

2011 Educational Events, Opportunities and Competitions

(Please note: many exact 2011 dates were not available at the time of publication. Websites should be checked for further details.)

January

- **Enviro Inspiro! Competition** (open to government schools only)
Competition open to all secondary students, to “create a video or DVD to show case their successful student-led school environment projects.” Further information and registration on website: http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/events/statecompetitions/enviro_inspiro/index.php
- **Australasian Problem Solving Mathematical Olympiads**
2011 Olympiad Registrations are now open. “Challenging Problem Solving Contests for Students up to 14 years.” Olympiads begin in May and run once a month until September. Registration and further details on website: http://www.apsmo.info/apsmo/APSMO_Home.php
- **Mathsearch 2011 competition** (for the J.L. Williams awards)
Run by the Mathematical Association of NSW this is a take-home competition for Year 11 students gifted in mathematics. For further information see <http://www.mansw.nsw.edu.au/studentsservices/index.html>
- **Mathematics at Luna Park**
For students in Years 5 – 12 and their teachers, a range of 2011 dates are available. Refer to the Mathematical Association of NSW or their website for further details: <http://www.mansw.nsw.edu.au>
- **National Mathematics Summer School**
“It is a two-week residential summer course held each January at the Australian National University (ANU) in Canberra.” For mathematically gifted and talented students from all over Australia. Nominations of Year 11 students for the 2012 Summer School should be lodged by mid July 2011. Further information on website: www.nmss.org.au
- **2011 Premier’s Reading Challenge**
Official counting begins of books read until online registrations become available in February 2011. Coordinators to validate entries by 1 September 2011. Available to students from kindergarten – year 9 in all schools.
Further information on website: <https://products.schools.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html>

February

- **HSC English Paper 1 Study Day**
Check the English Teachers’ Association website for 2011 dates, beginning 25 February 2011, Sydney University: www.englishteacher.com.au/students.php
- **Oratory Skills, Adjudicating and Debating Workshop**
On 18 February, the University of Western Sydney and Loreto College in Normanhurst will present the workshop for students, teachers and parents. Popular Australian broadcaster Angela Catterns will draw on her experiences working in radio, film and television to provide tips on speaking clearly and making effective, strong arguments. Three highly qualified specialists will present workshops on oratory skills, debating and adjudicating. Contact Mandy McCardle at m.mcardle@uws.edu.au for further information.
- **Australian National Chemistry Quiz**
Entries close 9 May 2011. Entry information is sent to schools in February. The Quiz is run on two junior levels (years 7 – 8 and years 9 – 10) and two senior levels for years 11 and 12. It is run at your school and promotes “Science for Everybody”. Website: www.ancq.com
- **Tournament of Minds**

- Registrations available in February. School registrations close May 2011. "Tournament of Minds is a problem solving program for teams of students from both primary and secondary years." This competition is suitable for all students. Registration and further details on website: www.tom.edu.au
- **Australian Mathematics Competition**
Registration of your entry "As well as basic skills questions which are found in the first part of the paper, there are problems that require translation between the real world and mathematics." Further information and registration on website: www.amt.edu.au
- **The Rio Tinto Big Science Competition**
Early registration for the 1 June 2011 competition. "Discover your science talent whilst stretching your thinking skills." International competition, open to students from years 7 – 12. Further information and registration on website: www.rtbcs.edu.au

March

- **The NSW Schools Titration Competition**
Registration is open for 2011. Competition is held in June. "A quantitative analytical competition open to NSW students currently enrolled in years 11 and 12." Competition held at a number of venues throughout the state. Further information and registration on website: www.nswtitration.com
- **Dorothea Mackellar Poetry Competition 2011**
Entries open March 2011. Open to school aged students (primary, secondary and special education). Further information on website: <http://www.dorothea.com.au>
- **NSW Premier's Sporting Challenge 2011**
Registrations open in early March and close early April. "The Challenge includes a range of initiatives with one common purpose – to have more students, more active, more of the time." Check the website for details: <https://products.schools.nsw.edu.au/psc/home.html>
- **NSW History Competition**
Registration closes July 2011. Entry form available March 2011. The competition is held for years 9 and 10 students based on the compulsory History syllabus. To be held in September. For further information see the website: www.htansw.asn.au/competitions/competitions.html
- **Extension History Essay Prize**
Entry forms available in March. Please note that this competition has no link with the HSC exam. Closing date September 2011. "The Extension History Essay Prize is open to essays that:
 - Satisfy the requirements of the NSW HSC Extension Project
 - Are the product of genuine research
 - Represent 'interesting and well written history'"
 Website: <http://www.htansw.asn.au/extension-prize>
- **2011 Premier's Reading Challenge**
Official counting begins of books read until online registrations become available in March 2011. Records completed by August. Coordinators to validate entries by September 2011. Available to students from kindergarten – year 9 in all schools.
Further information on website: <https://products.schools.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html>
- **Future Problem Solving Program Australia**
Includes: Global Issues Problem Solving, Scenario Writing, Scenario Performance and Community Problem Solving. Open to Junior, Middle and Senior teams. For further information on submission deadlines and registration see website: <http://www.fpsp.org.au/>
- **Mathsearch** (a take-home competition for the JL Williams Award).
Expressions of interest from schools due in March 2011. Open to Year 11 students (plus exceptional Year 9 and 10 students). Further information on website: <http://www.mansw.nsw.edu.au/>
- **HSC English Extension 2, Study Day**
Check the English Teachers' Association website registration details, www.englishteacher.com.au/students.php
- **The Multicultural Perspectives Public Speaking Competition**
Open to all NSW government primary schools. Two age divisions – Years 3 and 4 students and Years 5 and 6 students. For more information see website: www.artsunit.nsw.edu.au/programs/speaking-competitions
- **The Legacy Junior Public Speaking Award**
Open to NSW government and non-government secondary schools for students 14 years or over on 1

January 2011. Each school can enter a maximum of 2 contestants. Entry forms should be completed and returned by fax to (02) 9569 6878. For conditions of entry and registration details see website:

<http://www.legacy.com.au/LegacyJuniorPublicSpeakingAwardNationalGuidelines>

- **The Sydney Morning Herald Plain English Speaking Award**

Open to NSW government and non-government secondary schools. Contestants must be between 15 and 18 years of age (inclusive) on 1 January 2011. Deadline for submitting entries is late March 2011. For conditions of entry and registration details see website: <https://www.artsunit.nsw.edu.au/speaking-competitions/public-speaking/sydney-morning-herald-plain-english-speaking-award>

April

- **Mathematics Enrichment for Young Australians**

Enrichment Stage April to September 2011 (16 Weeks). "Meet the challenge of a number of in-depth yet accessible problems." Further information and registration on website: www.amt.edu.au

- **NSW Premier's Sporting Challenge 2011**

Registrations open on 1 March and close on 1 April 2011. "The Challenge includes a range of initiatives with one common purpose – to have more students, more active, more of the time." Check the website for details: <https://products.schools.nsw.edu.au/psc/home.html>

- **"What Matters?" Writing competition**

Entries close April 2011. "What Matters? gives students in years 5 – 12 in NSW and the ACT a chance to say what matters in society today. What actions do you think should be taken to build a better society? What would you change if you could? What do you want other people to care about?" Further information and application forms on the website:

http://www.whitlam.org/the_program/what_matters_competition

- **ICAS Computer Skills Competition/Assessment**

Registrations close Tuesday 26 April. These competitions and assessments are run by Educational Assessment Australia. Check out the website for further details <http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/>

May

- **The Critics Choice** (government schools only)

Competition begins May 2011. Further information and registration on website:

www.schools.nsw.edu.au/events/statecompetitions/criticschoice/index.php

- **Australian Informatics Competition**

May 2011. "Multiple-choice and short-answer competition for students with an interest or talent for computer programming." Years 7 to 12. Further information and registration on website:

www.amt.edu.au

- **Australian National Chemistry Quiz**

Entries close 9 May 2011. Entry information is sent to schools in February. The Quiz is run on two junior levels (years 7 – 8 and years 9 – 10) and two senior levels for years 11 and 12. It is run at your school and promotes "Science for Everybody". Website: www.ancq.com

- **Australasian Problem Solving Mathematical Olympiads**

18 May 2011 – Olympiad 1 "Challenging Problem Solving Contests for Students up to 14 years."

Olympiads begin in May and run once a month until September. Registration and further details on website: http://www.apsmo.info/apsmo/APSMO_Home.php

- **HSC English Extension 1, Study Day**

Date and venue to be announced. Registration online: www.englishteacher.com.au/students.php

- **Investigating Mathematics**

Registrations due to MANSW office in May, 2011. For all school students from Pre-school to Year 12. Student projects to be submitted to MANSW by July 2011 for judging. Further information on website:

<http://www.mansw.nsw.edu.au/>

- **ICAS Computer Skills Competition/Assessment**

Sitting date Tuesday 24 May. These competitions and assessments are run by Educational Assessment Australia. Check the website for further details <http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/>

- **ICAS Science Competition/Assessment**

Registrations close Wednesday 11 May. These competitions and assessments are run by Educational Assessment Australia. Check the website for further details <http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/>

- **ICAS Spelling Competition/Assessment**

Registrations close Tuesday 24 May. These competitions and assessments are run by Educational Assessment Australia. Check out the website for further details <http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/>

- **ICAS Writing Competition/Assessment**

Registrations close Tuesday 24 May. These competitions and assessments are run by Educational Assessment Australia. Check the website for further details <http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/>

- **Tournament of Minds**

Registrations available in February. School registrations close May 2011. "Tournament of Minds is a problem solving program for teams of students from both primary and secondary years." This competition is suitable for all students. Registration and further details on website: www.tom.edu.au

- **Talented Students' Day**

Expressions of interest from schools due May 2011. For Year 12 Extension 2 Mathematics students and their teachers. Lectures held at the University of NSW in July 2011. Further information on website: <http://www.mansw.nsw.edu.au/student-services/talented-students-day.htm>

June

- **2012 Western Sydney Environment Calendar Children's Art Competition** (open to government schools only) Competition launched in June. "...encourages primary school children to think about ways in which they or their school are working towards a greener and healthier environment." Further information and registration on website: www.schools.nsw.edu.au/events/statecompetitions/

- **The Nepean Weekend of Triathlon**

Details of the triathlon events will be placed on the website in June. The Nepean weekend of triathlon for 2011 will be held on the weekend in November 2011. See website for registration and further information: www.nepantriathlon.com

- **HSC Mathematics Lectures**

For all Year 12 students. For information on dates and venues see website: <http://www.mansw.nsw.edu.au/>

- **Australasian Problem Solving Mathematical Olympiads**

22 June 2011 – Olympiad 2 "Challenging Problem Solving Contests for Students up to 14 years." Olympiads began in May and run once a month until September. Registration and further details on website: http://www.apsmo.info/apsmo/APSMO_Home.php

- **HSC English Standard, Advanced and ESL Modules Study Day**

Check website for information on dates and venue locations. Registration online: www.englishteacher.com.au/students.php

- **The NSW Schools Titration Competition**

Competition will be held in June 2011. Further information and venue locations see website: www.nswtitration.com

- **ICAS Science Competition/Assessment**

Sitting date Wednesday 8 June. These competitions and assessments are run by Educational Assessment Australia. Check the website for further details <http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/>

- **ICAS Spelling Competition/Assessment**

Sitting date Tuesday 21 June. These competitions and assessments are run by Educational Assessment Australia. Check the website for further details <http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/>

- **ICAS Writing Competition/Assessment**

Sitting date Tuesday 21 June. These competitions and assessments are run by Educational Assessment Australia. Check the website for further details <http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/>

- **Science and Engineering Challenge**

"The Challenge is an outreach program conducted nationally by the University of Newcastle. It is designed to inspire students to study science and engineering at a senior level." Regional Challenges will be held in June. For more information see the website <http://www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/engineering/events/challenge/>

- **Enviro Inspiro! Competition** (open to government schools only)

Entries due June 2011. Competition open to all secondary students, to "create a video or DVD to show case their successful student-led school environment projects." Further information and registration on website: http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/events/statecompetitions/enviro_inspiro/index.php

- **2011 International Science Poetry Competition**

Entries due 30 June 2011. Promotes flexibility in learning, creativity and memory work. For further information and entry conditions see website: <http://www.scienceeducationreview.com/poetcomp.html>

July

- **Talented Students' Day**
For Year 12 Extension 2 Mathematics students and their teachers. See website for details on dates and venue locations: <http://www.mansw.nsw.edu.au/studentsservices/talented-students-day.htm>
- **Dorothea Mackellar Poetry Competition 2011**
Entries close in July 2011. Open to school-aged students (primary, secondary and special education). Further information on website: <http://www.dorothea.com.au>
- **HSC Mathematics Lectures**
For all Year 12 students. HSC Lectures Day held through the Mathematical Association of NSW. (Registrations closed in June.) Further information on website: <http://www.mansw.nsw.edu.au/>
- **ICAS English Competition/Assessment**
Registrations close Tuesday 5 July. These competitions and assessments are run by Educational Assessment Australia. Check out the website for further details <http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/>
- **ICAS Mathematics Competition/Assessment**
Registrations close Tuesday 19 July. These competitions and assessments are run by Educational Assessment Australia. Check out the website for further details <http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/>
- **National Mathematics Summer School**
Nominations of Year 11 students for the 2012 Summer School should be lodged in July 2011. "It is a two-week residential summer course held each January at the Australian National University (ANU) in Canberra." For mathematically gifted and talented students from all over Australia. Further information on website: www.nmss.org.au
- **Australasian Problem Solving Mathematical Olympiads**
27 July 2011 – Olympiad 3 "Challenging Problem Solving Contests for Students up to 14 years." Olympiads began in May and run once a month until September. Registration and further details on website: http://www.apsmo.info/apsmo/APSMO_Home.php
- **Australian National Chemistry Quiz**
Held at your school for years 7 – 12. The Quiz focuses on the national aim "Science is for Everyone." Further information and registration on website: www.ancq.com
- **NSW History Competition**
Registration closes July 2011. Entry form available March 2011. The competition is held for years 9 and 10 students based on the compulsory History syllabus. To be held in August - September. For further information see the website: www.htansw.asn.au/competitions/competitions.html
- **NSW Premier's Spelling Bee**
Entry forms should be completed and faxed to The Arts Unit on (02) 9569 6878. Word lists are posted on the website in July. All public, central and community school students in NSW, years 3 – 6 are invited to engage in spelling "in a fun and educational way". Further information and registration on website: <https://products.schools.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html>
- **Investigating Mathematics**
For all school students from kindergarten to year 10. Student projects to be submitted to MANSW by July 2011 for judging. Further information on website: <http://www.mansw.nsw.edu.au/>
- **Tournament of Minds**
Team nominations close July 2011. "Tournament of Minds is a problem solving program for teams of students from both primary and secondary years." This competition is suitable for all students. Registration and further details on website: www.tom.edu.au
- **The Rio Tinto Big Science Competition**
"Discover your science talent whilst stretching your thinking skills." International competition, open to students from years 7 – 12. Further information and registration on website: <http://www.asi.edu.au/bigscience/>

August

- **Australian Mathematics Competition**
Competition takes place 4 August 2011. "As well as basic skills questions which are found in the first part of the paper, there are problems that require translation between the real world and mathematics."

Tests mathematical thinking and organisation, for years 3 to 12. Further information and registration on website: www.amt.edu.au

- **ICAS English Competition/Assessment**

Sitting date Tuesday 2 August. These competitions and assessments are run by Educational Assessment Australia. Check out the website for further details <http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/>

- **ICAS Mathematics Competition/Assessment**

Sitting date Tuesday 16 August. These competitions and assessments are run by Educational Assessment Australia. Check out the website for further details <http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/>

- **Australasian Problem Solving Mathematical Olympiads**

17 August, 2011 – Olympiad 4. “Challenging Problem Solving Contests for Students up to 14 years.” Olympiads began in May and run once a month until September. Registration and further details on website: http://www.apsmo.info/apsmo/APSMO_Home.php

- **2011 Premier’s Reading Challenge**

Official counting begins of books read until online registrations become available in March 2011. Records completed by 25 August. Coordinators to validate entries by very beginning of September 2011. Available to students from kindergarten – year 9 in all schools. Further information on website: <https://products.schools.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html>

- **STANSW Young Scientist Awards**

Entries close in August. “Young Scientist offers students from kindergarten to year 12 worthwhile incentives to carry out scientific investigations.” For more information and registration see website: www.stansw.asn.au

- **Tournament of the Minds**

Competition held in August 2011 at 11 venues across NSW. “Tournament of Minds is a problem solving program for teams of students from both primary and secondary years.” This competition is suitable for all students. Further details on website: www.tom.edu.au

- **NSW History Competition**

The competition is for years 9 and 10 students based on the compulsory History syllabus. To be held in schools between late August - early September and results returned to HTA NSW office soon after. For further information and exact dates see the website: www.htansw.asn.au/competitions/competitions.html

September

- **The Rio Tinto Big Science Competition**

“Discover your science talent whilst stretching your thinking skills.” International competition, open to students from years 7 – 12. Further information and registration on website: <http://www.asi.edu.au/bigscience/>

- **Dorothea Mackellar Poetry Competition 2011**

National presentation in first week of September in Gunnedah. Open to school aged students (primary, secondary and special education). Further information on website: <http://www.dorothea.com.au>

- **2011 Premier’s Reading Challenge**

Coordinators to validate entries by 1 September 2011. Online registrations became available in March 2011. Records completed late August. Available to students from kindergarten – year 9 in all schools. Further information on website: <https://products.schools.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html>

- **NSW History Competition**

The competition is for years 9 and 10 students based on the compulsory History syllabus. To be held in schools between late August - early September and results returned to HTA NSW office soon after. For further information see the website: www.htansw.asn.au/competitions/competitions.html

- **State Dance Festival** (open to government schools only)

Dance Festival Dates are in early September. Showcasing dance from students K – 12. Further information and registration on website: <https://www.artsunit.nsw.edu.au/programs/dance/dance-festivals>

- **Extension History Essay Prize**

Closing date September 2011. Please note that this competition has no link with the HSC exam. “The Extension History Essay Prize is open to essays that:

- Satisfy the requirements of the NSW HSC Extension Project
- Are the product of genuine research

- Represent ‘interesting and well written history’”

Website: <http://www.htansw.asn.au/extension-prize>

- **NSW Premier’s Spelling Bee**

Regional finals held in September 2011. All public, central and community school students in NSW, years 3 – 6 are invited to engage in spelling “in a fun and educational way”. Further information and registration on website: <https://products.schools.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html>

- **2011 Western Sydney Environment Calendar Children’s Art Competition** (open to government schools only). Entries close this month. “...encourages primary school children to think about ways in which they or their school are working towards a greener and healthier environment.” Further information and registration on website: www.schools.nsw.edu.au/events/statecompetitions/

- **Australasian Problem Solving Mathematical Olympiads**

7 September 2011 – Olympiad 5. “Challenging Problem Solving Contests for Students up to 14 years.” Olympiads began in May and ran once a month until September. Registration and further details on website: http://www.apsmo.info/apsmo/APSMO_Home.php

- **Modern Languages Short Film Competition**

Closes in September. Students need to create and submit a short film, formatted as a DVD, (no more than 2 minutes in length) in the language they are studying. For further details see website:

<http://www.mltansw.asn.au/comp.htm>

- **The Critics Choice** (government schools only)

Competition began in May and closes September/October. Further information and registration on website: www.schools.nsw.edu.au/events/statecompetitions/criticschoice/index.php

- **National Mathematics Summer School**

National qualifying exam results. 2012 Summer School offers made. “It is a two-week residential summer course held each January at the Australian National University (ANU) in Canberra.” For mathematically gifted and talented students from all over Australia. Further information on website: www.nmss.org.au

October

- **UNICEF Day for Change**

“A leadership opportunity for interested public school students to develop activities that raise awareness and funds for the chosen appeal.” School activities to take place on or around Wednesday 26 October 2011 - Universal Children's Day. For more information and to register see website

<http://www.unicefdayforchange.org.au/>

November

- **The Nepean Weekend of Triathlon**

The Nepean weekend of triathlon for 2011 will be held in November. See website for registration and further information: www.nepeantriathlon.com

- **NSW Premier’s Spelling Bee**

State Finals held in November. Further information on date and venue location see website:

<https://products.schools.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html>

December

Other activities you could check out:

- **Lachlan Macquarie College**

Runs HSC lectures on topics such as: General Mathematics, 2 Unit Mathematics, Extension Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Earth and Environmental Science. Check out the website for details:

<http://www.lmc.nsw.edu.au/student-programs/hsclectures>

- **UWS College**

Offers short courses and HSC lectures throughout the year. Check out the website for details:

<http://www.uwscollege.edu.au/> and

http://uws.edu.au/uwscollege/courses/local/Professional_development/community_programs

- **University of Western Sydney – Schools Engagement**

Offers various programs and full day events through UWS and in partnership with other educational organisations. These include: Math IT, the UWS Young Writers’ Day, the HSC Physics Day, Environmental Education Programs and organising UWS Academic Speakers to visit your school. For further information please see our website at http://www.uws.edu.au/community/in_the_community/for_schools or

contact SchoolsEngagement@uws.edu.au

- **Geology Rocks Drawing Competition**

Open to students from all schools, this competition is run by the Australian Museum. Check the website for details: <http://australianmuseum.net.au/>

- **The Mathematical Association of New South Wales**

“Promoting Quality Mathematics Education for all.” Activities are held throughout the year. Check the website for details: <http://www.mansw.nsw.edu.au>

- **BHP Billiton Science Awards**

“Rewarding young people who have undertaken practical research projects, which demonstrate innovative approaches and thorough scientific procedures.”

Check the website for details: http://www.scienceawards.org.au/student_awards/

- **The ARC Competition**

“Create a play or film to show how all of us need to change to achieve a sustainable future, and you could win up to \$10,000 for your school!” Check the website for details: www.arc.org.au

- **The Arts Unit, NSW Department of Education and Training** for information on activities and competitions for: dance, debating, drama, music, performances for schools, public speaking, Schools Spectacular, spelling and visual arts. *Please note that many of the activities listed on these pages are open for all schools.* Check the website for details: <https://www.artsunit.nsw.edu.au/>

- **Connected Learning Competitions** (open to Government schools only)

- **Digital Story Awards** “encourage students to review basic principles of storytelling, create storyboards, capture images with digital cameras, write stories, and post their stories on the Internet.”

- **Short Film Awards** “engage and encourage students to go behind the scenes and utilise their own creative abilities to develop a short film of three minutes duration.”

- **Web Design Awards** “Students use words, drawings, music, video or still photography to create a web site to share their thoughts, feelings and ideas on a theme with other students around New South Wales.”

- **Greeting Card Design Awards** “encourage students to design the front of a card suitable for the Christmas holiday season. Students create a design that communicates a message of goodwill, harmony and celebration that would be appreciated by all community members.”

- **Digital Art Awards** “Students have the opportunity to use a variety of software applications to create a digital artwork” depicting each year’s chosen theme

- **Learning Resource Awards** “provide students with an opportunity to use a variety of technologies to create a learning resource or learning object based on a concept drawn from a relevant syllabus area.”

- **Radio News Awards** “ABC3 and the Centre for Learning Innovation invite Australian primary school students to tell the story of a local hero through the medium of a two-minute (or less) documentary radio news story.”

Check the website for details: <http://www.cli.nsw.edu.au/services/wecreate/awards.htm>

(Please note: many exact 2011 dates were not available at the time of publication. Websites should be checked for further details.)