

Navigating the Oliphant Science Awards in your School





### **Acknowledgement of Country**

We acknowledge this land that we meet on today is the traditional lands for Kaurna people and that we respect their spiritual relationship with their country.

We also acknowledge the Kaurna people as the custodians of this region and that their cultural and heritage beliefs are still as important to the living Kaurna people today.

We pay respects to their elders past, present and emerging.

### Welcome

Thank you for your interest in the 2025 Oliphant Science Awards!

#### This session will cover the following areas:

- General Event Information
- Role of the School Coordinator
- How to register for 2025
- School Coordinator Panel Session
- Reasons to get your school involved!
- Resources, Tips & Project Criteria
- Question Time

General Event
Information for
2025



### **2025 General Event Information**

#### **History with Sir Mark Oliphant**

The South Australian Science Teachers Association has been privileged to have had Sir Mark Oliphant as our Patron for the SASTA Oliphant Science Awards since their inception in 1981.

#### **Categories:**

- Citizen Science
- Crystal Investigation
- Games
- Models & Inventions
- Multimedia
- Photography
- Posters
- Programming, Apps & Robotics
- Science Writing
- Scientific Inquiry

#### **Entry Fees:**

Individual Entries: Per entry = \$16.00 (incl GST)

\*Less SASTA Membership discount of \$3.00 (incl GST) per entry

\*Less Sponsors discount of \$5.00 (incl GST) per entry

**Group Entries:** Per entry = \$24.00 (incl GST)

\*Less SASTA Membership discount of \$5.00 (incl GST) per entry

\*Less Sponsors discount of \$5.00 (incl GST) per entry

\*SASTA Membership discount is for Schools that are a SASTA member or have a SASTA member on their staff.

#### **Year Level Groups:**

- R 2
- 3 4
- 5-6
- 7 8
- 9 10
- 11 12

Download a copy of the Information Booklet from our website for all the details:

www.oliphantscienceawards.com.au

<sup>\*</sup>The Sponsor's discount is for Department for Education and Catholic Education students.

### **2025 Key Dates**

#### TERM 2

- Sunday 18 May Project Registrations to be completed and received via your coordinator account online.
- Sunday 18 May Judges Registrations to be submitted to SASTA online.
- Sunday 25 May Final Date for any project registration Amendments
- Friday 6 June Sunday 29 June Science Writing, Scientific Inquiry, Multimedia & Citizen Science entries are due to be submitted electronically. All *Programming*, Apps and Robotic Reports (ONLY) are to be submitted online.

#### TERM 3

- Monday 21 July Sunday 27 July Crystal Investigation and Models & Inventions reports / risk assessments MUST be submitted online. Anyone wishing to provide supporting documents for Games entries may also submit these online.
- Saturday 26 July *Programming, Apps & Robotics* entries are judged at a central location (TBA) from 9am 1pm. Students will need to book a time via the link on the OSA website during July.
- Wednesday 30 July, 9.00am 5.00pm Crystal Investigation, Models & Inventions, Photography, Games and Posters are due for delivery, information on delivery method will be provided closer to this date.
- Friday 1 August Sunday 3 August Open Day at Science Alive!
- Monday 4 August, 9.00am 5.00pm Project Collection of Models & Inventions, Photography, Posters, Games & Crystal Investigations by School Coordinator/representative.
- Friday 17 October Presentation Ceremony (Invitation Only)

### What project category to choose?

#### Round 1 Project Details (OFFSITE + PA&R)

Categories	Group Sizes	Judging Location	Delivery Date	Topics for Category
Multimedia	Individual students or groups of 2- 3 students	Electronic submission	6 - 29 June	Open Category
Scientific Inquiry	Individual students or groups of 2- 3 students	Electronic submission	6 - 29 June	Open Category
Science Writing	Individual students only	Electronic submission	6 - 29 June	<ul> <li>DNA: Nature's Secret Code</li> <li>Exploring the Ocean's Depths: Unseen Worlds Beneath the Wave</li> <li>Nature's Secret Languages: How Plants and Animals Communicate</li> <li>The Future of Space Exploration: Safeguarding Life Beyond Earth</li> <li>Al: Nature's New Ally in Conservation</li> <li>Conservation and Rewilding</li> <li>Energy Innovations</li> <li>The Science of Food Preservation</li> <li>Sports Technology - Innovations that changed the game</li> <li>Science as a Human Endeavour (YEAR 11-12 ONLY)</li> </ul>
Citizen Science	Whole Class or School group	Electronic submission	6 - 29 June	Open Category
Programming, Apps & Robotics	Individual students or groups of 2- 3 students	REPORT ONLY via Electronic Submission JUDGING APPOINTMENT (students must attend in person)	6 - 29 June Saturday 26 July (9am-1pm)	Open Category

### Round 2 Project Details (ONSITE AT THE ADELAIDE SHOWGROUNDS)

Categories	Group Sizes	Judging Location	Delivery Date	Topics for Category
Crystal Investigation	Individual students or groups of 2- 3 students	Reports submitted online + Onsite	21 – 27 July (Report/RA ONLY) Wed 30 July 9am-5pm (Project)	Open Category
Models & Inventions	Individual students or groups of 2- 3 students	Reports submitted online + Onsite	21 – 27 July (Report/RA ONLY) Wed 30 July 9am-5pm (Project)	Open Category
Games	Individual students or groups of 2- 3 students	OPTIONAL: Supporting files submitted online + Onsite	21 - 27 July (Supporting files) Wed 30 July 9am-5pm (Project)	Open Category
Photography	Individual students or groups of 2- 3 students	Onsite	Wed 30 July 9am-5pm	<ul> <li>Animals in Nature</li> <li>Close encounters: Macro Photography of Nature's Details</li> <li>Capturing Reflections</li> <li>Patterns in Nature: Discovering Hidden Designs</li> <li>Nature's Palette: Exploring Colour in the Wild</li> <li>Rainbow Makers: Exploring Light with Prisms</li> <li>Pollution Portraits</li> <li>Pollinators at Work</li> <li>The Night Sky</li> <li>Looking Up</li> </ul>
Posters	Individual students only	Onsite	Wed 30 July 9am-5pm	<ul> <li>Natural History Illustration (hand drawn only)</li> <li>Animal Camouflage: Nature's Master of Disguise</li> <li>Fractals in Nature: The Building Blocks of Beauty</li> <li>Following Footprints: Tracking Animals in the Wild</li> <li>Biomimicry in Design</li> <li>The Lifecycle of a Star</li> <li>The Impact of Plastic Pollution</li> <li>Women in STEM</li> <li>Healthy Futures</li> <li>First Nation Science</li> </ul>

The Oliphant
Science Awards
School Coordinator



### **School Coordinators**

Without the assistance and cooperation of the many school coordinators the Oliphant Science Awards (OSA) would not be possible.

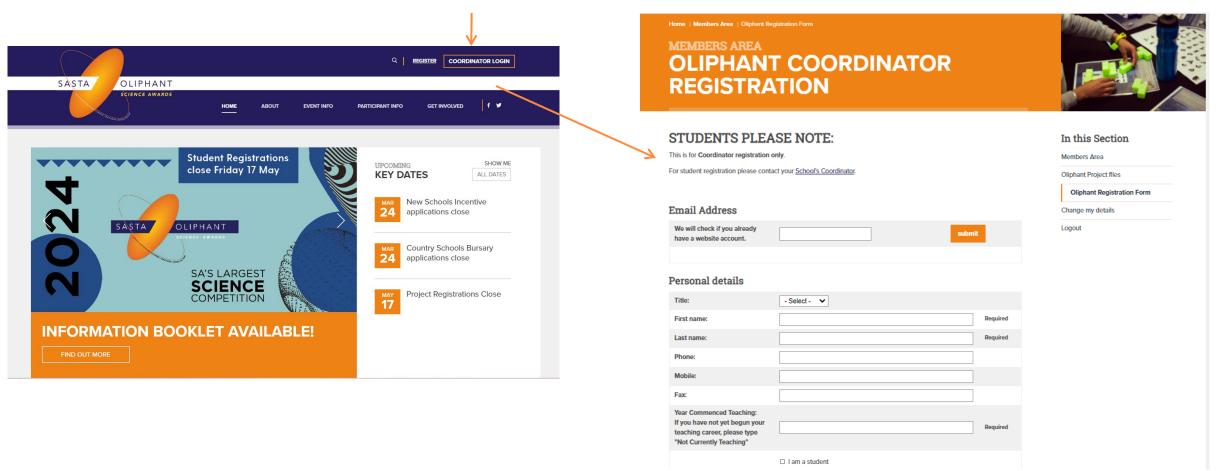
With over 3000 students participating the Awards organisers unfortunately can not communicate directly with each of the students/families involved.

School Coordinators play a special role in the awards by assisting in the following areas:

- Communicating between OSA organisers to students, their families and your school community.
- Coordinating, Registering & Organising Payment for all student projects from the school
- Collecting, Labeling & Arranging Delivery of school projects for judging.
- Recruiting judge/s For schools with more than 10 projects we ask for them to recruit at least one judge
  to register and assist with the final judging process.
- Planning Collection of all Models & Inventions, Crystal Investigations, Posters and Photography entries.
- Distribute certificates or/and if applicable prize winner's presentation ceremony invitations, or if receiving a school prize organise a student/representative to collect the award at the ceremony.

### **School Coordinator - Registration**

- Registrations for School Coordinators closes Sunday 18 May
- All School Coordinators must register (<u>or re-register each year</u>) via the Oliphant Science Awards Website www.oliphantscienceawards.com.au



### School Coordinators - Communication you receive!

The majority of communication about this competition will be via email, so please be sure that you register with an email address that you check regularly.

Your Coordinators Login Area on the website will be a key place to visit to view your registrations (including a registration list download function), download project cover sheets, see submitted electronic files and of course check your prize status!

#### HERE ARE THE KEY COMMUNCIATION POINTS DURING THE COMPETITION:

#### PACK 1

The following information will be emailed out to you shortly after the close of registrations (LATE MAY);

- Coordinators Information Email with links to all the forms and links you will need to submit amendments and Round 1
  projects.
- Tax Invoice

#### PACK 2 - (ONLY FOR THOSE WITH PROJECTS REGISTERED FOR ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION)

The following information will be emailed out to you when online project submissions open (JUNE);

 Coordinators Project Submission Now Open Email with links to all the forms and links you will need to submit your Round 1 projects.

### School Coordinators - Communication you receive!

#### PACK 3 - (ONLY FOR THOSE WITH ONSITE PROJECTS REGISTERED)

Further information will be emailed to you shortly after the electronic submission with the following still sent via post (JULY);

- Official ID sticker labels for all Crystal Investigations, Games, Models & Inventions, Photography & Poster entries (if applicable).
- Information about delivery of final round projects for judging

#### PACK 4 - (ONLY FOR SCHOOLS WITH PRIZE WINNERS)

The following information will be emailed to you shortly after Open Day (AUGUST);

- Coordinators Invitation Letter and School Tickets for the Presentation Ceremony
- Individual Student Invitation Letters, the winning student tickets and guest tickets for the Presentation Ceremony

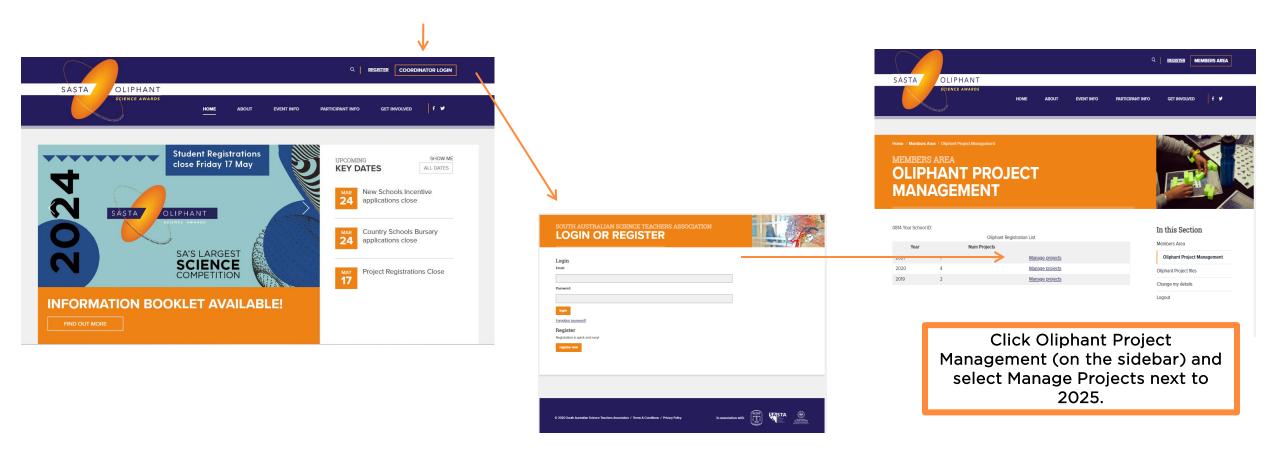
#### PACK 5

This pack sent via post to you shortly after Presentation Ceremony (OCTOBER);

- Participation Certificates
- Highly Commended Certificates
- Any uncollected prize winners' certificates from the Presentation Ceremony

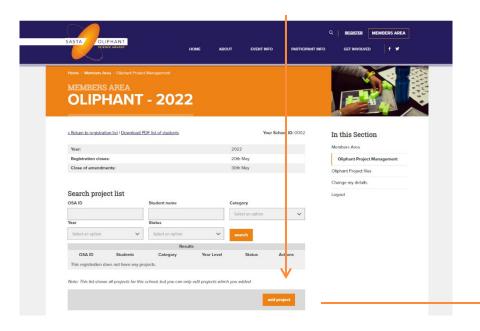
### **School Coordinator - Project Registration**

- Project Registrations close Sunday 18 May
- All School Coordinators need to register projects by logging in to the Coordinators Login Area on the Oliphant Science Awards Website - www.oliphantscienceawards.com.au



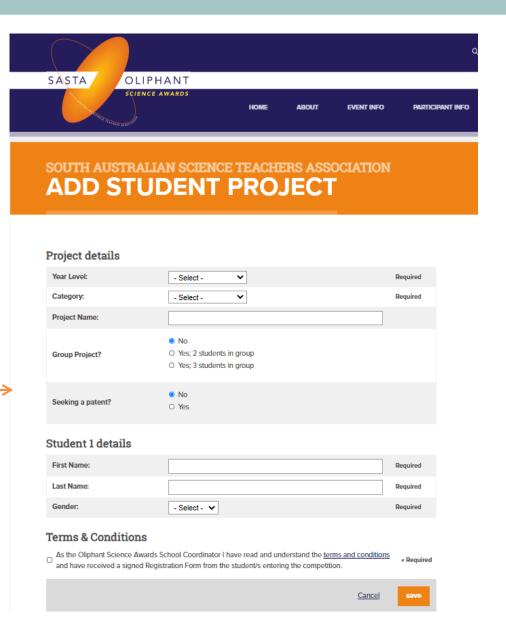
### **School Coordinator - Project Registration**

Click Add Project button for the online Project Registration Form



Once you have filled this online form out the project is registered! You can check the details back on the Project Management page!

We suggest you keep a copy of the signed Student Project Registration form for your own records until end of the competition.



School
Coordinator
Panel Session



# How do our school coordinators implement the Oliphant Science Awards in their schools?

Kathleen Best - Clarendon Primary School

Rachel Pillar - Kangaroo Island Community Education, Oliphant Science Awards Co-Convenor

Kelly Mitchell - Paringa Park Primary School

Michelle McLeod- Cosmos Magazine, OSA Head Judge

Peter Turnbull - Oliphant Science Awards Co-Convenor

### Our Panel Members

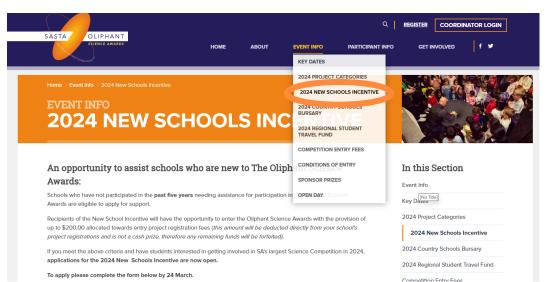
#### **New Schools Incentive**

### **NEW SCHOOLS INCENTIVE 2025**

Schools who have not participated in the Oliphant Science Awards in the past five years needing assistance for participation in the Oliphant Science Awards are eligible to apply for support through this incentive.

The recipients of the New & Country School Incentive will have the opportunity to enter the Oliphant Science Awards with the provision of up to \$200.00 allocated towards entry project registration fees (this amount will be deducted directly from your school's project registrations and is not a cash prize, therefore any remaining funds will be forfeited).

If you meet the above criteria, be sure to complete the online registration form on the Oliphant Science Awards website before the closing date of Sunday 23 March 2025.



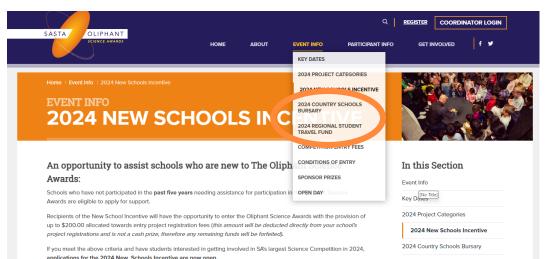
### **Country Schools Incentive**

# COUNTRY SCHOOLS BURSARY & REGIONAL STUDENT TRAVEL FUND 2025

Country and regional schools needing assistance for participation in the Oliphant Science Awards are eligible to apply for the Country Schools Bursary. Country schools can apply for a bursary of up to \$500 per school to support the cost of student registration fees, courier/transport costs for the delivery and pick up of projects, or project materials.

To assist the participation of country and regional students in the 2025 OSA Open Days and Presentation Ceremony, OSA Coordinators can apply for funding through the Regional Student Travel Fund. Recipients will receive up to \$300 per school to support the cost of student entrants travel to and from OSA Open Days and the OSA Presentation Ceremony.

If you meet the above criteria, be sure to complete the online registration form on the Oliphant Science Awards website before the closing date of Sunday 23 March 2025.



### **Competition Prizes!**

The overall winner receives the Oliphant Trophy, which was made by Sir Mark Oliphant. The trophy is engraved with their name and kept for one year. The trophy is replaced in the following year with the Oliphant Medal, which is the student's permanent record of achievement.

Prizes can be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd in each year level group for every category.

All registered students receive either a Certificate of Participation (non-winners), a Highly Commended Certificate (outstanding entries) or a Prize Certificate (winners).

There is also a selection of school prizes for overall performance.

#### **Major Sponsor Prizes**

- The Defence Science and Technology Group (DSTG) School Prizes
- Rowe Country & Low SES Student Awards
- Catholic Education SA Primary School Prizes
- Department of Education Young Scientist Awards







All kinds of awesome

Science Alive!
held over 2 full days with
an additional STEM Day
Out for Schools
attracts around 30,000
visitors!









### **Professional Development Opportunities**

#### STAFF PD OPPORTUNITIES - JOIN OUR JUDGING TEAM!

- Network with other interested teachers
- Receive a Professional Development Certificate
- See student work from diverse schools around South Australia
- Gain ideas for your classroom or future Oliphant projects!



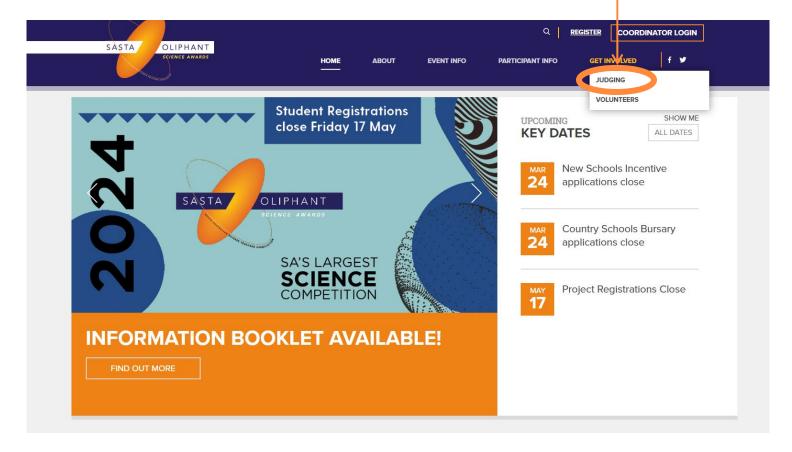






### **Judging Registration**

- Registrations for Judges will open Monday 3 March and close Sunday 18 May
- Judges can register directly on the Oliphant Science Awards Website – simply click 'Get Involved tab' at www.oliphantscienceawards.com.au



#### **Judges Registration Form** First Name: Required Required Contact Number Email: Required School Name / Organisation: 1 - I have been an Oliphant Science Awards judge for several 2 - I have been an Oliphant Science Awards Judge two or less times before 3 - I have not been a judge but I am an experienced science How would you rate your level of experience in judging? educator / researcher O 4 - I am an early career science teacher O 5 - I am currently a university student 6 - Other (SASTA may contact you for more details of your ☐ Junior Primary

#### **Judging Preferences**

Teaching Level:

Please select your top three preferred category/s and the year level/s from the options below.

☐ Middle School

☐ Senior School

Please note the following tentative dates/locations when making your selections;
ROUND 1: Electronic Judging (Multimedia, Science Writing, Scientific Inquiny) I 6 - 24 July (sent to you via email)
ROUND 2: Programming, Apps and Robotics Judging Day I Saturday 30 July from 8:30am -3pm (CBD Venue)
ROUND 3: Final Judging (Crystal Investigations, Games, Posters, Photography and Models & Inventions) Wednesday 3
August (Goodwood)

Which judging rounds would you like to be involved in? (you can select more than one):	Round 1: Electronic Judging (Multimedia / Science Writing / Scientific Inquiry)  Round 2: Programming Apps & Robotics Judging Round 3: Onsite Judging (Crystal Investigations / Games / Posters / Photography / Models & Inventions)	Required
First Preference (category):	- Select -	Required
Second Preference (category):	- Select -	
Third Preference (category):	- Select -	
First Preference (year level):	- Select - 🔻	Required
Second Preference (year level):	- Select - 🔻	
Third Preference (year level):	- Select - 🔻	

Resources, Tips & Project Criteria



### **Project Rules & Criteria**

#### Multimedia

The information super highway includes video, computer interactives and web pages.

#### A successful SASTA Oliphant Science Awards • Technical specifications: Multimedia entry:

- Has accurate science content.
- · Has an impact on viewers and communicates ideas clearly.
- · Will show creativity, originality and resourcefulness.
- · Demonstrates good technique and quality of production.

#### Rules for Multimedia:

- A group of up to 3 students can complete a Multimedia entry. The highest year level in the group will determine the year category of the entry.
- The multimedia production must be the student's
- · A written report must include (dependant on which type of entry you have):
  - · The URL for the website. Please do not make any changes to your pages between submitting your entry and the Presentation
  - A list of any software you used to create your video, interactive or web page
  - · A bibliography that contains all the sources of information you researched in creating your multimedia project. This includes all the books, websites, magazines and any people you have interviewed. If you quote directly from a source, you must use quotation marks and include a reference to the source
  - A discussion of any problems you had and how you overcame the problems.
  - Acknowledgment of any assistance you had with editing, graphics, design or technical help with equipment or software used. (Students may get help with filming their video, but the core of the creation of the video must be the student's own work.)
  - · The report length depends on your year level:
    - Year R-2: less than 100 words:
    - Year 3-4 and 5-6; approximately 250 words:
    - Year 7-8, 9-10, 11-12; do not exceed 500 words.

- - A video must be uploaded to YouTube as an unlisted video - link provided on a word document and submitted via the online submission process.
  - Videos should run for no longer than 3
  - Web pages must be readable by current web browsers available on PC and Mac and include NO plug-ins other than those normally distributed with the browser.
  - · Web pages must be online link provided on a word document and submitted online.
  - PowerPoint and interactives must be submitted via the online submission

#### In presenting your Multimedia entry (online submission ONLY):

- Cover sheet with your Student ID details (your Coordinator will give you this)
- Multimedia Formats: video (via a URL to an unlisted YouTube video) or PowerPoint (ppt).
- mp4 video files will NOT be accepted (due to the size and difficulty uploading to the website)
- Electronic copy of your written report (pdf or

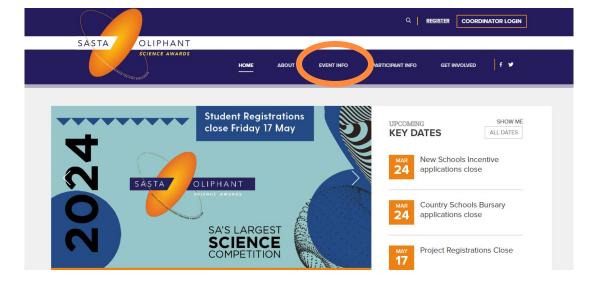
For full details on electronic submission, see https://bit.lv/0SAOnlineSubmission



You can direct students to these online!

Find them under Event Info - 2025 Award Categories www.oliphantscienceawards.com.au

(& you can find them in the online Information Booklet!)



### **Rubrics**



Oliphant Science Awards

#### **Multimedia Judging Rubric**

#### Rules and presentation:

A written report, within the word limit, that includes:

- The URL for the web site (if a web based entry)
- · A list of any software used to create the video or web page
- A bibliography of all sources of information
- A discussion of any problems and how you overcame them
- · Acknowledgment of any assistance with editing, graphics, design, or technical help with equipment or software

The entry must meet the technical specifications set for each type of entry

Communication of main ideas	Presentation has excellent links to topic chosen and obviously tells the story of the topic.	Presentation has good links to topic chosen. Over-all story of topic is clear.	Presentation clearly links to topic chosen. Over-all story of topic is unclear.	Presentation has limited links to topic chosen. Over-all story of topic is unclear.	Presentation not linked to topic chosen. What is the story?
Science content / Student investigation	Obvious and accurate science content that is highly appropriate and reflects the student/s own science investigation.	Obvious and accurate science content that is mostly appropriate and reflects the student/s own science investigation	Science content included. Most science ideas accurate.	Limited science content included. Some science ideas accurate.	Science content absent, unclear or inaccurate.
Originality and Creativity	Highly original and highly creative.	Original and creative.	Moderate degree of originality and creativity.	A minimal degree of originality and creativity.	Not original or creative.
Quality of Production and Technique	Outstanding	Good	Satisfactory	Fair	Poor
Positive Impact on Viewer	Outstanding impact. Eye-catching.	Good impact	Satisfactory impact	Weak impact	No impact

#### Download and view online

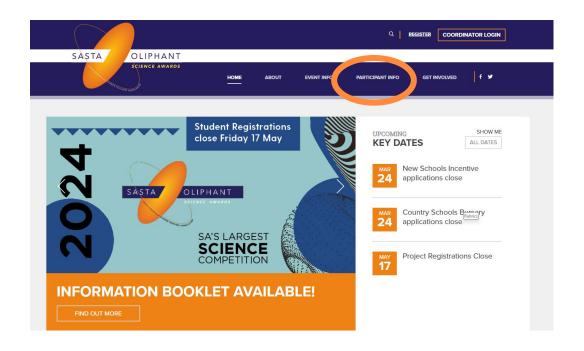
www.oliphantscienceawards.com.au

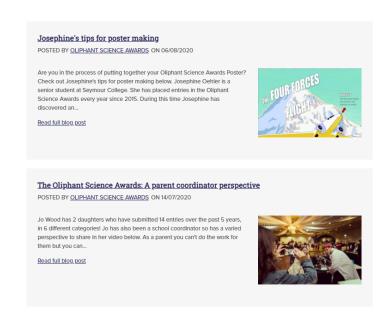
Go to Event Info - 2025 Award Categories

### Ideas for Teachers & Resources for Students Blog pages

Browse or search previous content from past winners, school coordinators, staff or OSA officials!

Remember to check-in throughout the competition for new posts for insights or inspiration for those involved in the 2025 Oliphant Science Awards.





### Online Project Gallery & Past Award Images

Look through our 2024, 2023, 2022, 2021 & 2020 Winning projects via the Online Virtual Project Galleries

Open Day & Project
Images + Presentation
Booklets from previous
competitions
(2012 - 2024)
can also be seen via the
Past Awards page

www.oliphantscienceawards.com.au



## **Any Questions?**

Thank you for taking the time to be a part of this Webinar!

We hope to see you and your school involved in the 2025 Oliphant Science Awards!

