



# 2024

## MARIO CALANNA PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION



The Business Liaison Association in conjunction with Cairns State High School aims to develop proficiency in 21<sup>st</sup> century skills and provide students with the opportunity to meet with representatives from various sectors.

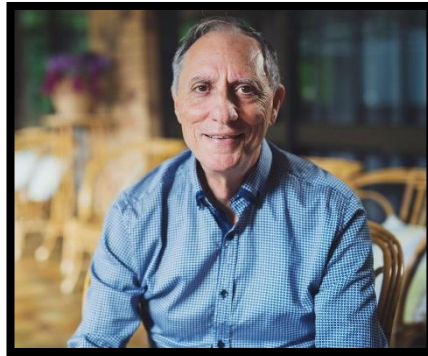
The award is open to all students from Year 7 through to Year 12 in the Far North Region.



**mario**calanna

### PRIZE / BURSARY

First place	- \$200.00
Second place	- \$150.00
Third place	- \$100.00



*“Mario Calanna was a well-known and well-respected pharmacist who founded Calanna Pharmacy Group - a chain of pharmacies in north and south-east Queensland. Mario’s father immigrated from Italy and bought a sugar cane farm in Woree, Cairns where Mario was born and raised. From a young age Mario was always involved in a number of community service groups and clubs with a particular focus on public speaking and debating.*

*The Calanna Junior Speaking Competition was founded by Mario in 1978 – a competition that has seen thousands of young students participate and compete in public speaking and debating. Mario believed strongly that confidence and good self-esteem were critical to develop in our youth and good communities and public speaking was a really practical way of initiating the development of those building blocks from a young age. Mario himself was a decorated public speaker, having won many regional speaking and debating titles, culminating in him winning the Jaycees National Oratory event the Geoff M King Contest in 1989. In 2004 he was named Cairns Regional Council’s Volunteer of the Year. In 2006 he was the Queensland Australian Institute of Management’s Owner–Manager of the Year. In 2017 Mario was the inaugural Legacy Winner of the Cairns Chamber of Commerce Business Excellence Awards and in 2022 became a life Member of the Pharmacy Guild of Australia.*

*Mario’s main passion and quest in life was the belief that everyone is born for a Purpose, that we are each born to be great and to leave a Legacy of Significance. We honour Mario and his legacy today with the Mario Calanna Public Speaking Competition”.*

## Critical Information

### **Registrations**

**Close:** 31<sup>st</sup> July 2024

**Date:** 4<sup>th</sup> October 2024

**Time:** 9.00am-11.00am

**Venue:** Crosswell Hall, Cairns State High School

**Purpose:** To provide the opportunity for students from regional schools to share musings, develop their public speaking prowess and meet inspirational individuals.

**Aim:** Mario Calanna Public Speaking Competition – *Navigating our Narratives*, aims to develop proficiency in 21st century skills refine public speaking prowess.

**Catering:** Students are encouraged to use the school tuckshop or bring their lunch.

### **Placement**

**Notification:** Final placements will be announced officially in November. However, the three finalists in each category will be announced on the 4<sup>th</sup> of October.

**Transport:** Schools are responsible for the organisation of transport to Cairns State High School.

**Co-Ordinator:** Patrice Honnef

**Email:** Phonn1@eq.edu.au

## CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

**Two** school delegates from each category are invited to attend this event and have the opportunity to deliver a prepared speech on **one** of the topics listed. Public speaking adjudicators will be in attendance and all schools will receive the marking guide that will be used by judges. Please adhere to **age** categories and **time** limits. Please be advised that there will **not** be individual feedback from adjudicators after the day of competition. All qualified judges are volunteers, and this competition follows the same standards of practice as Rostrum Voice of Youth and Lions Youth of the Year. Therefore, please remind students not to contact the BLA for this information.

## SPEECH TOPICS AND CATEGORIES

### Senior School (Year 11 and 12 students) – 6 minutes

- *A change worth making*
- *Voice for the voiceless*
- *The lives of great people are like legends – difficult but beautiful*
- *A path worth taking*
- *We are such stuff as dreams are made of*

### Middle School (Year 9 and 10 students) – 5 minutes

- *A gift that keeps giving*
- *Behind the lens*
- *The person in the arena*
- *Lottery of life*
- *All the world's a stage*

### Junior School (Year 7 and 8 students) – 4 minutes

- *Pay it forward*
- *A phenomenal event*
- *An inspirational person*
- *Children are not the people of tomorrow, but are people of today*
- *To thine own self be true*

## APPLICATION FEES

An application fee of \$88 (GST inc), which will cover administration costs. Only one fee per school irrelevant of the number of entries sent. Schools will be invoiced following receipt of application.

**Registration Fee is non-refundable.**

## **PAYMENT OPTIONS**

### **Cheque**

Business Liaison Association  
PO Box 7371  
Cairns 4870

### **Direct Deposit**

BSB 633 000  
Account 120970611  
Reference Mario Calanna Public Speaking Competition – (School name)

## **Awards Presentation Event**

A Presentation Function will be held for the winning students **at the Pullman Cairns International Hotel. This event is invite only.**

Date 28<sup>th</sup> November 2024  
Time 4:45pm – 7:30pm

Award recipients are required to attend the Presentation Evening and are to wear Formal School Uniform.

## **CONDITIONS OF ENTRY**

The Business Liaison Association (BLA) encourages its recipients of awards, prizes, gifts or bursaries to promote their achievements on social media/media and positively attribute the support provided by the BLA.

Any negative, defamatory, or slanderous comments regarding the BLA, its programs or sponsors will result in a cancellation of awards, prizes, gifts, or bursaries.



### **Photographic Consent**

Unless expressly advised otherwise, the Business Liaison Association is authorised pursuant to your school's specific photography consent policies to use any photographs, videos or other images obtained as part of the Business Liaison Association's event, competition, presentation to which this correspondence pertains, for the purposes of promotion of the organisation, it's events and award programs. Such promotions to include but not be limited to publications, flyers, advertising, sponsorship collateral, website and internet exposure and promotion including use on social media in the foreseeable future.