


# THE ETHICS CENTRE

YOUNG WRITERS'  
COMPETITION



A young woman with long, dark, wavy hair is shown in profile, speaking into a black microphone. She is wearing a patterned, short-sleeved top. The background is dark and out of focus.

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## WHAT DOES AN ETHICAL SOCIETY LOOK LIKE TO YOU?

The Ethics Centre is committed to amplifying young people's perspectives on what an ethical society looks like to them. This new, annual essay competition is an exciting chance for young writers to share their ideas with a wide, engaged audience.

The winner of each age category will receive a prize pack valued at \$500, comprising a \$250 cash prize and a \$250 Gleebooks voucher. They will also have their essay published digitally by The Ethics Centre.

Two runners-up in each age category will also have their essays published digitally by The Ethics Centre.

The deadline for entries is 15 November at midnight AEDT.

### APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

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## WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR


We are looking for exceptional non-fiction writing on a choice of topics, with entry available in two age groups: ages 13-18 and ages 19-30.

Entries will be judged by a panel of editors and philosophers from The Ethics Centre.

The judges will be looking for originality, well-researched perspectives and well-reasoned persuasive arguments. Your voice and style should be engaging and you should be able to draw out ethical implications or issues from your chosen topic.

You are welcome to incorporate first-person narrative in your persuasive argument. Charity for alternate views, intellectual humility and an acknowledgement of and/or responses to counter-arguments will be well regarded.





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## WHAT CAN YOU WRITE ABOUT?

### ENTRANTS SHOULD CHOOSE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING ESSAY QUESTIONS:

- What ethical issue is being overlooked today?
  - What do we owe future generations?
  - What do older generations owe to young people?
  - How will ethical views change in the next two decades?
  - What ethical view have you changed your mind about?
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## ENTRY CRITERIA

- Your essay should be your original work — it should not be plagiarised or written by AI
- Your essay should not have been previously published publicly (including by other competitions)
- Essays can be up to 800 words for participants aged 13–18, and up to 1200 words for ages 19–30
- Only one entry is permitted per person
- Submissions must be made no later than 15 November at midnight AEDT
- Entries are open to Australian residents only
- Writers must be aged between 13–30 years of age as of 10 November 2023
- Entrants under 18 will need to permission from a guardian to enter
- See previous page for judging criteria





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## PRIZE DETAILS

### THE FIRST PRIZE WINNERS IN EACH AGE GROUP WILL RECEIVE:

- Prize pack valued at \$500, comprising a \$250 cash prize and a \$250 Gleebooks voucher
- Digital publication of their essay by The Ethics Centre
- Featured on The Ethics Centre social media channels
- A certificate recognising their achievement
- An invitation to pitch up to three additional articles (as paid contributors) to The Ethics Centre for publication in the following 12 months

### TWO RUNNERS-UP IN EACH AGE GROUP WILL RECEIVE:

- Digital publication of their essay by The Ethics Centre
- Featured on The Ethics Centre social media channels
- A certificate recognising their achievement
- An invitation to pitch up to three additional articles to The Ethics Centre for publication in the following 12 months

*These prizes have been made possible by the generous support of Change&co, Childcare Australia United Ltd, Kirrawee Child Care Pty Ltd and Dr Penny D. Sackett.*

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## KEY DATES

Applications open now until Wednesday 15 November at midnight AEDT

Winners and runners-up in each category will be announced in early 2024 and published digitally by The Ethics Centre over the next six months





## ABOUT THE ETHICS CENTRE

The Ethics Centre is an independent not-for-profit that, for over 30 years, has advocated for a more ethical society. Across all our work, we are motivated by shared goals: to bring people together, create space for transparent conversations, and support the development of a skillset that enables people to live and act according to their values.

We want to facilitate equal opportunity access to ethics, which means making sure that we are conversing with and representing people who are often overlooked. We are committed to developing a range of initiatives that help young people navigate the ethical challenges they face in an increasingly complex world.

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- Entries must be submitted to [this form](#) by 15 November 2023 at midnight AEDT. Any entries received after this closing time will not be eligible in the competition. Only one entry is permitted per person.
- We reserve the right to disqualify any entrants who infringe a third party's intellectual property rights or breach the competition terms and conditions.
- This competition is not open to employees of The Ethics Centre, or their immediate family members.
- Collection, use and distribution of information adheres to The Ethics Centre's [privacy policy](#).
- Winners will be notified in early 2024 via email, and announced to The Ethics Centre's email database and social media channels.
- Prizes will be posted, winners must provide their postage address for delivery.
- The prize is not transferable to another person. Vouchers are not exchangeable for cash or any other prize.
- Edits to essays are at discretion of The Ethics Centre editors prior to publication.
- The judges' decision is final.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE APPLICATION PROCESS, PLEASE EMAIL [COMMUNICATIONS@ETHICS.ORG.AU](mailto:COMMUNICATIONS@ETHICS.ORG.AU)