

GUIDELINES FOR ENTRANTS



***The Good Oil* 2017 Young Writers' Award**

Entries are invited for *The Good Oil* Young Writers' Award, an initiative of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan in 2017 to celebrate the 160th anniversary of their life and mission as a Catholic congregation of religious women.

The Good Oil is the free, monthly e-magazine of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan. Keeping its readers informed of the life and mission of the Sisters, *The Good Oil* publishes news, feature and opinion articles, and reflective content which aims to nourish the spirit, stimulate thinking and encourage reflection and dialogue about issues of the day from a Christian, Catholic, Good Samaritan perspective. Current and past editions of *The Good Oil* can be viewed online at www.goodsams.org.au

Here are the guidelines for entrants for *The Good Oil* 2017 Young Writers' Award.

1. Entry is free.
2. *The Good Oil* 2017 Young Writers' Award is open to all secondary school students and post-school young adults in Australia, Japan, the Philippines and Kiribati – countries where the Sisters of the Good Samaritan live and minister.
3. Entrants must be eligible to enter one of three age groups:
 - a) Secondary Student (Years 7 to 9);
 - b) Secondary Student (Years 10 to 12);
 - c) Post-School (18 to 35 years of age).
4. Entrants are invited to submit a piece of writing, **between 750 and 1,000 words**, adopting one of the following writing styles:
 - a) **journalistic feature writing** (e.g. profiles of people or issues-based articles based on interviews);
 - b) **opinion writing**;
 - c) **creative writing or first person reflective writing**.
5. In their chosen writing style, entrants are to explore the theme **"Who is my neighbour?"**
6. Entries open on **Tuesday March 21, 2017** and close at **midnight, AEST, on Tuesday July 11, 2017**.
7. Entrants are strongly encouraged to look at past editions of *The Good Oil*, the e-magazine of the Good Samaritan Sisters www.goodsams.org.au to gain an understanding of the type and style of articles published, and the publication's vision: "to nourish the spirit, stimulate thinking and encourage reflection and dialogue about issues of the day from a Christian, Catholic, Good Samaritan perspective".
8. All entries must be the entrant's original, unpublished work, and written in English. Any entry found to be plagiarised will be disqualified.
9. Only individual submissions will be accepted (i.e. no group submissions).

10. All entries must be emailed to tgoyoungwriters@goodsams.org.au as a PDF attachment AND be accompanied by a completed entry form (as a PDF or JPG attachment), which can be downloaded from www.goodsams.org.au
11. Entrants may submit more than one piece of writing, but each entry must be submitted separately with a new entry form.
12. All entrants will receive an email confirming receipt of their entry.
13. Entries will not be returned. Entrants are advised to keep a copy of their entry.
14. By submitting their entry, entrants confirm that they are the author of the submitted work, that it has not been published or submitted in any other awards or competitions, and that they have read and agreed to *The Good Oil* 2017 Young Writers' Award Guidelines.
15. By submitting their entry, entrants give the Sisters of the Good Samaritan the right to decide to publish their article, along with their name, biographical details and a photo of themselves in *The Good Oil*, on the website of the Good Samaritan Sisters www.goodsams.org.au and via Twitter.
16. Winning entries will be announced in *The Good Oil*, on the website of the Good Samaritan Sisters www.goodsams.org.au and via Twitter on **Tuesday August 15, 2017**. Winning entrants will also be contacted via email.
17. Winning entries (first, second and third places) from the three age groups will be published in either the August, September, October, November or December 2017 editions of *The Good Oil*.
18. The judging panel will select winners (first, second and third place) in each of the three age groups: Secondary Student (Years 7 to 9); Secondary Student (Years 10 to 12); Post-School (18 to 35 years of age). The judging panel will base their decision on the entries which best explore the theme "Who is my neighbour?" in their chosen writing style. In particular, the judging panel will be looking for writing that is topical, engaging, accessible, creative, original, and well written.
19. *The Good Oil* 2017 Young Writers' Award will be made only if the judging panel considers the winning entries are of sufficient quality.
20. The prizes for the winning entries in each of the three age groups will be: First \$500, Second \$300, Third \$200.
21. The decision of the judging panel is final; no correspondence will be entered into by *The Good Oil*, Good Samaritan Education, and the Sisters of the Good Samaritan, or any other party involved in the conduct of this Young Writers' Award.
22. All entrants will receive a certificate of participation sent to them by email after the winners have been announced.

If you have any questions about these guidelines, please contact us by email:
[***tgoyoungwriters@goodsams.org.au***](mailto:tgoyoungwriters@goodsams.org.au)