

## MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE – HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL SERVICE NATIONAL OZONE ACTION UNIT (NOAU)

### “Ozone Day 2016 – Art, Poetry & Essay Writing Competition for Secondary Schools in Guyana”

#### Overview

The United Nations' (UN) International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer is celebrated on September 16 every year. This event commemorates the date of the signing of the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer in 1987.

Ozone is a gas that exists naturally in our atmosphere, primarily in a region called the “ozone layer” and it plays a vital role in shielding all life on earth from the sun’s harmful ultra-violet radiation (UVB). Less ozone means less protection. Harmful UV radiation affects human health; plant physiology and development; marine ecosystems; biogeochemical cycles and materials, to name a few.

The Substances that deplete the Ozone Layer are called “Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS)” and they include CFCs and HCFCs. ODSs are widely used in the refrigeration, foam, solvent, aerosol and fire fighting sectors. These substances have been classified as controlled substances under the Montreal Protocol and therefore their use have to be controlled and eventually phased out. *(More information can be found at [www.unep.org/ozonaction/](http://www.unep.org/ozonaction/) and [www.ozzyozone.org](http://www.ozzyozone.org))*

Guyana became a signatory to the Montreal Protocol and the Vienna Convention in 1993. Though the Ministry of Agriculture, Hydrometeorological Service the “**NATIONAL OZONE ACTION UNIT**” (NOAU) was developed to implement activities to promote public awareness and monitor the consumption of Ozone Depleting Substances in Guyana. The main activities of the NOAU are;

- Training of Refrigeration & Air-Conditioning technicians in good practices when retrofitting equipment (i.e. to ensure ODS in equipment is properly recovered and not vented into the atmosphere)
- Public awareness through school workshops, television shows and dissemination of information at Expositions.

#### Target Participants

Students of Forms Three (3) to Five (5) from secondary schools within Guyana are encouraged to participate.

## Topic

Write a poem and/or essay or create a drawing inspired by the Ozone Day 2016 theme *“Ozone and Climate: Restored by a world united”*

## General Guidelines

1. Entries that do not comply with the guidelines will not be considered.
2. The competition is open **only** to students of Forms 3-5.
3. The artwork, poem or essay must be inspired by the Ozone 2016 theme *“Ozone and Climate: Restored by a world united”*.
4. Requirements for all submitted entries are as follows;
  - a. Art; must be hand drawn, done on white paper or cardboard 8.5” x 11” using colouring agents of your choice (paints, crayons, etc.)
  - b. Poem; must have a minimum of 12 lines and a maximum of 20 lines. (NB:. The title does not count toward the total number of lines.)
  - c. Essay; must have a minimum of 1,000 words and a maximum of 1,500 words.
5. Submissions must include a cover page indicating *full name, age, class, school, phone number*.
6. The writer’s name and school must also be on each page submitted.
7. Entries may be submitted individually or as a group.
8. One student may submit in each category.
9. Submissions will not be returned.
10. Winners will be notified by September 9, 2016.

## Submission

Entries in both written and electronic form will be accepted. The deadline for submission is **Wednesday, August 31, 2016 at 4:30 pm**.

Written entries must be submitted in sealed envelopes to the following address:

**Ministry of Agriculture, Hydrometeorological Service  
National Ozone Action Unit  
18 Brickdam, Stabroek, Georgetown (Opposite Sleep-In Hotel)  
Telephone No. 225-9303**

Electronic submissions must be submitted to [bdey.ozone@yahoo.com](mailto:bdey.ozone@yahoo.com) under the caption “Ozone Day 2016: Art, Poetry & Essay Writing Competition” and are subject to the guidelines above.

**NB:** The Ministry of Agriculture reserves the right to reject submissions which do not conform to the Guidelines as aforementioned.

## Copyright

- Each entry submitted must be the original and unpublished work of the participant.
- By submitting an entry, the participant will be regarded as having granted the Ministry of Agriculture (NOAU) the right to use the artwork, poem or essay in print, broadcast and/or electronic media without any fee or payment, and for the purposes of public awareness and not for commercial purposes. Where the entry may be used, the participant will be acknowledged accordingly.

## Judging and Results

The entries shall be assessed by a panel of judges (not less than three judges) based on:

- extent to which the entry aptly captures the topic presented and incorporated themes,
  - grammatical accuracy (syntax and semantics), and
  - creative expression and appeal
  - any other relevant factor determined by the judges during the evaluation process.
- Results of the competition will be communicated to the schools in writing prior to the award of prizes.
- The participants with the winning entries will be invited to attend Ozone Day Ceremony to be held on Friday September 16, 2016 where the prizes will be presented (details of the venue and time will be communicated at that time).

## Prizes

Prizes which includes cash prizes, school supplies and trophies will be awarded to the first, second and third place entries for each category (i.e. art, poetry and essay). All entries will receive a consolation prize.

**1<sup>st</sup> Place - \$30,000**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place - \$20,000**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place - \$10,000**

COVER SHEET

"Ozone Day 2016 Art, Poetry & Essay Writing Competition"

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No(s). \_\_\_\_\_