2026 Mount Alexander Shire Youth Awards
Nomination Form

Mount Alexander Shire Council

The 2026 Mount Alexander Youth Awards celebrate and acknowledge the accomplishments of young people in the shire by:

- Recognising the diverse range of personal and community achievements of local young people
- Encouraging young people in their chosen interests
- Providing role models for other young people

The awards are open to anyone aged between 12 and 25 who live, work, study or play in Mount Alexander Shire by recognising the diverse range of personal and community achievements of local young people through five different award categories.

Nomination process

To nominate a young person for the 2026 Mount Alexander Shire Youth Awards simply complete the following nomination form with as much information as possible that is relevant to the award category criteria.

Responses can be hand written or typed and can include supporting material such as samples of work, awards, newspaper articles. All original copies of supporting material will be returned upon request.

Completed nomination forms can be submitted by:

Post	- Confidential - Youth Development team Mount Alexander Shire Council PO Box 185, Castlemaine VIC 3450
Email	youth@mountalexander.vic.gov.au
In person	Mount Alexander Shire Council Civic Centre, Cnr Lyttleton and Lloyd Streets, Castlemaine

For more information about the awards, or the nomination process, please contact our Youth Development team on 5471 1700. **Note: Nominations close at 11:59pm on Monday 2 November 2026.**

Category Summary

Please read thoroughly. The following criteria will be considered when selecting the winner of each category.

Social Impact Award: **Young person making a positive and meaningful impact on the people around them**	⊕ Made a significant contribution to their community through volunteering, advocacy, caring, events or activities, assisting others in need or holding positions of leadership in committees or groups. ⊕ Nominations may be for an individual or a group of young people. ⊕ Volunteering or caring activities may have occurred within or outside the shire and could include volunteering overseas.
Industry Award: **Young person making a positive and meaningful contribution to an industry or workplace**	⊕ May be a student, an apprentice or employee. ⊕ Outstanding personal achievement within their education or in their traineeship or apprenticeship or employment. ⊕ Effort and commitment to excelling in their field. ⊕ Excellent contribution to their field through leadership.
Music & the Arts Award: **Young person making a positive and meaningful contribution to Music and the Arts**	⊕ Significant participation and leadership in the visual arts[1] and or in the performing arts[2]. ⊕ Significant participation and leadership in the music industry. ⊕ Effort/ commitment and passion to excelling in their field. ⊕ Shared their talent with community through live performance, exhibitions/installations or workshops.
Sports & Recreation Award: **Young person making a positive and meaningful contribution to their club or sporting environment**	⊕ Outstanding commitment and teamwork. ⊕ Made a significant contribution to their sporting community (ie. refereeing, umpiring and coaching). ⊕ Effort/ commitment and passion to excelling in their field.
Environment Award: **Young person bringing a positive and meaningful voice to the issue of the environment**	⊕ Made a significant contribution to the environment through community activity and/or raising awareness to the community. ⊕ Has shown leadership in sustainable practice and/or campaigning for sustainable causes. ⊕ Effort and commitment to sustainability through study/ work in the field.

[1] Visual Arts are defined as "those activities that involve the transformation of materials as a form of personal expression. This includes two-dimensional activities such as paintings, drawing and printmaking; three dimensional activities such as sculpture and the wide range of craft mediums, and increasingly the use of computers to generate a range of digital art content" (*Mount Alexander Shire Council Arts Strategy 2011 – 2015*)

[2] Performing Arts are defined as "where the artist or artists use their own physicality and presence as expression. Some examples of this are theatre and opera, music, dance, reading and site specific performances/ installations" (*Mount Alexander Shire Council Arts Strategy 2011 – 2015*)

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All nominations must be submitted clearly on this form. If you wish to nominate a young person for more than one award category, please complete a separate nomination form for each category.

Nominee details

Name: _____ Age: _____

Pronouns: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Parent/Guardian (if under 18 years)

Parent/Guardian Phone: _____

Parent/Guardian Email: _____

Awards entry category: *(refer to Category Summary)*

- Social Impact ☐
- Industry ☐
- Music & Arts ☐
- Sports & Recreation ☐
- Environment ☐

Is this person aware that you have nominated them? Yes ☐ No ☐

Note: To be eligible for an award, the nominee must be aged 12 - 25 years and currently live, work, study or play in Mount Alexander Shire

Nominator details

Name: _____

Relation to nominee: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Date: _____ Signature: _____

Please address the selection criteria overleaf and attach with any additional documents to support this nomination

Nominations close at 11.59pm on Monday 2 November 2026

Nomination Details

Please outline how the nominee has shown leadership in their Award Category:

Make sure you address the criteria in the Category Summary on page 2.

Please provide as much detail as possible to help our judges assess your nomination.

If you run out of space, please attach extra pages with this form.

Additional documents may be attached to support this nomination (ie. newspaper articles, awards, samples of work)

Please list any other significant contributions and/or achievements of the nominee relevant to their Award Category (optional):

Make sure you address the criteria in the Category Summary.

If you run out of space, please attach extra pages with this form.

Additional documents may be attached to support this information (ie. newspaper articles, awards, samples of work)

Privacy information:
Information provided on the 2026 Mount Alexander Shire Youth Award nomination form will be treated as confidential and managed in accordance with Council's Information Privacy Policy. A judging panel will review the applications for the purposes of making a decision about Award recipients. A representative of the judging panel will approach parents / guardians of the successful award nominees (aged under 18 years) to obtain consent for the nominees to participate in the awards. Nominees must be made aware that their image and name may appear in local print media and/or Council correspondence.