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THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION

GPO BOX 423, CANBERRA, ACT 2601

Serving the Canberra Region

www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au <act branch>

ACT Student Citizenship Awards 2011

The Order of Australian Association is warmly inviting nominations of ACT students and schools and colleges for some very special annual awards.

The Association, which seeks to foster love and pride in active Australian citizenship, particularly in the younger members of the community, has developed dedicated student awards that publicly recognise voluntary community service and demonstration of good citizenship.

The awards are endorsed by Education Minister Andrew Barr and enjoy the support of school authorities, both government and non-government.



**THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA
ASSOCIATION ACT BRANCH**

ACT Student Citizenship Awards 2011

MAY 2011



Phoebe Davies receives her award from The Order of Australia Association's ACT patron Gen Peter Gratian AC, OBE. Photos by Silas



Radford College students receive their school's award from Gen Gratian. Photos courtesy of "CityNews"



Merici College students receive their award from Gen Gratian.

There are two types of award:

- For outstanding individual leadership and achievement by Year 11 and 12 students or students doing a gap year in Australia or overseas.
- For meritorious group activity in community service and citizenship projects for students between Kindergarten and Year 10.

Awards are made on the recommendation of an independent selection panel. The individual awards are marked by an engraved medallion and a certificate, while recipient schools receive an engraved plaque to signify the group awards.

Nominations are called from principals of schools and colleges by the last day of Term 3 and the awards are given at a special presentation ceremony in November.

The Association membership is made up of people who have received an award in the Order of Australia, but these student awards have no direct connection with the Order of Australia itself.

Principals are encouraged to send nominations in the form of one or two A4 pages and a covering letter addressed to the Convener Student Awards Nomination Committee before the last day of Term 3 to:

STUDENT AWARDS, OAA, ACT

GPO Box 423

Canberra City, ACT 2601

Email nominations are acceptable if confirmed by post and further information is available on line at www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/branches/act/studentawards2.php

Q&A

Is there a quota on the awards given?

Usually it would be expected that two or three awards in each category would be made. Awards are judged on merit and there is no fixed number.

Who decides on the awards?

An independent panel of distinguished members of the Order of Australia Association advises the ACT Committee on the awards.

Is there a similar awards system in other States and Territories?

Individual awards to Year 11 and 12 students are made in NSW, Queensland and SA. Queensland also makes awards to primary schools for group activity similar to the ACT K-Y10 awards.

What connection is there with the awards and the Order of Australia?

None. The Australian Honours system is described at www.itsanhonour.gov.au

Does an individual student award carry the right to use letters after one's name?

No.

Is the medallion like the Medal of the Order of Australia?

No. The design is very different. The insignia of the OAM may only be worn by an Honours recipient. The medallion of the Order of Australia Association is a trophy like any other trophy which may be displayed along with the framed certificate. The award is a valuable prestigious achievement meant to encourage future contributions to the community.

Who keeps and displays the plaque awarded to school groups?

The school.

Are there any criteria?

There are no fixed criteria, but some or all of the following are indicative:

- Displayed assistance to a group in need e.g. elderly, homeless youth, people with disability sustained over a period of time or otherwise making a significant contribution to community development
- Demonstrated initiative and concern for the advancement or well being of others
- Leadership producing significant benefits for the school or general community
- Contribution to the active sustainability of community resources

Contributions reflecting the values inherent in active Australian citizenship.