

2026 Rotary Poster Design Competition- Judging Outcomes



2026 ROTARY POSTER DESIGN COMPETITION

An Introduction for Art & Design Teachers



POSTER THEME:
SHAPING CHANGE: OUR FUTURE, MY VOICE

EXPLORE THE THEME

Examples include:

- Climate change
- Mental health
- Peace building
- STEM education
- Environment protection
- Recognition of First Nations peoples

PRIZES

- 1st: \$250 Officeworks voucher
- 2nd: \$150 Officeworks voucher
- Winning School: receives a \$250 Officeworks voucher
- Certificate for participating students

JUDGING CRITERIA

- Creativity: Is the design imaginative and innovative?
- Clear, accurate and informative content.
- Effective communication: Does the poster attract attention and engage viewers?
- Is there a strong "Call To Action"?
- Description of poster goals
- Ethical use of AI?

BRIEF FOR SCHOOLS

Contact:
info@altonacityrotary.org.au
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TESTIMONIAL:

"It was refreshing to see the students engaging with issues they face with such energy. It was also pleasing to see the diversity of approaches, from the colourful to the mysterious, with effective messaging".

Dr Andrew Haig
Department Chair, Communication Design
Swinburne University's School of Design and Architecture



ETHICAL USE of AI for POSTER DESIGN COMPETITION



THEME - "CREATING A BETTER FUTURE"

Rotary's 4-Way Test

- Is it the **TRUTH**?
- Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
- Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
- Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

DO's	DON'Ts
✓ Be creative– your ideas are the star!	✗ Letting AI make the whole poster for you
✓ Use AI to help brainstorm ideas	✗ Using others' images without permission
✓ Edit AI-generated images.	✗ Using copyrighted Mat'ls w/o permission
✓ Show your own skills. Be inspiring!	✗ Using people's faces without permission
✓ Describe your poster goals and use of AI	✗ Making misleading or harmful content

TIPS

- The best posters will combine your ideas, your skills, and smart, ethical use of tools.
- Think of AI as a coach on the sidelines, not the player on the field.

2026 Participating Schools	Teacher
Glen Waverley Secondary College	David Kuang Art/VCD, Magazine Coordinator
Hoppers Crossing Secondary College	Rachael Paparoulas Head of Arts, Media & VCD Teacher
Point Cook Secondary College	Vanessa Riley VCD Teacher
Springside West Secondary College	Olivia Migani and Noora Cao Visual Arts, Textiles, Resistant Materials, VCE AME Teacher

NOTE: VCD = Visual Communications Design

Theme: “*Shaping Change: Our Future, My Voice*”

2026 Winner

A Judge’s comments:

- Top because it followed ALL of the requirements with a solid design and function of an informative poster along with the “call to action.”

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Theme: “Shaping Change: Our Future, My Voice”

2026 Winner



Supported by



Student’s Notes



Rotary Online Poster Competition: 2026 Entry Form
Theme: “ShapingChange:OurFuture,MyVoice”

Describe your poster goals in 50-100 words.

During my brainstorm, I have decided to go with the theme Mental health as mental health is an important factor in life. Considering that, many teenagers now a days use phones, scrolling on social media, specifically the platform Tiktok, instagram and snapchat. I wanted to raise awareness about how excessive scrolling can quietly damage teenager’s mental health, as it takes them away with the wonders of life and showing other things you can do than just scroll. The dark messy room and glowing screen symbolises procrastination, isolation and the feeling of losing time online. I want viewers to question themselves, if endless scrolling improves their lives... or take them away from their real experiences.

Describe whether, and how, you used AI.

I have used AI as a supportive tool into helping me think of ideas on what my title could be and helping me with what type of drawings I could draw (such as a messy room). With that, AI helped me take inspiration into making my ideas more enhanced!

Theme: *“Shaping Change: Our Future, My Voice”*

2026 Runner-up

A Judge's comments:

- Solid design, clear information and followed all requirements.

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Theme: *“Shaping Change: Our Future, My Voice”*

2026 Runner-up



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Student's Notes



Rotary Online Poster Competition: 2026 Entry Form
 Theme: *“Shaping Change: Our Future, My Voice”*

Describe your poster goals in 50-100 words.

Within my poster, I aim to raise awareness about rhino extinction, and the threat poaching poses towards rhinos. Through my poster, I attempt to showcase how the illegal value placed upon rhinos turns them into targets, therefore leading to my idea of a wanted poster to convey such an idea. The use of a sniper laser, price tag and a broken horn, all creates an overall confronting visual message about greed, using red to highlight the danger and important information, while the different tones of grey create a serious atmosphere, as well as a QR code to encourage action.

Describe whether, and how, you used AI.

AI was used strictly for the idea generation stage, in which it provided me with information to help consolidate my understanding of wildlife extinction, in specific relation to rhinos. AI was also used to help me create the slogan, 'my horn is not your profit', to create a serious atmosphere within the poster.



Theme: “Shaping Change: Our Future, My Voice”

**2026 Highly
Commended**

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to help fight against racism donate to: <https://alltogethernow.org.au/> NOW

Theme: “Shaping Change: Our Future, My Voice”

2026 Highly Commended

Student's Notes



The goal for my poster is to spread awareness about racism, how stupid racism is and how to fight against it. As the message of my poster is how we all bleed red, we all at the end of the day are human.

- No generative-AI
- Student's own vector illustration in Adobe Illustrator

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Theme: “Shaping Change: Our Future, My Voice

2026 Highly Commended

A Judge’s comments:

- Congratulations on creating a very distinctive and memorable image on your poster. The text is also memorable and communicates well. As a poster the text and image are quite striking and would make viewers stop and think about how they deal with their domestic/ industrial waste. Well done on your approach here.
- A “call to action” is often found on posters that help interested people do more/connect with an organisation to change their (or their families or workplace’s) behaviour.
- A line such as “Learn more about how to recycle and deal with your waste at home. Visit the Australian Conservation Foundation www.acf.org” would have made your striking poster even more effective.

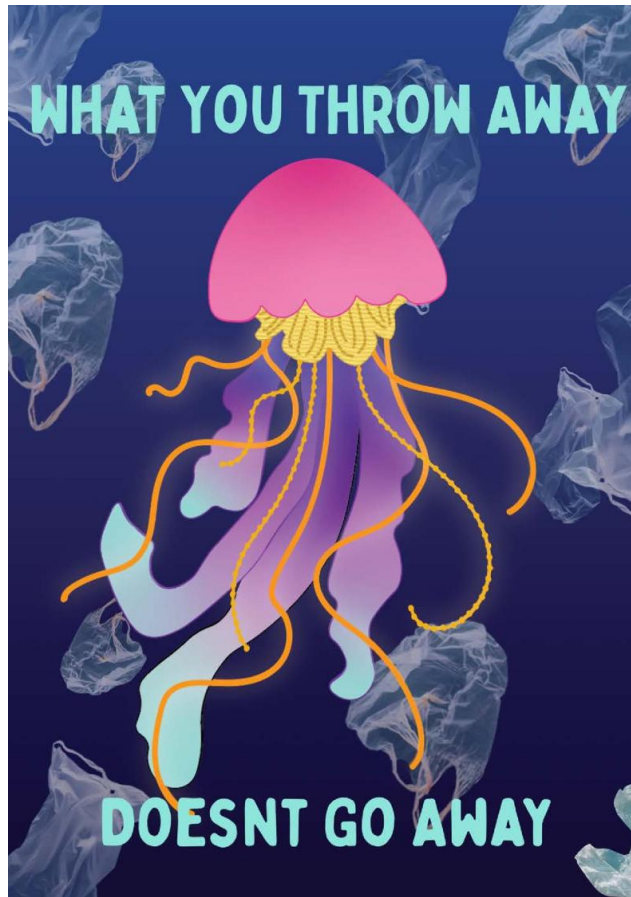
Nice work overall!

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Theme: *“Shaping Change: Our Future, My Voice”*

2026 Highly Commended



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Student's Notes



Rotary Online Poster Competition: 2026 Entry Form
Theme: *“Shaping Change: Our Future, My Voice”*

Describe your poster goals in 50-100 words.

My poster highlights how humans need to realize and start taking accountability for the mistakes that we have made. All humans have the power to make a change, so why not make it? The plastic in our oceans didn't get there by accident, it got there because we looked away. My poster asks people to stop ignoring, stop forgetting, and start taking responsibility. The longer we wait the worse it gets, young voices like mine need to stand up and make the change, take action for the future of our earth. Though it may not directly harm us it harms the magnificent ocean creatures that thrive in the oceans. It harms creatures who had no part in our choices. People need to understand that what you throw away doesn't go away. We all have the power to change this. Accountability starts when we stop looking away. Every small action matters. The question is; will we act before it's too deep to undo?

Describe whether, and how, you used AI.

(no ai was used for my poster)

Theme: *“Shaping Change: Our Future, My Voice”*

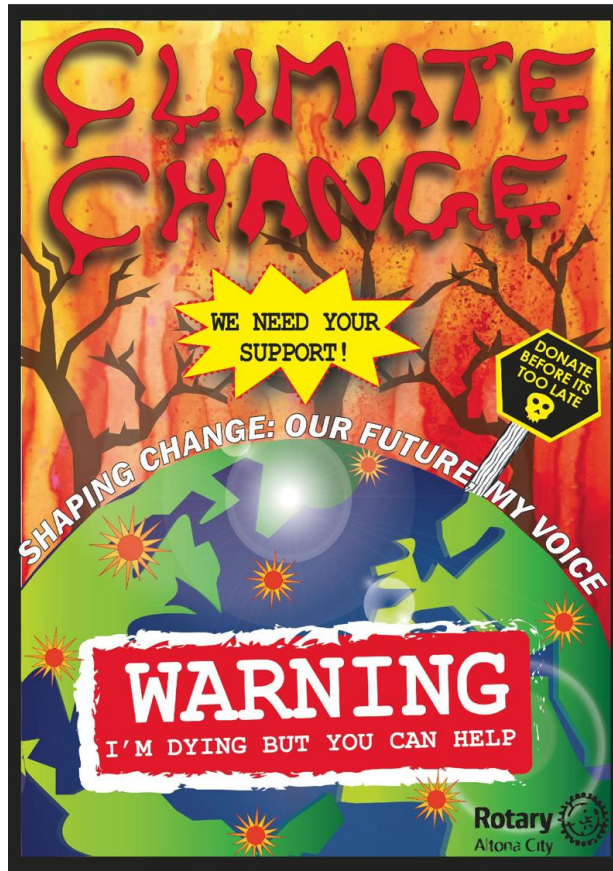
2026 Commended

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Theme: "Shaping Change: Our Future, My Voice"

2026 Commended



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Student's Notes



Rotary Online Poster Competition: 2026 Entry Form
Theme: "Shaping Change: Our Future, My Voice"

Describe your poster goals in 50-100 words.

My poster goal is that our planet is hurting. Climate change is causing animals to lose their homes, ice to melt, and nature to struggle. If we don't act now, future generations will inherit a world that is harder to live in. Small changes can make a big difference in protecting the place we all call home.

Describe whether, and how, you used AI.

NO



Theme: *“Shaping Change: Our Future, My Voice”*

2026 Commended

A Judge's comments:

- Congratulations on creating a very distinctive and memorable image on your poster. The text also works well, but perhaps a secondary support line such as “Don’t let our wildlife float away” or similar would have added some more punch to the communication. The image is striking and would make viewers stop and think about how they deal with their domestic/industrial waste. Well done with your approach here.
- A “call to action” is often found on posters that help interested people do more/connect with an organisation to change their (or their family’s or workplace’s) behaviour.
- A line such as “Learn more about how to recycle and deal with your waste at home. Visit the Australian Conservation Foundation www.acf.org” would have made your striking poster work even more effectively.
- Nice work- I was really impressed with your visual.

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Theme: *“Shaping Change: Our Future, My Voice”*

2026 Commended



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Student's Notes



Rotary Online Poster Competition: 2026 Entry Form
Theme: *“Shaping Change: Our Future, My Voice”*

Describe your poster goals in 50-100 words.

My artwork shows a polar bear battling against environmental damage caused by human actions. The polar bear represents the animals that are struggling to survive as their habitats are destroyed by climate change, pollution, and melting ice. The battle scene symbolises the ongoing fight between nature and destruction.

Describe whether, and how, you used AI.

(no ai was used for my poster)

Theme: “Shaping Change: Our Future, My Voice”

2026 Commended

A Judge’s comments:

- Beautiful hand drawing to cultivate a clear idea and information.

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Theme: “Shaping Change: Our Future, My Voice”

2026 Commended



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Student's Notes



Rotary Online Poster Competition: 2026 Entry Form

Theme: “Shaping Change: Our Future, My Voice”

Describe your poster goals in 50-100 words.

The goal I aim to achieve through this poster I created is to bring awareness towards the negative impact fossil fuels have on the planet and its significant contribution to global warming. I also want to highlight an action that can be started today to reduce the amount of fossil fuels being burnt everyday, which is by switching to renewable energy for everyday appliances. Once a majority of households around the world start using renewable energy, a large amount of fossil fuel being used can be reduced and therefore decrease the warming of our planet as well.

Describe whether, and how, you used AI.



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