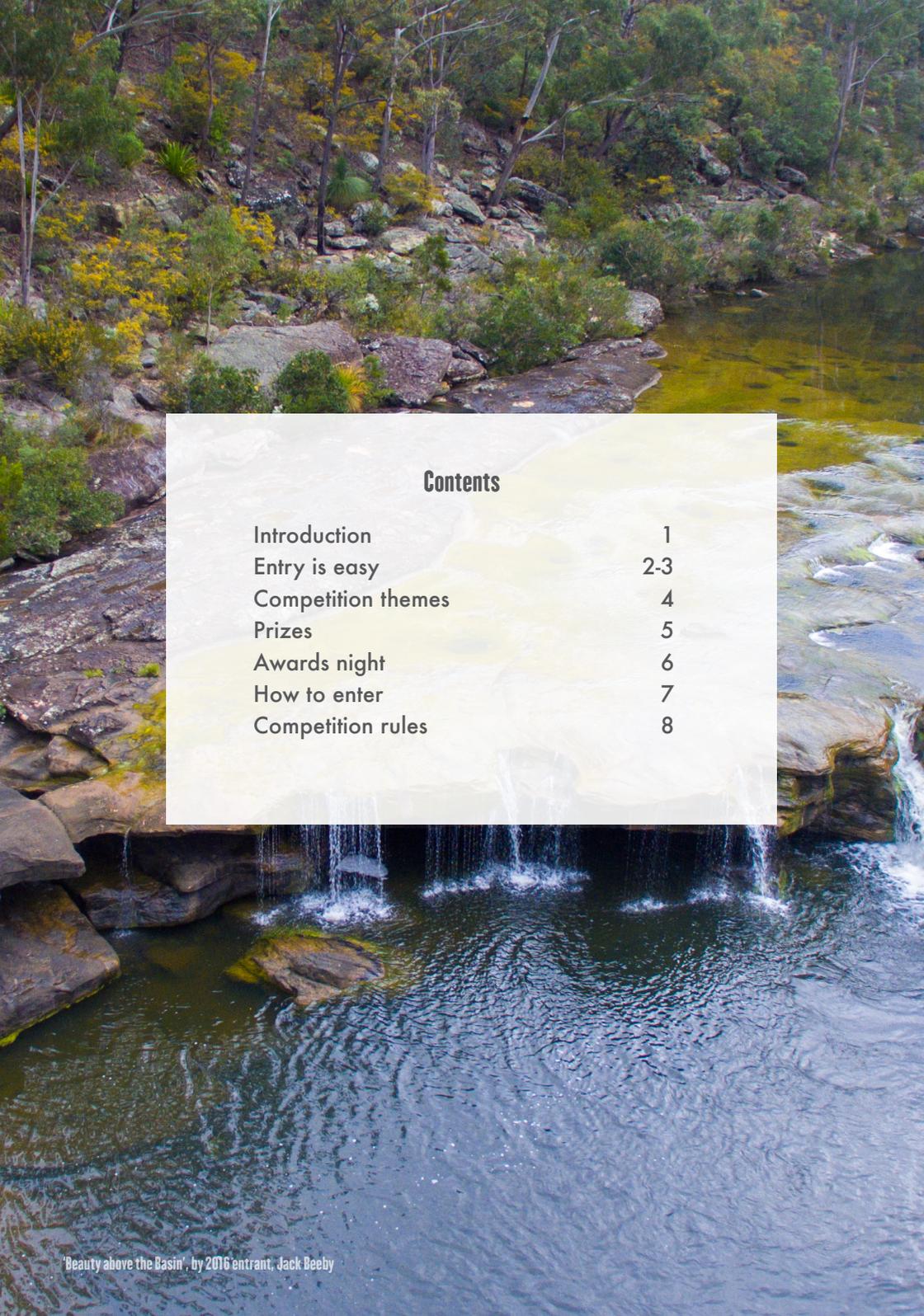




Macarthur Nature Photography Competition 2017

26 August to 29 September

Entry guide for
Primary Schools



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Your school playground is more than just a play area for your students. It is a haven for the plants and animals that call Macarthur home. More often than not, schools have remnant areas of bushland within their grounds, including big trees, shrubby areas or a waterway, all of which are made up of very special plants and provide habitat for many of our animal species.

The Macarthur Nature Photography Competition (MNPC), hosted by the Macarthur councils, inspires you and your school to take photos of these environments to not only win prizes, but to help your students open their eyes and appreciate and understand the natural world that surrounds them.

The MNPC encourages the entire community to enter their most striking, engaging and enticing images of local native flora, wildlife and natural scenery taken from within the Macarthur area. This allows students to see their artistic vision and impression of the natural environment interconnected with the wider community.

Through this competition, we are offering the chance for one of your students to become a local legend of the school by winning the 2017 Macarthur Nature Photography Competition School Prize Package.

Entry is easy

When students fill out their entry form, all they need to do is specify their school and age. They will then not only be in the running to win a prize for themselves in one of the five main categories, but they will also have a chance to win their school the MNPC School Prize Package, if selected as the best photo from the primary school entries.

So, the more students from your school that enter, the more chance your school has of winning a School Prize Package.

Cameras come in all shapes and forms these days. Encourage students to snap a shot on their smart phone, iPad or camera!

Curriculum links

The competition is a great way to engage primary school students in a range of syllabus content. The following details a number of learning outcomes (not exhaustive) that can be achieved through participation in this competition:

Creative Arts

Due to photography being the main medium of communication for this competition, there are a number of opportunities to engage creative art students.

Early Stage 1	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3
VAES1.2	VAS1.1	VAS2.1	VAS3.1
VAES1.4	VAS1.4	VAS2.2	VAS3.2
		VAS2.4	VAS3.4

Science

The natural environment is at the core of this competition, encouraging students to explore and study their natural surroundings. This could be within the school grounds or the local reserve. One category in particular; Hollows as Homes, directly feeds into a citizen science project, facilitated by the Royal Botanic Gardens. Students therefore have the opportunity to be a part of the first large scale study that is being undertaken to demonstrate the importance of hollows as habitat within our cities and agricultural areas (see 'Competition themes' for more information).

Early Stage 1	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3
STe-2VA STe-4WS	ST1-2VA	ST2-2VA	ST3-2VA

Geography

The competition encourages students to capture photos that encompass a range of themes and to describe these photos as part of their submission. Themes such as Environmental Impact and Hollows as Homes allow the students to think and write about how human behaviours have impacted the natural, aesthetic and social environment.

Early Stage 1	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3
Gee-1	GE1-1 GE1-2	GE2-1 GE2-2	GE3-1 GE3-2

Competition themes

The five categories for the competition are:

1. Waterways: Images which reflect an aspect of the rivers, lakes and creeks of Macarthur, for example, Georges River, Thirlmere Lakes, Nepean River and their tributaries.

2. Native Flora and Fauna: Images which depict the native flora and fauna of the Macarthur region, for example, Forest Red Gum, Platypus and Cumberland Plain Land Snail.

3. Environmental Impact: Images which tell a story or make a statement about an issue or human impact on the environment in the Macarthur region.

4. Nature Up Close: Macro shots of nature, for example, close up images of ants, spiders and flowers.

5. Special category - HOLLOWES AS HOMES:

Tree hollows and artificial nest boxes are critical for the survival of biodiversity within the local community. Around 300 animal species rely on tree hollows in Australia, including birds, possums, gliders, microbats, frogs, lizards, snakes, insects and spiders.

Our schools, parks and reserves are often home to important remnant areas of bushland, providing vital habitat for both plants and animals that call the Macarthur region home. In Australia, we have animals that make their own hollows in trees – they are usually formed by wind breakage, lightning strike or fire, or termite, insect or fungal attack. This means that it is crucial that we understand where our remaining hollows are so that we can protect them now and into the future.

By capturing a photo and recording the location of a:

- tree hollow
- animal using a tree hollow, or
- animal using an artificial nest box

you will not only be in the running to win a prize in this competition, but your photo may be used in the Royal Botanic Gardens (RBG) citizen science project Hollows as Homes, the first large scale study being conducted to demonstrate the importance of hollows as habitat within our cities and rural areas.

SNAP A SELFIE!

We want to see you, your friends and family getting into nature! We're offering a \$100 Macarthur Square gift card to the person who can post the most selfies in nature and upload them to Facebook with the hashtag #snapMNPC. Each post will be counted as one image, so the more posts the better!

The winner will be announced at the award ceremony.



Individual prizes

- **\$300 cash and \$100 Macarthur Square gift card for first place in each theme***
 - Open Section (16 years and over)
- **\$150 cash and \$100 Macarthur Square gift card for first place in each theme***
 - Young People Section (15 years and under)
- **\$150 cash for second place in each theme***
 - Open Section (16 years and over)
- **\$75 cash for second place in each theme***
 - Young People Section (15 years and under)
- **\$100 Macarthur Square gift card**
 - #snapMNPC Snap a Selfie competition
- ***\$100 cash and a family pass to Symbio Wildlife Park**
 - Hollows as Homes theme overall winner

Don't forget!

The People's Choice Award is back again this year, with Macarthur Camera House providing an amazing prize for the most popular photo, voted by YOU on the awards night!

Primary School Prize Package

Any photograph that has been entered by the individual with the name of their primary school and their age included on the entry form, has the potential to win the best overall image taken by a primary school student, and therefore the MNPC Primary School Prize Package, which has kindly been offered by the Macarthur Centre for Sustainable Living (MCSL).

Environmental Education Workshop valued at \$460

MCSL is offering a range of environmental education workshops that your school can choose from. These workshops are designed to incorporate key learning outcomes for each stage and will run for approximately 1.5-2hours.

Choose from:

- Worm farming
- Composting
- Vegetable gardening—no dig gardens
- Food waste avoidance
- Recycling
- Waste contamination
- Litter/dumping waste

Awards night

The competition will culminate in an Awards Night, with all entrants and their families invited to come along and celebrate the amazing photography.

All images are displayed on the night for people to view, catering is provided and an MC and guest speaker make the night more than just an awards announcement.

All people who enter the competition will be notified of the date and location of the award ceremony when it has been finalised.

If your school would be interested in hosting the Awards Night into the future, please contact Council's Environmental Education Officer on 4645 4346.

Travelling exhibition

Following the awards night, competition images will form part of a travelling exhibition at key community facilities throughout the Macarthur region.

How to enter

1. Take some photos that relate to the competition categories within the Campbelltown, Camden or Wollondilly Local Government Areas.
2. Carefully read all the competition rules.
- 3. Online entries – To enter your digital photos online, visit campbelltown.nsw.gov.au/MNPC**
 - a. Please note: Online entries will incur an \$11 fee per image to cover the cost of printing and mounting your image/s, in line with the competition requirements.
 - b. If you want you and your school to go into the running to win the School Prize Package, be sure to include your school details and your year on the entry form.
- 4. Printed entries – To enter prints, submit an 20 x 25cm or an 20 x 30cm mounted photo.**
 - a. All printed photographs entered in the competition must be mounted. Mounts are to be of cardboard or mount-board only; no frames/glass will be accepted. Mounts are to be black and have a minimum 50mm border around the photograph.
 - b. Complete the entry form and attach it to the back of your photo (one entry form per photo) and drop it off to one of the following venues **before 4.30pm on Friday 29 September 2017:**
 - i. Campbelltown City Council Civic Centre –
Customer Service Desk,
Cnr Queen and Broughton Streets, Campbelltown
 - ii. Camden Council,
70 Central Avenue, Oran Park
 - iii. Wollondilly Council Administration Building –
Customer Service Desk, 62-64 Menangle Street, Picton.

Competition rules

1. For the purposes of this competition, the competition organisers are defined as nominated staff involved in the organisation and coordination of the competition from Campbelltown City, Camden and Wollondilly Shire Councils.
2. The subject matter of the photographs submitted must be from within the Macarthur region, defined as Campbelltown, Camden and Wollondilly Local Government Areas (LGAs), and must be obtained lawfully.
3. Photographs may be black and white or colour.
4. Each entrant may enter a maximum of five photographs in the competition, with the exception of the 'Snap a Selfie' theme.
5. To enter 'Snap a Selfie' entrants must upload the photo of themselves in a natural setting onto Facebook with the hashtag #snapMNPC. There is no entry fee or limit of photos for this theme.
6. The content of a photograph must not be changed or manipulated in any way; that is, no cloning, montaging, or digital manipulation other than cropping, toning, digital spotting, burning and dodging is permitted. No addition or removal of subject matter is accepted. Retouching is limited to removal of normal scratches and dust spots. Colour adjustment should be minimal.
7. Each photograph can only be entered into one theme.
8. A panel of judges approved by the General Managers of the three participating councils, representing photography, art and local biodiversity expertise, will select the theme place winners and shortlist 10 images for the People's Choice Award, the winner of which will be chosen on the Awards Night by the general public. The judges' decision is final.
9. Respective Councillors, competition organisers, the judging panel and their immediate families are not eligible to enter the competition.
10. Entries must be submitted online or to one of the venues listed on the entry form by 4.30pm, Friday 29 September 2017. All printed entries must include the completed entry form and mounted photograph.
11. Late entries will not be accepted.
12. Entries will be exhibited throughout the Macarthur region from mid-November until early December.
13. Entrants may arrange to pick up their entries after the conclusion of the travelling exhibition. Uncollected prints will be donated to local schools or libraries.
14. The competition organisers will not cover transport costs incurred in delivery or return of works.
15. Entrants must organise their own insurance cover against damage, loss by any means or theft. The competition organisers do not insure works in transit, storage or handling or on exhibition.
16. Entrants in this competition give permission for their works to be reproduced by print and electronic media by the competition organisers for not-for-profit publications, advertising and promotional purposes. Entrants will be acknowledged if the image is reproduced.
17. All personal information gathered by the competition organisers will be used solely for the purposes of administering the Macarthur Nature Photography Competition.



'Eastern Spinebill', by 2015 winner, Mark Walters



Macarthur Nature Photography Competition 2017



For more information, visit

campbelltown.nsw.gov.au/MNPC
wollondilly.nsw.gov.au
camden.nsw.gov.au