2012 Educational Events, Opportunities and Competitions

(Please note: many exact 2012 dates were not available at the time of publication. Websites should be checked for further details.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>January</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Enviro Inspiro! Competition (open to government schools only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Competition open to all secondary students, to “create a video or DVD to show case their successful student-led school environment projects.” Entries close 5 pm 22 June 2012. Further information and registration on website:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Australian History Competition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entry/registration open. Prepared by the History Teachers’ Association of Australia the competition will be offered at two separate levels:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• A Year 10 competition will be broadly based on the Australian History Curriculum for years 9 &amp; 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• A Year 8 competition will be broadly based on the Australian History Curriculum for years 7 &amp; 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Both competitions will be run on Wednesday 30 May 2012. Website:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Australasian Problem Solving Mathematical Olympiads</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012 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:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.apsmo.info/apsmo/APSMO_Home.php">http://www.apsmo.info/apsmo/APSMO_Home.php</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Mathsearch 2012 competition (for the J.L. Williams awards)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Run by the Mathematical Association of NSW this is a take-home competition for Year 11 students gifted in mathematics. For further information see</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Mathematics at Luna Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For students in Years 5 – 12 and their teachers, a range of 2012 dates are available. Refer to the Mathematical Association of NSW or their website for further details:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.mansw.nsw.edu.au">http://www.mansw.nsw.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• National Mathematics Summer School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“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 2013 Summer School should be lodged by mid July 2012. Further information on website:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.nmss.org.au">www.nmss.org.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• 2012 Premier’s Reading Challenge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012 booklists are now available. Official counting begins of books read until online registrations become available in February 2012. Coordinators to validate entries by 1 September 2012. Available to students from kindergarten – year 9 in all schools. Further information on website:</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>February</th>
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<tr>
<td>• HSC English Paper 1 Student Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Check the English Teachers’ Association website for 2012 dates, beginning 24 February 2012, Sydney University:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Australian National Chemistry Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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”. Entry forms should be returned by Monday 7 May. Running date for quiz is 26 July. For</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Tournament of Minds
Registrations available in February. School registrations close May 2012. “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](http://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](http://www.amt.edu.au)

## The Rio Tinto Big Science Competition
Early registration for the 1 June 2012 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.rtbsc.edu.au](http://www.rtbsc.edu.au)

### March

- **The NSW Schools Titration Competition**
  Registration is open for 2012. 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](http://www.nswtitration.com)

- **NSW Premier’s Sporting Challenge 2012**
  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](https://products.schools.nsw.edu.au/psc/home.html)

- **NSW History Competition**
  Registration closes July 2012. Entry form available March 2012. 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](http://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 2012. “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’”


- **2012 Premier’s Reading Challenge**

- **Dorothea Mackellar Poetry Competition 2012**

- **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/](http://www.fpsp.org.au/)

- **Mathsearch** (a take-home competition for the JL Williams Award).
  Expressions of interest from schools due in March 2012. Open to Year 11 students (plus exceptional Year 9 and 10 students). Further information on website: [http://www.mansw.nsw.edu.au/](http://www.mansw.nsw.edu.au/)

- **HSC English Extension 2, Student Day**

- **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](http://www.artsunit.nsw.edu.au/programs/speaking-competitions)
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>The Legacy Junior Public Speaking Award</strong></td>
<td>Open to NSW government and non-government secondary schools for students 14 years or over on 1 January 2012. 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: <a href="http://www.legacy.com.au/LegacyJuniorPublicSpeakingAwardNationalGuidelines">http://www.legacy.com.au/LegacyJuniorPublicSpeakingAwardNationalGuidelines</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Australian History Competition**                                   | Entry/registration closes 30 March. Prepared by the History Teachers’ Association of Australia the competition will be offered at two separate levels:  
  - A Year 10 competition will be broadly based on the Australian History Curriculum for years 9 & 10  
  - A Year 8 competition will be broadly based on the Australian History Curriculum for years 7 & 8  

**April**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Mathematics Enrichment for Young Australians</strong></td>
<td>Enrichment Stage April to September 2012 (16 Weeks). “Meet the challenge of a number of in-depth yet accessible problems.” Further information and registration on website: <a href="http://www.amt.edu.au">www.amt.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NSW Premier’s Sporting Challenge 2012</strong></td>
<td>Registrations open on 1 March and close on 1 April 2012. “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: <a href="https://products.schools.nsw.edu.au/psc/home.html">https://products.schools.nsw.edu.au/psc/home.html</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ICAS Computer Skills Competition/Assessment</strong></td>
<td>Registrations close 24 April. Test date 22 May 2012. These competitions and assessments are run by Educational Assessment Australia. Check out the website for further details <a href="http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/">http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/</a></td>
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**May**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Australian Informatics Competition</strong></td>
<td>May 2012. “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: <a href="http://www.amt.edu.au">www.amt.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>“What Matters?” Writing competition</strong></td>
<td>Entries close May 2012. “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: <a href="http://www.whitlam.org">http://www.whitlam.org</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Tournament of Minds**                                               | Registrations available in February. School registrations close May 2012. “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](http://www.tom.edu.au)

- **Talented Students’ Day**

- **Australian National Chemistry Quiz**
  Final date for entry 7 May. Held on Thursday 26 July 2012. Entry information was 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](http://www.ancq.com)

- **ICAS Science Competition/Assessment**
  Registrations close 8 May. Test date 6 June 2012. These competitions and assessments are run by Educational Assessment Australia. Check the website for further details [http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/](http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/)

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

- **ICAS Writing Competition/Assessment**
  Registrations close 21 May. Test dates 18 – 22 June. These competitions and assessments are run by Educational Assessment Australia. Check the website for further details [http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/](http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/)

- **ICAS Computer Skills Competition/Assessment**
  Sitting date Tuesday 22 May. These competitions and assessments are run by Educational Assessment Australia. Check the website for further details [http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/](http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/)

- **ICAS Spelling Competition/Assessment**
  Registrations close 22 May. Test date 19 June 2012. These competitions and assessments are run by Educational Assessment Australia. Check out the website for further details [http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/](http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/)

- **Australasian Problem Solving Mathematical Olympiads**

- **The Rio Tinto Big Science Competition**

- **NSW Premier’s Spelling Bee**

- **Australian History Competition**
  Entry/registration open. Prepared by the History Teachers’ Association of Australia the competition will be offered at two separate levels:
  - A Year 10 competition will be *broadly* based on the Australian History Curriculum for years 9 & 10
  - A Year 8 competition will be *broadly* based on the Australian History Curriculum for years 7 & 8

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**June**

- **Dorothea MacKellar Poetry Competition 2012**

- **2013 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: [http://www.westernsydneyparklands.com.au/page/about-us/environmental/](http://www.westernsydneyparklands.com.au/page/about-us/environmental/)
Enviro Inspiro! Competition (open to government schools only)

HSC Mathematics Lectures
For all Year 12 students. For information on dates and venues see website: [http://www.mansw.nsw.edu.au/studentservices/hsc-lectures.htm](http://www.mansw.nsw.edu.au/studentservices/hsc-lectures.htm)

The NSW Schools Titration Competition
Competition will be held in June 2012. Further information and venue locations see website: [www.nswtitration.com](http://www.nswtitration.com)

ICAS Science Competition/Assessment
Test date 6 June 2012. These competitions and assessments are run by Educational Assessment Australia. Check the website for further details [http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/](http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/)

HSC English Standard, Advanced and ESL Modules Day

2012 International Science Poetry Competition
Entries due 15 June 2012. Promotes flexibility in learning, creativity and memory work. For further information and entry conditions see website: [http://www.scienceeducationreview.com/poetcomp.html](http://www.scienceeducationreview.com/poetcomp.html)

ICAS Writing Competition/Assessment
Test dates 18 – 22 June. These competitions and assessments are run by Educational Assessment Australia. Check the website for further details [http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/](http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/)

ICAS Spelling Competition/Assessment
Test date 19 June 2012. These competitions and assessments are run by Educational Assessment Australia. Check out the website for further details [http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/](http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/)

Australasian Problem Solving Mathematical Olympiads

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/community-engagement/challenge/](http://www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/engineering/community-engagement/challenge/)

NSW Premier’s Spelling Bee
Entry forms should be submitted no later than 29 June 2012. Word lists released on 16 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://www.artsunit.nsw.edu.au/speaking-competitions/spelling-bee/2012-premiers-spelling-bee](https://www.artsunit.nsw.edu.au/speaking-competitions/spelling-bee/2012-premiers-spelling-bee)

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/studentservices/talented-students-day.htm](http://www.mansw.nsw.edu.au/studentservices/talented-students-day.htm)

HSC Mathematics Lectures

Australian National Chemistry Quiz

NSW History Competition
Registration closes July 2012. Entry form available March 2012. 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: [http://www.htansw.asn.au/history-competition](http://www.htansw.asn.au/history-competition)

- **NSW Premier’s Spelling Bee**

- **Investigating Mathematics**

- **Tournament of Minds**
  Team nominations close July 2012. “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](http://www.tom.edu.au)

- **ICAS English Competition/Assessment**
  Registrations close 3 July. Test date 31 July. These competitions and assessments are run by Educational Assessment Australia. Check out the website for further details [http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/](http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/)

- **ICAS Mathematics Competition/Assessment**
  Registrations close 17 July. Test date 14 August. These competitions and assessments are run by Educational Assessment Australia. Check out the website for further details [http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/](http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/)

- **National Mathematics Summer School**
  Nominations of Year 11 students for the 2013 Summer School should be lodged in July 2012. “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](http://www.nmss.org.au)

- **Australasian Problem Solving Mathematical Olympiads**

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**August**

- **STANSW Young Scientist Awards**

- **Tournament of the Minds**
  Competition held in August 2012 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](http://www.tom.edu.au)

- **Australian Mathematics Competition**
  Competition takes place 2 August 2012. “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](http://www.amt.edu.au)

- **ICAS Mathematics Competition/Assessment**
  Test date 14 August. These competitions and assessments are run by Educational Assessment Australia. Check out the website for further details [http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/](http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/)

- **Australasian Problem Solving Mathematical Olympiads**

- **2012 Premier’s Reading Challenge**
  Official counting begins of books read until online registrations become available in March 2012. Records

- **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**

- **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

- **Extension History Essay Prize**
  Closing date September 2012. 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

- **2012 Premier’s Reading Challenge**

- **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

- **Australasian Problem Solving Mathematical Olympiads**

- **NSW Premier’s Spelling Bee**
  Regional finals held between 10 and 21 September. 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://www.artsunit.nsw.edu.au/speaking-competitions/spelling-bee/2012-premiers-spelling-bee

- **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. 2013 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 24 October 2012 - Universal Children’s Day. For more information and to register see website http://www.unicefdayforchange.org.au/

- **The Nepean Weekend of Triathlon**
  The Nepean weekend of triathlon for 2012 will be held on the weekend of 27 – 28 October 2012. See website for registration and further information: www.nepeantriathlon.com
**November**

- **NSW Premier’s Spelling Bee**
  State finals held on 4 November 2012. 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://www.artsunit.nsw.edu.au/speaking-competitions/spelling-bee/2012-premiers-spelling-bee](https://www.artsunit.nsw.edu.au/speaking-competitions/spelling-bee/2012-premiers-spelling-bee)

**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](http://www.lmc.nsw.edu.au/student-programs)

- **UWS College**
  Offers short courses and HSC lectures throughout the year. Check out the website for details: [http://www.uwscollege.edu.au/course/local/Professional_development](http://www.uwscollege.edu.au/course/local/Professional_development)

- **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](http://www.uws.edu.au/community/in_the_community/for_schools) or contact SchoolsEngagement@uws.edu.au

- **The National History Challenge** - The National History Challenge is a research-based competition for students. It gives your students a chance to be an historian, investigating their community and exploring their own past. It emphasizes and rewards quality research, the use of community resources and effective presentation. Website [http://www.htansw.asn.au/national-history-challenge](http://www.htansw.asn.au/national-history-challenge)

- **The Simpson Prize** - year 9 and 10 students to participate in a nationwide essay competition, giving them the chance to win an unforgettable 2 week trip to Turkey as well as a prepartory trip to Canberra. See website [http://www.htansw.asn.au/simpson-prize](http://www.htansw.asn.au/simpson-prize)


- **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/Geology-Rocks](http://australianmuseum.net.au/Geology-Rocks)

- **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](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/](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: [http://www.arc.org.au/?page_id=3](http://www.arc.org.au/?page_id=3)

- **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/](https://www.artsunit.nsw.edu.au/)

- **Centre for Learning Innovation 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 of 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](http://www.cli.nsw.edu.au/services/wecreate/awards.htm)

*(Please note: many exact 2012 dates were not available at the time of publication. Websites should be checked for further details.)*