



ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S MAGNA CARTA 800 ESSAY COMPETITION

In recognition of the 800th anniversary of Magna Carta, the Attorney-General has announced an essay competition for young New Zealanders to enter essays setting out what Magna Carta means to them and its significance to New Zealand in 2015.

He has announced the competition as a contribution to a broader programme of events being organised by the Magna Carta 800 NZ Committee to mark the 800th Anniversary of this fundamental document. In doing so, he hopes this year's commemorations will be a reminder to all of us across the Commonwealth that our core values, such as respect for the rule of law, are eternal ones which will serve us as well through the next 800 years as they have since 1215.

The competition is open to all current New Zealand High School and University students. There will be two categories:

1. University students
2. High School students

University Students

Submit an essay of no more than 1200 words by **Friday, 1 May 2015** to c.finlayson@ministers.govt.nz discussing an issue of your choosing about Magna Carta and its relevance to modern day New Zealand. The word limit excludes footnotes, although there is no requirement to include footnotes and they should not, in any case, contain text other than references.

High School Students

Submit an essay of no more than 750 words by **Friday, 1 May 2015** to c.finlayson@ministers.govt.nz discussing why Magna Carta is of relevance to New Zealand youth in 2015.

Judging Panel

One prize will be awarded in each category for the best essay as judged by a panel of:

- Hon Christopher Finlayson QC, Attorney-General
- Michael Heron QC, Solicitor-General
- Dr Stephen Winter, Senior Lecturer, Politics & International Relations, University of Auckland and Deputy Chair, Magna Carta 800 NZ Committee

The judges' decision will be final. The Attorney-General will announce the winners at a parliamentary function on **Monday, 15 June 2015**.

Publication

It is intended that a selection of essays be uploaded to the Magna Carta 800 NZ Committee website at the conclusion of the contest.

For further details about Magna Carta and the Magna Carta 800 NZ Committee, visit: <https://magnacartanz.wordpress.com/>



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ENTRY FORM

Competition (tick the box):

University

High School

Name:

School / University:

Email Address:

Contact Phone Number:

Title of Essay:

Word Count:

Please submit your essay in Word or PDF format to c.finlayson@ministers.govt.nz by 12pm on **Friday, 1 May 2015**, with the email heading: "Magna Carta Essay Competition Entry".

It is intended that a selection of essays be uploaded to the Magna Carta 800 NZ Committee website at the conclusion of the contest.

Please tick here if you **do not** consent to your essay being uploaded at the conclusion of the competition.