



Royal Agricultural Society of NSW

# PROSPECTUS

## 2024 SCHOOLS DISTRICT EXHIBITS DISPLAY COMPETITION



## Sydney Royal Easter Show District Exhibits Competition

The District Exhibits Competition is an iconic feature of the Sydney Royal Easter Show taking the form of enormous pictorial display made of fresh produce. These displays highlight a message or theme and promote the very high-quality produce and the hard work of our agricultural communities.

### School District Exhibits Display Competition

The aim of the Schools District Exhibits is to engage, educate and promote agriculture, in turn showcasing the diversity of our rural pursuits through the collaboration of the various departments in your school, for example, Agriculture, Design & Technology and Visual Arts. We are promoting agriculture in Australia so any produce displayed in your Exhibit **must be Australian grown and produced**, but don't worry your school doesn't have to grow it!

### History of the Schools Competition.

Students have been demonstrating their farming skills at the Show for over 100 years. The first display of farm produce by school children was at the 1904 Show, where pupils from Eglinton Public School near Bathurst and Numba Public School near Nowra displayed cereals and produce, including oats, rye, barley, potatoes, gourds and grasses. The displays were an example of the practical farming methods being introduced in many schools and agricultural colleges at the time, and it was hoped that they would inspire more young people across the state to get involved with agriculture.

This tradition is carried on today by students competing in the Schools District Exhibits Display Competition, the exhibits are a highlight in the Centre for Agricultural Excellence in the Dome Foyer and attract a lot of interest, showcasing the talent and accomplishments of students to create professional displays. This demonstrates the high level of creativity and quality that can be found in schools around the state.

### About the Competition

The competition offers a wonderful opportunity to engage, educate and promote Agriculture, as well as encouraging teamwork and public speaking. The aim of the Schools District Exhibits is to showcase the diversity of our rural pursuits through the collaboration of various departments in your school. In the past, the most successful participants in this competition are the schools whose displays demonstrate this diversity through the various talents of their students.

### What is an Exhibit?

An Exhibit stand is a large cube of air, all of which is available for use, always think of a Show Exhibit as three dimensional. Your display exhibit is the ideal place for you to tell a story, something that will capture the Judges's eye and will tell a story to Showgoers. What is the

value of primary produce? What can it do for me? How is it produced? What sort of people are behind the product? Tell the story and tell it in an interesting way, so that people will hear it.

### **What is the Cost to Enter?**

The display competition is free to enter, and the RAS will pay an allowance to each school that participates. The RAS provides passes and limited parking for each school.

### **Build/Construction of the Display**

The display is constructed pre-Show from Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2024 to Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March, we organise a pizza lunch for all the schools on one day during the build. All schools are expected to visit the display during the Show to remove any rotten produce and replace it with fresh produce.

### **Where can we get Help?**

Our District Exhibits Members (Central, Northern, Southern, South-East Queensland and Western) are a fountain of information and are always willing to give advice, we will pair you with a District Exhibits Organiser who may be able to answer your questions about produce, grain, wool or your display build. We have a number of guidelines that relate to theming, design and construction that will be sent out to you if you register your interest in participating.

### **Judging of the Display**

We have a number of judges that we call upon to judge the displays, they are experts in the field of agriculture, design, architecture and produce. The displays are judged on the morning of the first day of the Show (Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024), the presentation takes place on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2024

### **What's in it for Teachers?**

We hold a feedback session for teachers on the first day of Show followed by a lunch in the Council Stand hosted by a number of the Agriculture Committee Members. There are many contacts that can be made over the Show including with the District Exhibits Members and the RAS Education Team.

### **Prizes**

The Schools District Exhibits Display Competition is proudly sponsored by the Department of Primary Industries, and they provide prize money to the winners. All students who participate in the build will receive a RAS of NSW Certificate of Appreciation. The winning schools will

receive ribbons, 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> place and highly commended where awarded, the winning school will also have their names engraved onto the Arthur and Marie Johns Perpetual Trophy.

### **Previous Winners**

2023 – Tempe High School

2022 – Hurlstone Agricultural High School

2021 – No Competition due to the Covid Pandemic

2020 – No Competition due to the Covid Pandemic

2019 – Lake Illawarra High School

If you are interested in learning more about how to enter the Sydney Royal Schools District Exhibit's Competition, please contact:

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