

MAPPING COMMUNITY HERITAGE

Schools Heritage Competition 2004

The Department for Environment and Heritage introduced a Schools Heritage Competition in 2003 to improve South Australian students' understanding of the diversity and significance of our State's built heritage. This annual competition encourages students to identify with their heritage and to appreciate their local history and built environment. It also provides opportunities for students to link school curricula to a meaningful and rewarding project, and to apply modern information and communications technologies to promote important heritage concepts.

2004 THEME – MAPPING COMMUNITY HERITAGE

- **The theme for 2004 requires students to present an aspect of their neighbourhood's heritage story through the design and development of a 'community map'.**
- Community mapping is a valuable tool for students to learn about their community, history and environment and to present their information in a visual way. It is as much about the process, as it is about the end product, providing opportunities for community collaboration and encouraging a sense of citizenship and of place.
- The theme *MAPPING COMMUNITY HERITAGE* offers a wide choice of activities and interpretation for students and teachers. Possible projects include:
 - creating historical walking tours (perhaps in partnership with local historians).
 - tracking neighbourhood change over time.
 - documenting local heritage landmarks.
 - identifying sensitive or threatened community sites.
 - developing a virtual heritage tour of a town or neighbourhood
 - mapping a community's architectural heritage.
 - connecting neighbourhood places thematically, for example mining sites or transport heritage places.
 - highlighting potential heritage sites in a newly established neighbourhood.
 - seeking oral histories and mapping the remembered sites and stories.
 - investigating graves at a local cemetery.
 - studying the effects of industries or transport systems on local settlement patterns.
 - mapping a streetscape or a property.
 - envisioning the future uses of an area.
 - locating and documenting culturally significant sites, such as buildings, parks, recreation areas, etc.
 - mapping sites personally significant to students.
 - developing a concept map for local heritage.
- The challenge is to use the community map **to deliver a heritage message to a target audience**, such as other students, senior citizens or the local council. The message may be as simple as *'here is our heritage'*, or *'our heritage is important'*, but it might also aim to promote discussion, to change the perception of an area, to challenge accepted practice or to influence decision-makers.

FORMAT & STYLE

- **All entries must be developed using ICT (Information and Communications Technologies) format.**
- The choices of style and software are open, but should be appropriate for the target audience.
- Possibilities include
 - GIS layering
 - brochures or interpretive signs using desktop publishing programs.
 - webpages or websites.
 - interactive multimedia productions
 - Power Point presentations
 - electronic timelines
 - linking digital images to text or other data
 - scanning and inserting maps, photographs and hand-drawn images
 - database-driven interactive maps
 - iMovies

CATEGORIES & PRIZES

- Individual or small group entries are invited in five year-group categories:
 - Years R – 3
 - Years 4 – 5
 - Years 6 – 7
 - Years 8 – 9
 - Years 10 – 12
- For each category there will be two winning entries
 - *MOST OUTSTANDING* – \$200 cash prize
 - *HIGHLY COMMENDED* – \$100 cash prize

JUDGING

The members of the judging panel may vary, depending on the year level category, but each panel will comprise four judges representing

- the SA State Heritage Authority
- the Heritage Branch, DEH
- the Technology School of the Future
- practising class teachers

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

- While the format of the competition highlights the use of Information and Communications Technologies, the **main focus is the students' key message related to the theme.**
- The main considerations re content will be
 - an understanding of **built heritage** and its value for the future.
 - clear and logical presentation of key ideas and information.
 - the quality and accuracy of the entry in regard to grammar, spelling and presentation.
- Assessment will not be influenced by the type of entry, such as linear or interactive, although interesting and unusual applications of software will be noted.

ENTRY GUIDELINES

- **It is a condition of entry that the Heritage Branch of the Department for Environment and Heritage has permission to display or otherwise use the presentation for promotional and education purposes.**
- If the program used to create the entry is limited or unique, then the school must agree to provide a copy of the software (if requested).
- Some entry types have restrictions
 - videos should not exceed two minutes
 - Power Point presentations are limited to 12 slides and, if used, special effects should add meaning to the message being conveyed.
 - images are restricted to 200 X 200 pixels
- Entries should be submitted on disc (preferably CD but floppy discs will also be accepted) together with any necessary instructions for viewing the presentation.
- If appropriate a hard-copy version of the entry should also be included.
- A completed entry form should accompany each entry.
- **Up to three (3) entries only per class will be accepted for judging.** It is therefore essential that students and teachers pre-select which entries will represent their class.
- If group entries include students from different year levels, the entry will be judged in the category appropriate to the oldest student.

WHAT SUPPORT IS AVAILABLE?

- All teachers are encouraged to contact the Heritage Branch for advice and further information. The Heritage Education Officer can discuss topics most appropriate to your students and assist with programming and information about local heritage
- A **PowerPoint presentation, *Understanding South Australia's Built Heritage*** (Parts 1 & 2) has been developed to provide teachers with an understanding of the diversity of the State's built heritage. It is recommended as essential viewing for teachers and may be either appropriate or adapted for students (depending on the year levels). The PowerPoint is available on the *Education & Research* page of the Heritage Branch website (www.heritage.sa.gov.au).
- The inaugural 2003 competition, '*HERITAGE CONSERVATION – a future for our past*', attracted more than 70 entries from Years 3-7 students across the State. Last year's winning entries, can also be viewed on the Heritage Branch website.

TIMELINE

- registration of interest by **Friday 7 May**
- closing date for entries **Thursday 1 July**
- announcement of winners **on or about Friday 30 July** – to coincide with activities during South Australia's Heritage Month (August) for the National Year of the Built Environment.

For further information about either the competition or South Australia's built heritage, or to discuss ideas or projects suitable for your students and community, contact Robyn Hartell – phone 8124 4957.