

AATFA YOUTH FESTIVAL

RULE BOOK



Intro/General

Apex Australia Teenage Fashion Awards (AATFA) Youth Festival is an exciting concept through which Apex encourages excellence in the students of today.

AATFA provides an opportunity for students between the ages of 12-19 undertaking secondary studies to design, manufacture and model their own fashion garments. It is a showcase for talent that cannot be displayed by teenagers in any other forum. The artistic talent combined with practical and creative abilities is unique to this competition.

The Festival is an opportunity for students to develop their talent, self-esteem, ability to set and achieve goals, and gain self-confidence through the implementation of the Apex Motto: "Grow. Learn. Make Friends. Have Fun." AATFA is a career entry competition with many students using it as a platform to step into the next phase of their life. It doesn't just stop there, once a student enters any of the AATFA / NTeen Fashion Festival events, they are then in a relationship which provides support and encouragement for as long as they require it. Past entrants have come back as AATFA Achievers, Design students, Mentors, Judges and even to show their own labels.

AATFA is a national youth festival, where progression is structured from regional through to state and national events, as follows:

- AATFA New South Wales & ACT
- AATFA Tasmania
- AATFA Victoria
- AATFA South Australia
- AATFA Western Australia
- NTeen Fashion Festival
- AATFA Queensland

Conditions of Entry

1. Categories are as follows:

Casual Wear

This category covers all general daywear including sportswear, beachwear and leisure wear.

Formal Wear

This section covers all types of clothing worn to Balls or Gala events and includes garments suitable for after 5pm, graduation ceremonies or evening wear.

Wearable Art

This section allows the entrant's full creative talents to be paraded. Construction and material is left to the imagination of the entrant.

Society & Environment

This category allows the entrants to portray a garment depicting a civilization, a background or surrounding. This garment could be an opportunity for the student to make a statement on an issue that they are passionate about. The category will be judged on the same criteria as the Wearable Art section.

Costume & Theatrical

Costume design is the investing of clothing and the overall appearance of a character or performer. Costumes may be for a theatre, cinema, or musical performance but may not be limited to such. Garments submitted in this category may be part of a theme or collection of not more than four.

2. The entrant undertakes that:-
 - a. The garment/outfit submitted is the entrant's own work.
 - b. The entrant will be between the ages of 12 – 19 years old at the time of National Finals.
 - c. The entrant is undertaking secondary studies defined as year 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 & 13 regardless of which institute these studies are being undertaken at.
 - d. The entrant will take all responsibility for delivery, and collection of garment/outfit/s at heats and finals.
3. A parent or guardian must acknowledge permission on the entry form if under 18.
4. Entry will not be deemed valid unless the completed entry form is accompanied by **full payment of fees, Media Consent Form & Typed Garment Description (utilizing the template supplied on the website)** by the due date for both entrants and models. **Fees are non-refundable.**
5. An entry is defined by: one outfit/garment per entry accompanied by an entry form, typed garment description (utilising the template supplied on the website) and Media Consent form.
6. There shall be one designer per entry.
7. An entry is to be modelled/worn by one person.
8. Designers are allowed/encouraged to enter multiple entries.
9. A commercial pattern may be used as a template. The entrant needs to provide sufficient evidence of the unique differences between their garment and the pattern.
10. Music will be provided by the AATFA committee for the Casual Wear and Formal Wear categories. Wearable Art, Costume & Theatrical and Society & Environment entries need to be accompanied by a choice of music supplied by the entrant.
11. AATFA reserves the right to include additional categories to AATFA on the proviso entrants are notified at the time of Event/Awards announcement. This will be via promotional material, including the website.
12. Each entrant will be required to parade their entry for one and a half minutes on the runway to enable the judges to reach a decision.
13. Modelling capabilities are not judged. Entrants' may ask another person to model their garment for them. If this is the case the model is required to submit a Media Consent Form and if under 18 a guardian consent form. All costs associated with a model are required to be borne by the entrant.
14. AATFA or Apex Australia will not be liable to any entrant for loss or damage to any garment or article whether or not such loss was caused by or occurred as a result of a negligent act and/or omission on the part of AATFA or Apex Australia, its servants or agents.
15. In the case of AATFA state finals, heats may be required. The number of entrants selected is determined by the total number of entries in each section, and the number of entries in that section at each heat.
 - a. Each entrant will be assigned a heat.
 - b. Individual Apex clubs/volunteer Coordinators under the auspices of the State Committee will

- oversee the heats.
- c. Leading Designs will be selected from each heat to represent their region at the AATFA state finals.
 - d. Leading Designs will be selected from each category from the State Final to represent their State at the National Final.
16. All entrants shall make their garments available for Media purposes as set out on the Media Consent Form required by Apex Australia and the Event sponsors.
 17. Any specific requests regarding AATFA entry shall be submitted in writing to the organising committee (admin@aatfa.org.au) and the decision on that request shall be final.
 18. The decision of the judges shall be final, and no further correspondence will be received.
 19. Students are encouraged to travel as a state group to the National Final event.
Students who choose to travel independently, with their family or within a school group, will forfeit the financial support afforded to them to travel to the National Final. AATFA Youth Festival does not reimburse accommodation costs for students who are not under the direct care of an Official AATFA Chaperone.
 20. Students are responsible for transport/freight of their garments to individual events. Students who require funding assistance to participate should consult their school, local community, and arts funding bodies in their state, as students have been successful in obtaining support in the past.

Judging

The Judging panel shall consist of a minimum of two judges selected from Industry professionals such as tertiary qualified Fashion Designers, Home economics teachers or commercial dress makers and may include a guest judge such as a fashion editor from a newspaper or magazine.

Technical Judging

Casual Wear and Formal Wear is technically judged after garment submission. The technical judging is to determine the excellence of the design, originality, choice of fabric, use of material and cut, together with the overall sewing skills applied.

An example of the criteria used in the technical judging is below:

TECHNICAL JUDGING CRITERIA	POSSIBLE SCORE
Choice of fabric to suitability of design, cut of fabric	20
Sleeves, armholes, cuffs, collar, neckline	20
Finishing, seams, hems, fastenings / closings, trim / decoration / embellishments	20
Degree of difficulty	20
Originality	20
TOTAL:	100

Please note: Wearable Art, Costume & Theatrical and Society & Environment categories are not technically judged.



Runway Judging

All 5 categories are judged on the catwalk. An example of the criteria used in the judging is below:

CASUAL / FORMAL WEAR JUDGING CRITERIA	POSSIBLE SCORE
Suitability of fabric / style for age & occasion	20
Fit & hang	20
Colour palette	20
Accessories	20
Styling & overall concept presentation	20
TOTAL:	100

WEARABLE ART / COSTUME & THEATRICAL/ SOCIETY & ENVIRONMENT JUDGING CRITERIA	POSSIBLE SCORE
Use of materials	20
Effort of construction	20
Invention of design	20
Musical impact & visual effect	20
Styling & overall concept presentation	20
TOTAL:	100



AATFA

Participant's code of conduct

As a participant at the Apex Australia Teenage Fashion & Arts Youth Festival, (AATFA), we contribute to the success of the event by:

- Exhibiting at all times a positive and friendly approach with the purpose of ensuring AATFA attendees, participants and volunteers have an enjoyable and memorable experience;
- Promoting the AATFA always as a fun, interesting and diverse event;
- Acknowledging the importance of our individual contributions to the total effort involved in providing a happy and comfortable, yet safe and structured environment;
- Always demonstrating the AATFA ethic by being mindful of situations requiring attention or resolution. This may involve alerting the delegated control points (injury, illness, unacceptable behaviour);
- Respecting all people we come in contact with regardless of their race, religion, colour or age;
- Be aware of any issues that may cause problems and report to the National Co-Ordinator;
- Following OH&S practices and policies;
- Ensuring we are not under the effects of drugs or alcohol while participating.
- Following directions of AATFA National Co-Ordinator and the AATFA team.
- Exiting the backstage area after dress rehearsal or as directed.

Terms of Agreement

- I agree to abide by the Code of Conduct.
- I agree not to talk to the media or make public comments whilst fulfilling my AATFA role.
- I will ensure I have a ticket to attend the event. Official entrants not required to have a ticket.
- If I breach the Code of Conduct, I acknowledge I may be relieved of my duties and escorted from the site. Such conduct may also result in denial of future participation.
- I understand participant is defined as a parent, teacher, family member or support crew to any person with a design entered in AATFA; and attendance at the event includes providing support backstage.
- I understand entry backstage after dress rehearsal permitted to AATFA Staff and Participant ticket holders only.

Participant Signed: _____ **Date:** ____ / ____ / ____

Parent/ Guardian Signed: _____ **Date:** ____ / ____ / ____