

Information on the Challenge

Eligibility

Only students attending one of the three colleges in the Kāpiti district at the closing date for entries to the Challenge are eligible to enter.

Entry and Categories of Images

Students enter the Challenge by submitting two images; one in the 'Open' category and the other in the 'Themed' category. The image content for each category is as follows:

Open category

There is no restriction on the image content. Students have freedom to create an image that highlights their skill, creativity and imagination in the use of digital photography.

Themed Category – theme “The Natural Coast”

The image must be linked to the theme. Students are encouraged to be creative in making this linkage. For example, 'coast' does not limit content to the Kāpiti Coast – it could be related to anywhere coastal. 'Natural' can refer to nature (insects, birds, wildlife, etc), natural processes (erosion, floods, weather etc) or activities related to such phenomena. Students are invited to apply their judgement and creativity in applying this theme to their images – so long as the linkage is clear.

Requirements of Images

The Rules allow images to be captured on a camera or mobile phone. They also lay out some important requirements for an image, and these are:

- The image and all elements in it must be the work of the student. The use photo-editors to modify, 'cut and paste' and/or insert elements from other images taken by the student are allowed - but everything must be the student's own work.
- Images or elements of the image created using Artificial Intelligence (AI) are prohibited. However, the use of AI-based editing tools (for example, for selecting parts of an image) are allowed.
- There is no time limit on when images were captured, however, in the event of a tie, judges may give more weight to images captured during the year of the Challenge.
- All originals of photographs used in creating an entry will be retained by the student, along with details of editing software used.
- Entry to the Challenge assumes acceptance and compliance with these requirements.

Copyright

Students retain full copyright of any submitted image but by making entry they consent to the image being posted on the KCPS website and possible use by KCPS in publications or publicity material (along with appropriate credits).

Judging Criteria

The following criteria will be the basis of judging (listed in priority order):

- For the Themed category, how well the image relates or connects to the theme.
- How well the image 'tells a story', having regard to technical aspects (focus, exposure, colour and saturation etc), composition, and the skills required in capturing and any subsequent photo-editing of the image.
- Overall impact of the image.

Grading Images

Judges can grade the images into one of 4 grades:

- Honours (4 points);
- Highly Commended (3 points)
- Commended (2 points) and
- Accepted (1 points).

If only one image is submitted, no points will be allocated for the category in which no image was available for judging. An image which is disqualified will score no points.

Results

The judges' decision will be final.