

# SOCIETIES AWARDS



The Tasmania University Union Societies Awards celebrate and showcase the outstanding contribution that student societies make to *your uni life*. The Awards recognise and encourage students who demonstrate the commitment required to run a successful society.

## CATEGORIES

### Section A

1. Constituent Society of the Year
2. Cultural Society of the Year
3. Interest Based Society of the Year
4. Community Based Society of the Year

### Section B

5. Academic Award
6. Environmental Award
7. Best Promotional Material
8. Best Collaboration
9. Most Improved Society

### Individual Awards

10. Gold Awards

### Major Awards

11. Achievement of the Year
12. Best New Society
13. Society of the Year (<100 members) TROPHY PRIZE (perpetual)
14. Society of the Year (>100 members) TROPHY PRIZE (perpetual)

# ENTRY & JUDGING

Societies will be asked to complete an online nomination form, providing details of against the awards criteria. Examples of things to mention or include in the awards submission will be provided on the nomination form. Societies may enter only one (1) category in Section A, and any number of categories in Section B.

Each Society may nominate a maximum of two (2) individual committee members for a Gold Award. There will be approximately 10 Gold Awards, though the final number will be determined at the judges' discretion.

A judging panel will assess societies' submissions against the awards criteria to determine the category winners and any runner-ups. All nominees from Sections A and B will automatically be considered for the categories 11-14 (Major Awards). The decisions of the judging panel shall be final and no correspondence will be entered into.

# ELIGIBILITY AND CRITERIA

## **All Categories (except Gold Awards)**

- The Society must be affiliated to the Tasmania University Union in the year of the Awards.
- All affiliation requirements must be satisfied by close of nominations
- The Society must have demonstrated an acceptable level of attendance at Societies Council
- The Society must demonstrate a minimum of 51% student membership
- All activities included in the nomination submission must have been conducted between 12 September of the previous year and 12 September of current year.

## **Section A**

- A Society may only enter one (1) of these categories
- The Society must enter the category that best describes their type
- Where Societies meet the definition of more than one category, they may choose which single category to compete in

### **1. Constituent Society of the Year**

A constituent society serves the interests of a defined group of members, though it may offer benefits to people outside its target group (e.g. Geology Students Club, Painting Society, Law Society).

This category will be awarded to a Society that demonstrates:

- strong progress towards the Society's aims;
- care towards administrative tasks;
- a wide-range of well organised activities that are appealing to its target group;
- high level participation in its activities (relative to its target group);
- well-designed publicity across a range of mediums;
- development of fresh and innovative ideas and activities;
- growth and maintenance of its membership;
- consistent improvement;
- benefits for the Society's constituents and official members,
- and a positive contribution to student life.

## **2. Cultural Society of the Year**

A cultural society serves the interests of students who share a particular national or religious culture and/or promotes the understanding and acceptance of particular national or religious cultures amongst the wider university community (e.g. Lithuanian Studies Society, Malaysian Students Society, Catholic Students Society).

This category will be awarded to a Society that demonstrates:

- strong progress towards the Society's aims;
- care towards administrative tasks;
- a wide-range of well organised activities that are appealing to members of its particular cultural group;
- efforts to promote understanding and acceptance of its particular cultural group amongst the wider university community;
- high level participation in its activities;
- well-designed publicity across a range of mediums;
- development of fresh and innovative ideas and activities;
- growth and maintenance of its membership;
- consistent improvement;
- benefits for the Society's official membership,
- and a positive contribution to student life

## **3. Interest Based Society of the Year**

An interest-based society has been formed for the purpose of engaging in and promoting a particular interest, though not all of its activities must be dedicated to that interest (e.g. Bushwalking Society, Debating Society, Taiko Drumming Society, PLoT).

This category will be awarded to a Society that demonstrates:

- strong progress towards the Society's aims;
- care towards administrative tasks;
- a wide-range of well organised interest-based (and other) activities;
- high level participation in its activities;

- well-designed publicity across a range of mediums;
- development of fresh and innovative ideas and activities;
- growth and maintenance of its membership;
- consistent improvement;
- benefits for the Society's official membership,
- and a positive contribution to student life.

#### **4. Community Based Society of the Year**

A community-based society has been formed for the purpose of making improvements and building connections in the wider community, independent of any particular constituent base, cultural group, or single interest (e.g. Environmental Collective, Impact Society, Liberal Students Society).

This category will be awarded to a Society that demonstrates:

- strong progress towards the Societies' aims;
- care towards administrative tasks;
- a wide-range of well organised activities that are appealing to members and the wider community
- efforts to promote understanding and acceptance and/or progress of a particular cause or initiative;
- high level participation in its activities;
- well-designed publicity across a range of mediums;
- development of fresh and innovative ideas and activities;
- growth and maintenance of its membership;
- consistent improvement;
- and a positive contribution to student life and the wider community.

#### **Section B**

- Any Society may enter any number of these categories

#### **5. Academic Award**

To be awarded to a Society for an initiative or event that demonstrates

- primarily academic objectives – e.g. book sale, study club, guest speaker;
- significant progress towards achieving its academic objectives;
- high participation or distribution (relative to target audience);
- excellent management,
- and uniqueness, tradition and/or wide appeal.

Societies that have engaged in multiple initiatives or events that meet these criteria must select just one (1) to enter into this category.

#### **6. Environmental Award**

To be awarded to a Society for an initiative or event that demonstrates

- concern for environmental sustainability, whether as a major or minor objective of the initiative or event – e.g. environmental awareness campaign, implemented recycling at barrels;
  - appropriate attention to the environmental impact of materials (source, and waste management) involved in the event or initiative,
  - and any other benefits for environmental sustainability
- Societies that have engaged in multiple initiatives or events that meet these criteria must select just one (1) to enter into this category.

## **7. Best Promotional Material**

To be awarded to a Society for a piece of promotional material that has

- high production values;
- innovative or fresh ideas;
- wide distribution (relative to target audience),
- and achieved its purpose

A piece of promotional material might be a poster, a sticker, a newsletter, a website, a Facebook page etc...

Societies that have produced multiple materials that meet these criteria must select just one (1) to enter into this category.

## **8. Best Collaboration**

To be awarded to a group of two or more TUU-affiliated Societies that has run an event or other initiative in conjunction with one another (and any other community groups); demonstrating

- strong organisational skills;
- innovative or fresh ideas;
- effective promotion;
- inclusive and high participation (relative to target group),
- and why the same outcomes would *not* have been achieved by a single Society working alone.

Submissions for initiatives involving multiple TUU-affiliated Societies that were *led by the TUU SRC* will not be accepted.

## **9. Most Improved Society**

To be awarded to a Society that has substantially improved across the following criteria, compared to the previous year(s); demonstrating:

- progress towards the Society's aims;
- care towards administrative tasks;
- a wider range of better organised activities that are appealing to its target group;
- higher participation in its activities (relative to its target group);
- better designed publicity across a range of mediums;
- development of fresh and innovative ideas and activities;
- growth and maintenance of its membership;
- consistent improvement;
- more benefits for the Society's constituents and official members,

- and a positive contribution to student life.

## INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

### 10. Gold Awards

To be awarded to deserving individual members of Societies' organising committees, who, regardless of the collective performance of their Society, demonstrate:

- outstanding dedication to their society;
- performance above and beyond what might normally be expected from a person in their position;
- consistent hard work, and support for other committee members,
- and a consistently positive attitude towards the Society's committee and members

## MAJOR AWARDS

- All nominees for Sections A and B will be automatically entered for the Major Awards as appropriate

### 11. Achievement of the Year

To be awarded to a Society (or Societies) that have:

- overcome substantial hardship in order to be successful *and/or*
- successfully developed a concept, event or initiative that was unique, massive and/or highly acclaimed

### 12. Best New Society

To be awarded to a Society that was first affiliated to the TUU Societies Council in year 2013, and demonstrates:

- strong progress towards the Society's aims;
- care towards administrative tasks;
- a commitment to the future of the society;
- a wide-range of well organised activities that are appealing to its target group(s);
- high level participation in its activities (relative to its target group/s);
- well-designed publicity across a range of mediums;
- development of fresh and innovative ideas and activities;
- establishment of a solid membership base (relative to its target group);
- benefits for members,
- and a positive contribution to student life.

### 13. Society of the Year (less than 100 members)

To be awarded to a Society, with less than 100 members, that can strongly demonstrate

- achievement of the Society's aims;
- care towards administrative tasks;
- a commitment to securing the future of the society;
- a wide-range of well organised activities that are appealing to its target group(s);
- high level participation in its activities (relative to its target group/s);
- well-designed publicity across a range of mediums;
- development of fresh and innovative ideas and activities;
- membership growth/maintenance (relative to its target group);
- benefits for members,
- and a positive contribution to student life.

#### **14. Society of the Year (more than 100 members)**

To be awarded to a Society, with more than 100 members, that can strongly demonstrate

- achievement of the Society's aims;
- care towards administrative tasks;
- a commitment to securing the future of the society;
- a wide-range of well organised activities that are appealing to its target group(s);
- high level participation in its activities (relative to its target group/s);
- well-designed publicity across a range of mediums;
- development of fresh and innovative ideas and activities;
- membership growth/maintenance (relative to its target group);
- benefits for members,
- and a positive contribution to student life.