**BERT MASON EUROPEAN**

**YOUNG AMBASSADOR AWARD**

**GUIDELINES**

**Appendix H: Bert Mason Young Ambassador Award (hereinafter BMYAA)**





**1. Mission Statement:**

A Young Ambassador prize is presented annually at each Lions Europa Forum (EF) to recognize, encourage and support young people who are actively involved in the welfare of the community and also raise the profile of Lions and increase Lions’ own service activities. During the Europa Forum a competition will be organized to identify the winner of the annual prize.

**2. Logo**

The BMYAA has its own logo to give it European status. This logo (shown above) will be used for the European Final and by the Forum Members to promote this Award.

Candidates must be registered with the BMYAA Chairperson until June 30th, in the year of the EF using the application form provided.

***3. Organization and Participation:***

Each member of the EF nominates a Country Representative (for 3 years, re-election once for the same term is possible). Country Representatives should have a good command of English. Key responsibilities are:

* + Caring for nominating candidates and accompanying them to the competition.
	+ Attending the meeting of the Country Representatives during the EF and electing a chairperson for 3 years (re-election (once for the same term, is possible). The chairperson should be an experienced (maybe former) Country Representative, preferably from the founding countries (Belgium, British, Isles, Ireland and Germany).

From this group, a committee will be responsible for the overall organization of the contests as well as the endorsement of proposals from the host country. Members of the committee are one representative from the present, the two upcoming as well as the previous year Forums. The committee is led by the chairperson.

Key responsibilities of the chairperson are:

* + Liaise with the Host Committee of the Forum on all matters.
	+ Coordinating the Country Representatives and organizing the committee work.
	+ Run a workshop and chair the meeting of the Committee at the Europa Forum.
	+ Receiving candidates’ registrations (by June 30th in the year of the competition).
	+ Coordinating and agreeing upon the members of the jury of the competition.
	+ Based on the above, the chairperson elaborates detailed guidelines on how to perform their duty, which guidelines will be passed down to the next chairperson (this is the responsibility of the chairperson, these guidelines are not part of this document).

Every member of the EF can nominate **one** candidate. The candidates must be not younger than 15 and not older than 19 on 30Th June in the year the EF is held.

Candidates must be registered with th3 BMYAA Chairperson by June 30th, in the year of the EF using the application form provided.

1. ***Host Country responsibilities:***
	* Designate an English speaking contact member from the Host Committee towards the BMYAA chairperson.
	* Ensure convenient venues for the competition and meeting, in detail:
		+ Thursday (day 1) – a room for a workshop to explain the BMYAA and introduce the candidates
		+ Friday (day 2) – a waiting room for the candidates and their supporters and a room for the judges to conduct the interviews and discuss the candidates results
		+ Saturday (day 3) – a convenient room for the candidates to present their project to EF participants, for feedback on all projects and for the winners to be announced by the lead judge (possible also at Speaker’s Corner’)
	* Ensure 3 judges for the competition and cover their expenses (travel, overnight accommodation and meals). One of the judges should have previous experience of judging at EF and will be proposed by the BMYAA Committee.
	* Provide free registration for the EF for the judges, candidates and a maximum of two supporters (being non Lions/Leos) per participant. Lions and Leos who may additionally wish to support the candidate would be expected to pay the normal EF registration fee.
	* Presentation of the winners at the Closing Ceremony. The winner will make a short presentation.
	* Provide a Certificate of Participation for all candidates.
	* Provide an exchange cub (cup) and a small trophy to be presented to the winner. The host country needs to provide a small trophy for the winner.
	* Ensure Certificates are produced and the payment of the money prizes.

***5. Contest requirements:***

Each candidate will be interviewed by three judges. The participants may display photographs and illustrations of their work in maximum 20 minutes, but no electronic presentations may be used. Candidates may have an interpreter (brought by themselves).

The contest will be judged by three “Non-Lions judges*– at the best discretion of the Host Committee in discussion with the BMYAA chairperson(s))* one of the judges should be appointed as lead and have *previous experience of judging at a Europa Forum and will be proposed by the BMYAA Chairperson(s).*

Marks will be allocated and consigned in a marking sheet, as follows:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  - The community service activity | 50% |
|  - The ability to speak about their service activities | 20% |
|  - Personality and demonstration of leadership qualities | 15% |
|  - The usage of the prize money  |  15% |

 **6. *Financial aspects:***

All costs (travel, accommodation, food, social events) of a candidate and the Country Representative must be covered by the member country sending them. The same applies to the chairperson in case they are not a Country Representative.

In order to support the laureates of this competition to realize their dreams the prize money will be €7.500.

The prizes - financed by the EF host country - are required to be spent to the projects of the winners (1st € 3,500, 2nd € 2.500, 3rd € 1.500).

 The prize money will ideally be sent through bank transfer.

 The Host Committee may seek sponsors to provide funds for these expenses.