

Details for Students

The Mercy Foundation works to END homelessness. We believe that nobody in our country should endure the traumatic experience of homelessness, especially long-term or chronic homelessness. We asked people experiencing homelessness what it is that they need to be safe and well. The response was resounding: Everybody wants and needs a safe, affordable, comfortable and permanent home.

1. Introduction

The Mercy Foundation Youth Awards is a photo competition open to high school students across Australia from Years 7 – 12. The photo competition will encourage you to learn more about homelessness, especially ending homelessness in Australia.

2. Competition Details

The theme for 2019 is “**Housing First: the key to ending homelessness**”. Your challenge is to:

1) take a photo expressly created for the competition that explores the idea of **home** and includes a **house key**. The house key cannot be digitally added to the photo but must be included in the original composition.

The house key need not be the focus of the image, but rather a demonstration that the photo was taken especially for the competition.

2) Each entry must include a written paragraph (no longer than 100 words) that explains how your photo explores the idea of home.

3) **AND** fill out the **Housing First** quiz on the online entry form.

The online entry form is available online on our website www.mercyfoundation.com.au. Our website provides information about **Housing First** in Australia. This information is the basis for the questions in the quiz.

3. Important Notes:

- ✓ Only one entry per person
- ✓ An entrant is an individual student
- ✓ Photo must include a house key
- ✗ **Strictly no faces to feature in the image**
- ✗ **No stereotypical images of people experiencing homelessness**
- ✗ No brand names or logos

4. Important Dates

Competition opens: **29 April 2019**

Competition closes: **5 July 2019**

Winners notified by: **Mid August 2019**

Prizes

1st Prize:

\$700 to the winning entrant AND \$700 to the winning school

2nd Prize:

\$350 to the winning entrant AND \$350 to the winning school

3rd Prize:

\$200 to the winning entrant AND \$200 to the winning school

\$50 vouchers will be awarded to 10 highly commended entries AND

\$250 will be awarded to the school that submits the most entries

5. Judging

The judging committee comprises staff and Board members of the Mercy Foundation. Entries will be assessed according to the accuracy of quiz answers and the creativity, originality, effort, content and quality of both the photo and written content.

6. Entries

1. Your entry must consist of a photograph uploaded with the online entry form.
2. The online entry form is available on our website www.mercyfoundation.com.au.
3. Your photograph should be a maximum of 2MB and in the format of a JPEG, GIF or PNG. JPEG is the preferred format. A PDF will also be accepted.
4. Save your photo using your name and school e.g. *SmithH_SydneyHigh.jpeg*
5. If for any reason you are unable to use our online entry form, please contact us by email youthawards@mercyfoundation.com.au or call 02 9911 7390 and we will send you an entry form to fill in.
6. By submitting an entry, you acknowledge that you have read and accepted the Terms and Conditions for the Mercy Foundation Youth Awards 2018. The Terms and Conditions are available on our website www.mercyfoundation.com.au
7. The photo and entry must be your own original work created for the competition.
8. The Mercy Foundation will acknowledge all entries received. It is your responsibility to ensure that we have received your entry.
9. Photographs may be exhibited at a public event later this year. More information will be provided closer to the event.

For more information please call the Mercy Foundation on 02 9911 7390 or email youthawards@mercyfoundation.com.au

