Welcome to the Stop It Before It Starts Art Competition

#stopitbeforeitstarts

Entries are open for 9 months to promote intervening acts of kindness that reduce or prevent violence in our homes and communities of any kind.

Your participation is incredibly important, and we want to work with you to support your creative future. Your IP will remain yours, but we will hold a licence to continue to showcase your amazing work and promote our campaign goal. We know that violence prevention starts with all of us. You can show us all how it's done.

Together we will promote everyday humble acts of kindness that make real differences to how we work, live, and get along with each other, our pets and our natural world.

The only thing that is off-limits is the description or depiction of violence itself.

Be clever about what you need to say and the way you say it. Violence prevention promotes hope and kindness. Your task is to turn the narrative to what is possible.

How to enter:

a) Review the stimulus material on www.violencepreventionaustralia.com/projects
b) Create an original artwork (e.g., photo, video, painting, animation, written text, etc.) that depicts any type of intervention to prevent an act of, or escalation of an act of violence.
c) There is no creative limit to the setting (i.e. workplace, home, public area) or type of violence you prevent (i.e. domestic or intimate partner, sexual financial abuse, coercive control).
d) Texts or images will depict interventions or strategies to de-escalate any of the 6 factors of violence (i.e. frustration, desperation, prejudice, trigger, place, or isolation) to improve the health and wellbeing of people/s, animals, or others. Use the C-10 model provided for ideas.
e) Entrants post their submission to Instagram using the hashtag #StopItBeforeItStarts and @ViolencePreventionAustralia and complete the online Entrant form.
f) Entrants that do not submit the online entrance form work will not be judged.

Read our full terms and conditions.

By entering the Competition, an Entrant is indicating his/her/their agreement to be bound by these terms and conditions.

Terms and Conditions

1. The promoter is Violence Prevention Australia Inc., [hereon VPA], ABN 46 625 566 234.
2. These terms and conditions relate to the 'Stop It Before It Starts' Art Competition [hereon 'the Competition' administered by VPA, and is open to residents of Australia and overseas, aged 18 years and over with the exception of anyone otherwise connected with the organisation or judging of the competition.

3. VPA shall have the right, at its sole discretion and at any time, to change or modify these terms and conditions, such change shall be effective immediately upon posting to this webpage.
4. Entry for the Competition and details of how to enter are via www.violencepreventionaustralia.com/projects
5. The social media platform is Instagram.
6. The Entrant must be following @ViolencePreventionAustralia on Instagram in order to enter.
7. Multiple entries from the same person will be accepted, and all entries will remain eligible throughout all rounds of the competition.
8. The competition will run between 1 November 2026 and 31 July 2027. After this date no further entries to the competition will be accepted.
9. VPA reserves the right to cancel or amend the competition and these terms and conditions without notice in the event of a catastrophe, war, civil or military disturbance, act of God, or any actual or anticipated breach of any applicable law or regulation or any other event outside of VPA's control. Any changes to the competition will be notified to Entrants as soon as possible by VPA via Instagram and this website.
10. VPA is not responsible for inaccurate prize details supplied to any Entrant by any third party.
11. No responsibility can be accepted for entries not received for whatever reason.
12. Winners will be chosen by a panel of judges appointed by the VPA.
13. The VPA appointed panel of judges will judge the competition and select up to 3 winners each round from the eligible category/ies every three months and once for the Community Mural category.
14. The VPA Judging panel will meet three times over the course of the project, at three-monthly intervals and once for the Community Mural category. The panel will announce and award prizes in the following categories to:
    - Pictorial Artwork
    - Written narrative
    - Video, Meme, Animation or Music
    - Community Mural (new for 2026–2027)
15. Each prize winner will receive a cash reward of $250.
16. All winning entrants will go into a final prize pool. One artwork will be selected by 'peoples' choice'. The winner will receive $500.
17. The Community Mural category winner will receive a one-off $1000 prize. The Community Mural is not eligible for the People's Choice award.
18. One artwork from the Pictorial Artwork category may be selected by the judges to be feature on a Dangerous Females Limited Edition T-shirt, from August 2027 at a timing of Dangerous Females choice for 3 months.
    - Dangerous Females are not obligated to use any artwork entered into the competition.
    - Dangerous Females are not obligated to use a category or stage winner.
    - In the event an entry is selected by the judges, the judge's decision is final.
    - In the event an entry is selected by the judges, the artist will be notified by DM/email requesting permission for the work to be used for this purpose.
    - Artists have the right to decline.
    - Dangerous Females will credit the creator in accordance with Dangerous Female's established protocols.
    - No payment for use of the artists' work will be made to the artist. All proceeds from the sale of the T-shirt will go to Dangerous Females for distribution to charities and causes of their choice.

19. VPA's decision as to those able to take part and the selection of winners is final. No correspondence relating to the competition will be entered into.
20. The prize is as stated, and no other alternatives will be offered. The prizes are not transferable. Prizes are subject to availability, and we reserve the right to substitute any prize with another of equivalent value without giving notice.
21. Judges will consider the artist's interpretation of the stimulus material provided and adherence to the competition instructions.
22. All submissions must be original creations. Proof of creation may be requested if the VPA suspects work to be AI generated in part or entirety.
23. Submissions that depict, promote, or condone acts of violence of any type against any person, animal, or nature will not be considered for judging.
24. Entrants must not name any individual or make accusation of any kind against an individual regarding the perpetration, assault, or infringement of another's rights, without the express and written permission of individuals to be named in the Entrant's work of art. The Entrant is solely responsible for gaining and maintaining written, or verbal, informed consent.
25. No person under 18 years of age can be identifiable in any entry.
26. VPA, reserves the right to notify Australian law enforcement officials if a submission depicts details of the perpetration (historical or threatened) of a reportable crime.
27. The winner will be notified by email/DM within 14 days of the announcement by judges and by Instagram post.
28. If the winner cannot be contacted or does not claim the prize within 28 days from notification, we reserve the right to withdraw the prize from the winner and pick a replacement winner.
29. The prize will be paid to the winner by direct deposit into the Entrant's nominated account, to be supplied to VPA upon acceptance of the award.
30. By entering the Competition with an original artwork (e.g., photo, video, text, etc.), Entrants understand and agree that:
    - The Entrant retains ownership of the IP of the work and grant VPA an unlimited and non-exclusive licence to display, reproduce, or promote the work and the Entrant for the purposes of the Competition and any subsidiary events associated with and resulting from this Competition;
    - VPA, and anyone else acting on behalf of VPA, shall have the right, where permitted by law, to print, publish, broadcast, distribute, and use in any media now known or hereafter developed, in perpetuity and throughout the world, without limitation, the Entrant's entry, and/or name, portrait, picture, voice, likeness, image, statements about the Competition biographical information for news, publicity, information, trade, advertising, public relations, and promotional purposes without any further compensation, notices, review, or consent.
    - The Entrant's moral rights are respected and as such Entrants' rights to be attributed as the author of the work and the right to object to any derogatory treatment of the work by VPA, will be upheld.
    - In the absence of specific instruction, the artist Entrants work will be attributed on any reproduction as [Christian name, Surname, TITLE of artwork].
31. By applying for the Competition, Entrants represent and warrant that the entry is an original work of authorship and does not violate any third party's proprietary or intellectual property rights. If an entry of artwork infringes upon the intellectual property right of another, the Entrant will be disqualified at the sole discretion of VPA.

32. If the content of the entry is claimed to constitute an infringement of any proprietary or intellectual proprietary rights of any third party, the Entrant shall, at his/her/their sole expense, defend or settle against such claims. The Entrant shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless VPA, from and against any suit, proceeding, claims, liability, loss, damage, costs, or expense, which VPA, may incur, suffer, or be required to pay to arise out of such infringement or suspected infringement of any third party's right.
33. To the maximum extent permitted by law, Entrants indemnify and agree to keep indemnified VPA at all times from and against any liability, claims, demands, losses, damages, costs, and expenses resulting from any act, default, or omission of the Entrant and/or a breach of any warranty set forth herein.
34. To the maximum extent permitted by law, Entrants agree to defend, indemnify, and hold VPA, harmless from and against any and all claims, actions, suits or proceedings, as well as any and all losses, liabilities, damages, costs and expenses (including legal fees) arising out of or accruing from:
    - any submission, statements or other material uploaded or otherwise provided by the Entrant that infringes any copyright, trademark, trade secret, trade dress, patent or other intellectual property right of any person or defames any person or violates their rights of publicity or privacy;
    - any misrepresentation made by Entrant in connection with the Competition;
    - any non-compliance by Entrant with these Terms and Conditions;
    - claims brought by persons or entities other than the parties to these Terms and Conditions arising from or related to Entrant's involvement with the Competition;
    - acceptance, possession, misuse or use of any prize or participation in any Art Competition-related activity or participation in the Competition;
    - any malfunction or other problem with the Violence Prevention Australia website in relation to the entry and participation in the Competition by Entrant;
    - any error in the collection, processing, or retention of entry or voting information in relation to the entry and participation in the Competition by Entrant and in the judging process.
35. VPA's decision in respect of all matters to do with the competition will be final and no correspondence will be entered into.
36. Collected information: email addresses, phone numbers, will not be published.
37. A name, alias, Instagram handle, title, description and digital representation of the artwork, will be published unless requests are made for non-disclosure.