



2017 Omnicane Award

A Inter-College Project Competition

Call for Entries

1. The inter-college project competitionⁱ is organised by Omnicane Foundationⁱⁱ in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research.
2. The theme of the competition, this year, is: **“In the context of growing economic challenges and changing social landscape, should the welfare state in Mauritius be maintained, dismantled or adapted?”**
3. Teams participating in the competition are expected to produce a PowerPoint presentation to support a 15 minute oral presentation on the abovementioned theme and be prepared to make the oral presentation, should the team be shortlisted to do so by the Jury.
4. The competition is open to all registered colleges of the Republic of Mauritius but limited to pupils of Forms V and VI (or equivalent).
5. Each project shall be prepared by a team of FIVE students, one of whom shall be the Team Leader. Teams composed of more than, or less than, FIVE members will not be allowed to participate.
6. Projects should reflect the combined and joint effort of all five members of the respective teams. A college may enter more than one team but shall not enter more than FOUR (4) teams.
7. No student shall be allowed to be a member of more than one team.
8. With the objective of promoting a paperless competition, all projects shall be **exclusively** submitted online.
9. Each team shall submit the following five (5) files to be prepared in English:
 - a. A 15 minute long presentation on the theme of the competition in Microsoft PowerPoint format. (Maximum size: 8 MB)
 - b. A copy of the PowerPoint presentation in PDF format. (Maximum size: 1 MB)
 - c. An abstract, in pdf format, of the team’s key findings, proposals and recommendations. The abstract should be between 750 and 1 000 words in length. (Maximum size: 1 MB)
 - d. A WORK DIARY, in pdf format. The Work Diary shall describe the work strategy of the team and list all visits and interviews with dates in chronological order together with an indication of what was gained at therefrom. Any support or facilitation provided by a member of the college staff with regard to interviews and visits shall be mentioned in the Work Diary. (Maximum size: 1 MB)
 - e. A cover letter, in pdf format, signed by the Rector/Principal to endorse the project. (Maximum size: 1 MB)

Registered Office

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Business Reg No: C07000386
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10. Indications concerning the PowerPoint slide show:
 - There shall be a minimum of 20 slides and a maximum of 30 slides, inclusive of the opening slide as well as of those used for photographs, graphics, videos, etc.;
 - The opening slide shall include the Project Title, the College name and the names of the five participants, the name of the Project Leader being first on the list;
 - The slides shall be properly numbered; and
 - The font-size of texts on slides shall be at least 24 points.
11. The PowerPoint slide show may include a maximum of two (2) videos. Each video shall not be longer than 30 seconds. Students are advised not to embed the videos in their PowerPoint slide show in order not to increase the size of the PPT file beyond the limits specified in 8a. above. Instead, videos may be uploaded on YouTube as hidden files, so that they may not be accessed publicly, and appropriate links included on the PPT slides.
12. On the basis of the projects entered by the participants, the jury will decide which teams should be invited to make an oral presentation of their project on the theme of the competition while using Microsoft PowerPoint facilities.
13. Each short-listed team will be invited to make an oral presentation of its project in the presence of the jury.
14. The results of the project competition will be announced during the prize-giving ceremony, to be organised during the month of September 2017.

The winning team will be expected to make the oral presentation of their project at the end of the prize-giving ceremony.
15. Marks will be allotted on the following basis to short-list the best teams:
 - a. Scope and methodology of research work involved (based on work diary and contents of Abstract and PowerPoint slide show) 25
 - b. PowerPoint slides (restitution of main ideas, organisation of sections, and visual characteristics of graphs and illustrations) 25
 - c. Understanding of issues posed, project approach and informative & practical value of comments and proposals (based on quality of contents, flow of ideas and innovative features) 50
16. The short-listed teams will be marked for their oral presentation. Marks will be attributed for:
 - a. Presentation and communication skills, including presence and articulation;
 - b. Visual support, including content of slides and their relevance;
 - c. Key findings;
 - d. Proposals and recommendations.
17. The decision of the jury shall be final and shall not be contested and/or changed.
18. Participants are allowed to interview people and to collect information for the preparation of their project but they should not in any way be helped in its planning, drafting and presentation. They will lose marks, or be disqualified, if, in the opinion of the jury, they have received undue assistance from their teachers or from outsiders.

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19. The Jury will be composed of:

- Mrs Danielle T. Y. Wong, CSK – Chairperson, Disabled People’s International (DPI) Mauritius – Jury Chairperson
- Mrs Josie Lapierre – Managing Director B&M FOCUS LTD.
- Mr Azad Jeetun – Director, Excellence Learning

20. Prizes offered by Omnicanne Foundation will be as follows:

First prize:

- To the college winning the competition: The Omnicanne Challenge Trophy.
- To the pupils forming part of the winning team: A total cash prize of Rs 100 000 (i.e. Rs 20 000 to each member of the team).

Second prize:

- A total cash prize of Rs 40 000 (i.e. Rs 8 000 to each pupil forming part of the team).

Special prizes

- May be offered on recommendation of the Jury.

21. Members of all participating teams will receive a Certificate of Participation.

22. All projects including the endorsement letter (in pdf format) signed by the Rector/Principal shall be submitted online at the following address: www.omnicane.com/2017omnicaneaward

Online submission will be open as from Thursday 1st June 2017. Participants are advised to submit their projects as early as possible to avoid last minute rush.

Closing date: Thursday 8th June 2017.

The organising committee shall not accept projects submitted after the due submission date.

23. All Forms V and VI students interested in participating in this Inter-College Project Competition as well as their teachers are kindly invited to attend **a briefing session which will be held at 1.00 p.m. on Thursday 23 March 2017 at the Bonâme Hall**, Mauritius Cane Industry Authority (MCIA), Réduit.

ⁱ This is the eighth edition of the Omnicanne Award. This inter-college project competition was originally known as the Lonrho Award, from 1971 to 1996, then as the Illovo Award, from 1997 to 2000, and as the Mon Trésor Award from 2004 to 2008.

ⁱⁱ Omnicanne Foundation is a dedicated entity responsible for fulfilling the corporate social responsibility commitment of Omnicanne. Omnicanne Foundation was legally incorporated on 27th October 2009 and is officially registered with the National CSR Committee as a Special Purpose Vehicle bearing Registration No. N/1283'

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