



**ECOTOPIA**  
Conserve to preserve



**JAMNABAI NARSEE**  
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



*schools as a catalyst for change*



# About Us

We'd like to start a conversation among different schools, students and environmentalists with the goal of envisioning schools as catalysts for change to work towards sustainability.

The 1st Ecotopia Summit, "**H.O.P.E. 2021 - Heal Our Planet Earth,**" will take place on **Saturday, December 18, 2021 at 11 AM IST.**

Schools and individuals from all around the city, country, and beyond are invited to participate in an exchange of ideas to promote the concept of 'green schools'.

H.O.P.E. 2021 will include eminent keynote speeches, engaging panel discussions, and events focused on reimagining schools as engines for a sustainable future.

We're eagerly awaiting this summit and look forward to collaborating with you towards a greener future

~Team Ecotopia



# *Pictures for Progress*

## **ABOUT THE EVENT:**

A picture speaks a thousand words. A 'photo essay' is a series of photographs that tell a story. We hope that with this event we stretch our visual imagination and creative limits to explore new and novel ways to connect and engage with people and the environment.

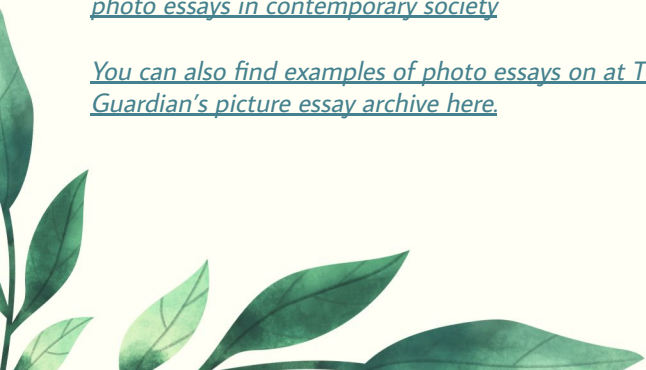
We look forward to seeing you explore the art of storytelling through photographs.

## **Some helpful resources:**

[\*A guide to approaching photo essays by Format\*](#)

[\*This article by TIME Magazine outlines the impact of photo essays in contemporary society\*](#)

[\*You can also find examples of photo essays on at The Guardian's picture essay archive here.\*](#)






# *Pictures for Progress*

## **PROMPT:**

Participants should adopt a **solution oriented approach** to explore **one** of the following themes and centre their work around the same. The photo essay should be a collection of upto of 20 photos and all captions, and descriptions combined should be no more than 1500 words

## **Themes:**

1. **Overconsumption** [explore how human overconsumption is unnecessary, excessive and leads to waste- solutions and/or sensitisation]
  2. **Sustainability** [track the status quo of an industry and imagine this industry in a ecotopian future]
  3. **Interaction between humans and biodiversity** [look at minute interactions between humans and nature, for example, mosquitoes in your room or plant growing out of a building]
  4. **Global Citizenship** towards collective climate action [focus on collaborative efforts towards reducing carbon footprints- approach from any of various lenses of schools, industries and governments]
  5. **Food Waste** [ways to prevent or sensitisation about]
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# *Pictures for Progress*

## **Rubrics**

Participants can expect adjudicators to consider their photo essays on the basis of originality in perspective, concept, interpretation and visual aesthetic. **You can find a detailed rubric [here](#).**

## **Participation**

Participants can be upto 18 years old and will be categorised as either Below 10, 10-12, 12-14, 14-16 or 16-18





# *The Zany Zines Corner*

## **ABOUT THE EVENT:**

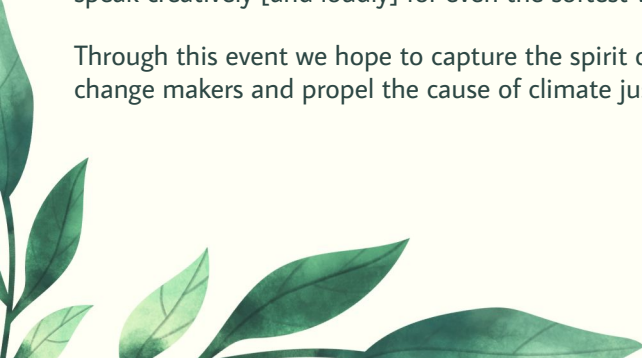
Zines are informal publications that have historically played an integral role in sensitisation and driving change.

Sometimes, zines can be a little hard to define- but that's what makes them great: they're a glorious mash-up of art, stories and emotion- much like the themes they seek to explore!

They're a powerful outlet for content considered to be too niche or outside of the mainstream, in terms of more traditional/commercial forms of publication.

Their small, simple format belies their unique ability to speak creatively [and loudly] for even the softest voices.

Through this event we hope to capture the spirit of change makers and propel the cause of climate justice.



# The Zany Zines Corner

AGE	PROMPTS
Below 10	Poster: Public Announcement/ <b>Call to Action</b> , for eg: Don't Litter/ Recycle
10-12	Poster as an Informational Guide for schools or communities you live in, eg: Wet Waste vs Dry Waste, Water Conservation, Composting, Reduce Plastic Use, etc
12-14	Informational Zine that contextualises and explains the significance of their topic, eg: Why and How should one Recycle?
14-16 & 16- 18	Call for Mobilization around any <b>ONE</b> environmental concern by presenting a problem statement, explaining the causes and <b>IMPACT</b> of the concern, and providing alternative/conscious ways to solve the problem. . Suggested topics: Fast Fashion, Food Waste, EcoAgriculture, Industries and the Environment, Disposal Systems such as global landfills



# *The Zany Zines Corner*

## OTHER GUIDELINES:

All posters and zines must be submitted as PDFs.

The zines **must follow a folio format**.

*[This publication by The Public is an excellent introduction to zines. Click here to read it.](#)*

We'd like to encourage you to use a variety of mediums. You have the creative freedom to make these posters/ zines on paper, digitally or even use a hybrid of both!

Please remember to include your name, date of publication and other relevant information.

## **Rubrics:**

Participants can expect adjudicators to consider their zines and posters on the basis of originality in perspective, ability to persuade the reader and visual aesthetic. **You can find a detailed rubric by [clicking here](#).**

## **Participation**

Participants can be upto 18 years old and will be categorised as either Below 10, 10-12, 12-14, 14-16 or 16-18





# *Essays*

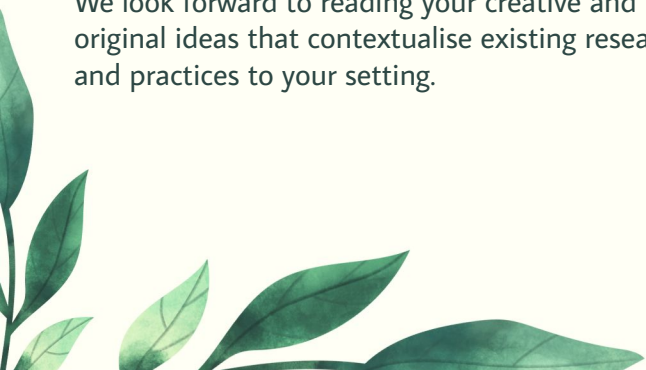
## **ABOUT THE EVENT:**

Writing as a device to spread awareness and bring about change has an impactful and effective technique to employ.

H.O.P.E. 2021 prompts are sure to challenge your grey cells and give the readers some very thought provoking ideas to ponder upon.

We encourage you delve into environmentalism and explore amelioration practices from around the world and contextualise them to your prompt.

We look forward to reading your creative and original ideas that contextualise existing research and practices to your setting.



# Essay

AGE

PROMPTS

Below 10	Why is the environment important to you and what should your local community do/ what has it done to be more eco friendly? [collection of ideas to implement] <i>Word Limit: 500 words</i>
10-12	Describe what a <u>sustainable and eco conscious utopia</u> looks like to you. How can we achieve this? You can include existing practices! <i>Word Limit: 500 words</i>
12-14	How can schools/ localities propell the cause of and be starting points for sustainability movements and what have they done? <i>Word Limit: 1000 words</i>
14-16	How should societies switch to sustainable renewable energy based economies? <i>Word Limit: 1000 words</i>
16-18	How can we strengthen institutions to extend environmental rights and make environmentally conscious governance a norm? <i>Word Limit: 1500 words</i>



## *Policy Dialogue*

Policy Dialogues are deliberative conferences where stakeholders can discuss complex aspects of an issue in an organised form. Policy Dialogues seek to exchange ideas to form a consensus on policy recommendations.

The objective of the policy dialogue will be to come up with recommendations for policy changes for making schools sustainable:

- **Theme 1:** *“Mapping future obstacles: Reimagining Energy and Transport in a Carbon-Neutral Future”*
- **Theme 2:** *“Discussing the True Oceanic Crisis: Scrutinizing Pollution Caused by the Fishing Industry”*



# *Policy Dialogue*

## **OTHER GUIDELINES:**

This will be a simulation workshop where participants will represent some of the key parts of school ecosystem.

You have to come up with challenges and solutions to address the theme areas. You will be assigned the theme, one stakeholder relating to the topic, and a point of view to match it before the event.

Even before the event day, you will get a chance to first network with others with the same theme and point of view to start developing strategies for driving discussions on the event day.

*\* Only 30 participants will be participating in the event, and entries will be on a **first-come-first-serve basis**.*

*For information on grading, [click here](#) for the rubric.*



## *Rhythm n' Rhymes*

Poetry conveys one's thoughts and reveals beautiful scenes, stories, and fictions, in a lyrical and rhythmic arrangement of words.

Poems can be both structured, filled with rhymes, rhythms, and a set meter, and be freeform, following no formal structure.

Poetry is an outlet to spark change, a powerful method of communication, tending to be short and rousing that is easy to grasp for most people.

We hope this event brings forth the poet within you. Participants can express their emotions, and impact the audience to stimulate a change for sustainability, and Heal Our Planet Earth!

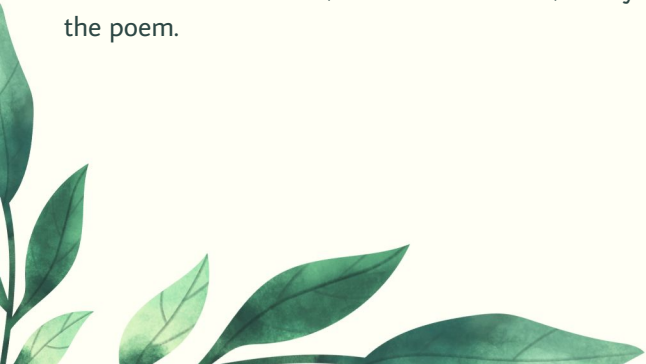


## Rhythm n' Rhymes

AGE	PROMPTS
Below 10	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Write a <i>free verse</i> on the causes and effects of global warming</li><li>2. Write a <i>rhymed verse</i> on nature and the need to preserve it</li></ol>
10-12	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Write a <i>haiku</i> describing a completely sustainable Earth</li><li>2. Write an <i>ode</i> to the environment</li></ol>

### Rubrics:

Participants can expect adjudicators to consider their poems on the basis of originality in perspective, relevance to the theme, coherence of ideas, clarity of the poem.





# *Rhythm n' Rhymes*

## **OTHER GUIDELINES:**

All submissions must be submitted as PDF Documents with no formatting (with the exception of bold, italics, underlines and text alignment). The poem must follow the specified type (given above in italic with the topics). Submissions may be written, but it is not recommended (Written submissions must be on a white sheet of paper with blue/black ink for legibility.)

We encourage conducting research and ideating for the poem, but do not condone plagiarism. Work submitted must be original and created only by the participant.

## **Rubrics:**

Participants can expect adjudicators to consider their poems on the basis of originality in perspective, relevance to the theme, coherence of ideas, clarity of the poem.



# *Sustainable Innovations*

The minds of students and children are some of the most creative and diverse sources of ideas and solutions.

These thoughts and ideas can be channeled to create and innovate solutions that can be applied in real life, and help rebuild a sustainable planet earth.

Innovations can be both small and big, the only defining criteria being it's potential to bring forth change.

Through this event, we hope that each participant unleashes their inner innovators and can present a unique and feasible solutions to environmental issues, in order to initiate concrete change to Heal Our Planet Earth!





# Sustainable Innovations

AGE

PROMPT

12-14

14-16

16-18

Students will submit any Sustainable Innovation of their choosing, and no theme will be specified.

The submissions will be in the form of a product proposal presentation, with details of the idea, implementation (if applicable), merits and demerits of the product, and pictures / schematics of the product.

If possible a physical prototype would also be looked upon favourably (although no points would be deducted for the same), however, a design in form of a CAD design will also be accepted

## Rubrics:

Participants can expect adjudicators to consider their submissions based on: impact of product, written communication via the presentation, thoroughness of background research and aesthetic of the presentation.

*You can learn more by [clicking here](#).*



## *EcoTrivia*

EcoTrivia is a quiz to test your spontaneous knowledge about the environment. Fast thinking, agility and your command over the subject form the best recipe for acing both rounds of this event. Knowing as much as you can about the Earth, Environment and the Climate Crisis will take you to the pinnacle of the EcoTrivia.

EcoTrivia will take place on December 18, 2021. We encourage you to read, learn and discover the themes of Environmentalism, Sustainability, Green Living, Biodiversity and more!

Ages below 10 and 10-12 are eligible to participate.

The quiz will take place through Kahoot.





# *A Call for Lesson Plans*

We firmly believe that education is the first step towards collective action for climate mitigation. With this in mind, we'd like you to submit lesson plans that teach environment consciousness. Select plans will be featured in a first-of-its-kind published emagazine.

***Participation is open to everyone from students, teachers and anyone else passionate about educating and the environment)***

We recommend including the following:

- Abstract and Key terms
- A brief description of the lesson objectives
- A statement on why your plan is unique and what differentiates it
- Time required to conduct the lesson
- Recommended age group
- A detailed lesson plan
- Interactive activities to reinforce teaching
- Resources such as powerpoints/ handouts if any
- Further extensions to the lesson
- Additional readings
- Reflections, learnings and other media from class (if the lesson has been conducted before)

*You can [click here](#) to submit your lesson plan*



# *Mission and Vision:*

## **Vision Statement:**

We, The Zero Hero:

*This primarily means that we must work towards making our schools eco-friendly in every possible manner. This can be done by trying to aim at emitting zero carbon emission.*

## **Mission Statement:**

“To create a survivable and balanced ecosystem.”

*You can learn more about our organisation through the Ecotopia charter found [here](#)*

## Events and Participating Age Groups

Below is a chart with events and the age groups eligible to participate for convenient reference.

Event	Below 10	10-12	12-14	14-16	16-18
Pictures for Progress	YES				
Zany Zines	Posters		Zines		
Essays	YES				
Policy Dialogue	NO			YES	
Rhythms & Rhymes	YES		NO		
Sustainable Innovations	NO	YES			
EcoTrivia	YES		NO		



# Registration

## **AGE GROUPS:**

| Below 10 | 10-12 | 12-14 | 14-16 | 16-18 |

## **PARTICIPATION:**

**Schools** can send one participant per event in each age group

**Individuals** can participate in upto 3 events

The last date to register is November 15, 2021.

*[Click here to register for H.O.P.E.. 2021!](#)*

You can reach out to us at [ecotopia@jnis.ac.in](mailto:ecotopia@jnis.ac.in)



## *Submissions*

All submissions must be submitted as PDFs. Submissions may be written, but it is ***not recommended*** (Written submissions must be on a white sheet of paper with blue/black ink for legibility), this does not apply to zines and posters.

We encourage conducting research and ideating for the prompts, but do not condone plagiarism. Work submitted must be original and created only by the participant. Any plagiarism detected will lead to disqualification.

While citing and referencing other work, participants may use the MLA 8 format.

Please remember to add your name and date on all submissions.

You can [click here](#) to find the rubrics to all events.

The last date of submission is  
November 10, 2021.

[\*Click Here to Submit your Entries!\*](#)



## References

Alsham, Dana Shalab. "An Introduction to Zines." The Public, The Public Studio, [Accessible here](#).

Bicker, Phil. "How Photographers Are Changing the Definition of the Photo Essay." Time, Time, 1 Jan. 2015, [Accessible here](#).

Brown, Alex G. "What Makes a Photo Essay Unforgettable?" Advice for an Unforgettable Photo Essay, Format, 5 Mar. 2018, [Accessible here](#).

"The Guardian Picture Essay | Art and Design." The Guardian, Guardian News and Media, [Accessible here](#).



