



## Electronic Bulletin#25 September 22, 2007



**IYPE News**  
[www.yearofplanetearth.org](http://www.yearofplanetearth.org)

### **Support to the IYPE Secretariat**

The International Year of Planet Earth Corporation has welcomed its first four-star donor: the Norwegian Government. The State Secretary for Knowledge Development (Kunnskapdepartementet) confirmed to sponsor the IYPE Secretariat for a total of 4 million Norwegian Kroner (NOK), during the period 2007-2010. That was announced by Deputy Minister (State Secretary) Per Botolf Maurseth in a public outreach activity with Earth-music, all dedicated to the IYPE in front of the old Oslo University (see photographs) in the centre of Oslo, Norway. This public announcement follows an IYPE presentation at the Ministry on 29 March in Oslo. The money for the IYPE Secretariat will be stored in the Norwegian Research Council in portions of 1 MNOK/year.

### **IYPE Student Contest - Rules and guidelines**

(also published on the IYPE website: [www.yearofplanetearth.org](http://www.yearofplanetearth.org))

The General Assembly of the United Nations has proclaimed 2008 as the International Year of Planet Earth (IYPE). Its subtitle 'Earth Sciences for Society' reflects the IYPE's main ambition: to make our planet a safer, healthier and wealthier place for its human societies by ensuring a greater and more effective use of the knowledge accumulated by the world's 400,000 Earth scientists.

A large variety of activities for the International Year of Planet Earth are being developed by the 45 National IYPE Committees. On an international level, several major events are scheduled including the Global Launch Event of the International Year of Planet Earth, to be held in Paris at UNESCO headquarters on February 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> 2008. This Global Launch Event includes discussions on three challenging topics (provisional titles):

- 1) Earth's natural resources and the sustainable development of our society
- 2) Geohazards: Minimizing risk – maximizing awareness
- 3) Population growth and climate change.

During this Event world leaders in politics, science and industry will share their views and visions on these challenges and raise issues concerning their solution or mitigation.

Apart from these VIPs, a maximum of 350 students from all around the world will be invited to participate in the Global Launch Event. It is considered that the creativity and perception of these students will contribute to new perspectives on the major themes of the International Year of Planet Earth.

In order to bring this about, the International Year of Planet Earth Corporation is organizing an International *IYPE Student Contest*.

*Who may participate?*

All 18-22 year old students from around the world are invited to participate in the IYPE Student Contest.

*How to participate?*

To enter the IYPE Student Contest, all students are invited to approach one of the questions mentioned below in a creative way. This might vary from writing an essay, song or poem, producing a drawing or painting, making a short video film, a cartoon story, a photograph, et cetera. Students are invited to focus their item of work on one or more of the following ten topics.

*Topics*

- Groundwater – towards sustainable use
- Hazards – minimizing risk, maximizing awareness
- Earth & Health – building a safer environment
- Climate – the 'stone tape'
- Earth's Resources – towards sustainable use
- Megacities – going deeper, building safer
- Deep Earth – from crust to core
- Ocean – abyss of time
- Soil – Earth's living skin
- Earth & Life – the origins of diversity

We invite students to approach their preferred topic(s) from their own, personal perspective, driven by their individual cultural background and education. For more information about these topics we invite you to read or download the respective brochures from the IYPE web site [www.esfs.org/downloads.htm](http://www.esfs.org/downloads.htm)

*Volume requirements*

Students should take good notice of the following volume requirements:

- Essay: maximum of 1600 words
- Poem/song: maximum of 400 words
- Drawing/painting: maximum A3
- Video message: maximum of 10 minutes

*Evaluation*

All work produced will be evaluated by the respective National IYPE Committees, and the five best per nation will then be selected as award-winners. Work produced by students in countries that do not yet have a National IYPE Committee should be sent to the IYPE Secretariat [iype.secretariat@ngu.no](mailto:iype.secretariat@ngu.no) for evaluation by the IYPE's Outreach Programme Committee.

### *Language*

Students are invited to produce their work in English or French unless prior agreement on other languages is obtained from their National Committee. Award winning works must be translated into English or French (see under: How to submit?)

### *Acknowledgement and awards*

#### A. Trip to Paris

Dependent on the available funds, the best or all award-winning students, subject to a maximum 350, will be invited to take a four-day (11-14 February) trip to Paris, entirely free of charge, and to participate in the Global Launch Event of the International Year of Planet Earth on 12 and 13 February 2008. Funds will be sought from or through National IYPE Committees, from industry, Foundations and donors. Industrialized nations are invited to support travel and expenses for award-winning students from developing countries.

#### B. Performance on stage

Four of the award-winning students will be selected and invited to perform or display and comment upon their work on stage during the Global Launch Event as an introduction to each of the four debates (see above).

#### C. Certificate

All Award-winning students will receive an Official Certificate.

#### D. Publicity

The works of all award-winning students will be posted on the website of the International Year of Planet Earth ([www.yearofplanetearth.org](http://www.yearofplanetearth.org)). Also, a publication with a selection of the award-winning works will be published some time after the Global Launch Event and will be sent to all invited students.

#### E. Geo Song

A cultural event has been scheduled for the first day of the Global Launch Event (on February 12<sup>th</sup>). This will have at its core a performance of a dedicated “Geo Song”. In the interests of maximum audience involvement and to imbue this event with an appropriate international flavour designed to generate a sense of community, all 350 students are invited to participate in some aspect of the presentation of the Geo Song. A rehearsal will take place on the evening prior to the Global Launch Event under the direction of a professional conductor.

### *How to submit?*

1. If a National IYPE Committee is active in your country, please submit your work to that National Committee. Check flags on the IYPE home page: [www.yearofplanetearth.com](http://www.yearofplanetearth.com) for details.
2. If no National IYPE Committee exists in your country, please submit your work to the IYPE Secretariat. Address: IYPE Secretariat, attn. Åse Minde, NO-7491, Trondheim, Norway.

All works should be labeled as follows: full name, date of birth, place of birth, email address (if applicable) and student ID number together with a certification that the student is able to understand English or French. All documents should be written in Microsoft Office Word.

### *Deadline*

Works must be submitted so as to ensure delivery to National IYPE Committees **no later than November 15<sup>th</sup> 2007.**

### *Evaluation procedure and deadlines*

Submitted products will normally be evaluated by the National IYPE Committees, the evaluation being delegated to one or more individuals from within the membership of National Committees. It is recommended that the evaluation process should take place in the period **November 16<sup>th</sup> to December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2007**.

Critical evaluation criteria include:

- Creativity and originality
- Vision
- Empathy with the topic
- Style of production (design, wording, etc.).

Ultimately on December 7<sup>th</sup> 2007, National IYPE Committees will select the five best works (ranked 1-5, with 1 being the best) and inform the IYPE Secretariat of their decision by email (to [iype.secretariat@ngu.no](mailto:iype.secretariat@ngu.no)). This should immediately be followed by the dispatch by airmail (PRIORITY) of a high quality copy of the selected works with a 5-line motivation per student to the Secretariat.

On December 20<sup>th</sup> 2007, the IYPE Corporation will determine the number of students for whom funds are available to enable them to come to Paris. This information will be conveyed directly by email to the contact persons in the National IYPE Committees who will inform the selected students.

If applicable, the National IYPE Committees will translate all award winning works into English and/or French before January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

Only works in English or French are eligible for submission directly to the IYPE Secretariat. Such works must be dispatched so as to arrive at the Secretariat in Norway **on or before November 15<sup>th</sup> 2007**. A team of Officers of the IYPE Outreach Programme Committee will then select the best entries (a maximum of 5 per country). Depending on the available funds, a number of these award-winning students will be chosen to attend the Global Launch Event. The students selected will be informed by the Secretariat (by email) before December 20<sup>th</sup> 2007.

From all award winning works (both those submitted to the National IYPE Committees and those sent to the IYPE Secretariat) the Outreach Programme Committee will select the four most appropriate works for presentation on stage on January 20<sup>th</sup> 2008. The four students will be informed of their selection no later than January 30<sup>th</sup> 2008.

### *Additional Information about the IYPE Student Contest for National IYPE Committees*

The number of invited students for the four-days trip to Paris entirely depends on the available funding. The *average* all-inclusive cost is 600 €per student, *excluding* travel costs to and from Paris. It is essential that National IYPE Committees secure funds for the Paris-trip for award-winning students from resources in their own countries in the first place. That may be realized through National UNESCO Commissions, National IUGS, IUGG, IGU, IGCP or other science Committees, through Ministries of Education, Science and Technology, Economic Affairs, International (External)

Affairs, Provincial or Local governments, Geological Surveys, Academies of Sciences, National Science Foundations, other Foundations, Universities, industry et cetera.

Any decision as to how many students per nation will be invited will be made by the IYPE Corporation only. Such decisions will be based on the information provided by the National IYPE Committees as to secured funds by them. That information should be received in writing and signed by the Chair of the National IYPE Committee at the IYPE Secretariat *ultimately by December 20<sup>th</sup>* and should include bank statements as to the secured funds. National IYPE Committees will be held responsible if incorrect information would have been provided.

As this may take some time, National IYPE Committees are strongly advised to start the fundraising process without delay.

National IYPE Committees are held responsible for securing valid travel documents, visa and insurances for the selected students.

There are two ways National IYPE Committees may wish to operate concerning the trips of award-winning students to Paris:

1. National IYPE Committees may wish to purchase flight or other travel tickets (economy class only) for the invited students and guarantee coverage of all other costs by the IYPE Secretariat (600 €per student). Copies of purchased tickets and bank receipts should be sent electronically to the IYPE Secretariat and 600 €per student should have been received at the IYPE Bank account *ultimately on December 20<sup>th</sup>*.
2. National IYPE Committees may wish to leave ticketing and covering all other expenses for the students to the IYPE Secretariat. In that case 1500 €per student should be transferred to the bank account of the IYPE (see below) and received *by December 20<sup>th</sup>*.

*Bank account IYPE*

**UNITED BANK**

**Morgantown WV 26505, USA**

**Account number 007048-2518ABA**

**Routing number 051900395**

Sylvi Haldorsen

IUGS Vice President