



Media Release

ABC Heywire 2019 Competition launched

Young regional Australians – tell your story and change the world

Wednesday, 18 July, 2018

The ABC is calling on people aged 16-22 to share their experiences of life in regional Australia for the opportunity to be featured on the ABC and win a lifechanging trip to Canberra for the Heywire Regional Youth Summit in February 2019.

Anyone with a story to tell about life in their part of the country is encouraged to enter, with entries of any medium accepted, including text, video, audio and photo. The competition officially opens on 18 July, 2018.

The 40 winners will receive an all-expenses-paid trip to the Heywire Regional Youth Summit and will take part in workshops to help them realise their potential and give them a kickstart to help make life in regional Australia even better.

Past winners have used Heywire as a springboard to make positive change in the areas of agriculture, mental health, youth employment and drug education, just to name a few.

Director of ABC Regional and Local, Michael Mason, said the Heywire competition has been the start of big things for many entrants.

"For the past 20 years, Heywire has amplified the voices and ideas of young regional Australians. We are so proud to share their stories and help them unlock their potential."

Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources David Littleproud says Heywire proves that living outside of Australia's urban centres can open doors.

"Heywire is helping bright young people turn their ideas into reality," Mr Littleproud said.

"Currently 400 regional communities are benefitting from their innovation and I congratulate the over 11,000 youth who have submitted their stories."

Director of anti-racism program E-Raced and 2013 Heywire winner, Prudence Melom, says that Heywire allowed her to channel her passion into something that is making a real difference.

"Heywire...gave me the help I needed to channel my energy into a project that is helping thousands of young people around the country to embrace multiculturalism."

Now five years later my project is well established, I'm Toowoomba's Young Citizen of the year, living out my dreams and motivating other young people in regional and rural Australia to do the same. I wouldn't be where I am today without Heywire."

Get your entries in via the [Heywire website by 16 September 2018](#).

Heywire acknowledges the support of the Australian Government through the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources; the Department of Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities; the Department of Social Services; the Department of Health; and AgriFutures Australia.

For more information and to interview a Heywire Ambassador, please contact:

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