

## Details on the GMAC Student Reporters' Challenge 2008

The GMAC Student Reporters' Challenge 2008 is a creative writing and design competition. It is carried out in three categories, catering separately for students in the upper primary, lower secondary, and upper secondary levels.

2 Through the competition, GMAC aims to promote active learning and to stimulate students' interest in topics related to genetic modification (GM). We believe in the sharing of knowledge and the best works of the participants will be disseminated to further enhance awareness among the public and the greater student population.

### THE GMAC PRESS EVENT

3 In groups of four, participants are required to attend the GMAC Press Event, scheduled on Friday, 22 Feb 2008. Prior registration is required.

4 The GMAC Press Event is a mega press conference which marks the start of the competition. As student reporters, participants will be given opportunities to pose GM-related questions to an expert panel.

### THE NEWSLETTER

5 ***All participants are given one month post the events to work on a newsletter to report information they have learned during the Press Event. They are also required to conduct their own independent research and to incorporate these findings into their work.***

6 ***Each group of four will jointly create one newsletter. The four students who attended the GMAC Press Event must be the same four students who author the newsletter. Submissions by groups that did not attend the Press Event, or whose registration status has not been accepted, will not be considered.***

### THEME AND CONTENT

7 In each of the three categories of the competition, ***participants will be asked to write on a specific GM-related theme.*** The theme for each category will be announced during the GMAC Press Event.

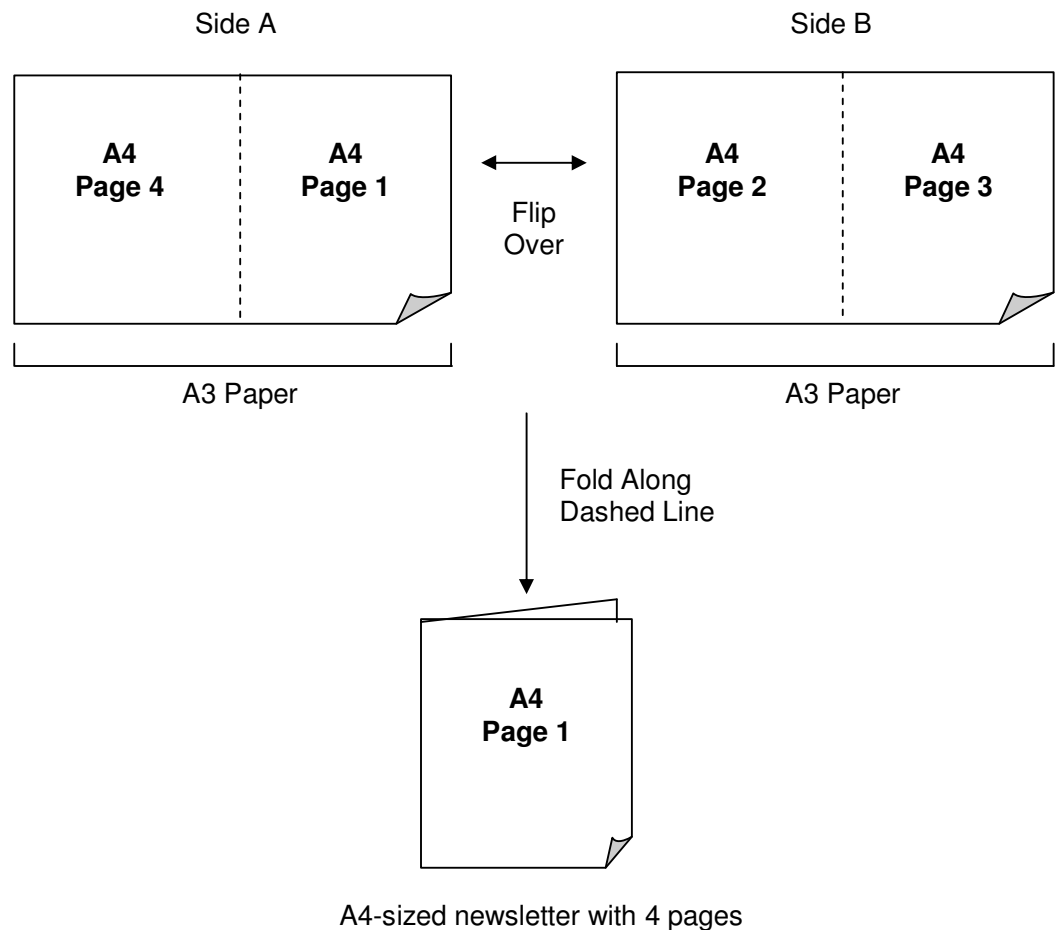
8 Optional subtopics and compulsory subtopics will also be given during the Press Event. ***While the optional subtopics provide guidance, they are not binding. Based on individual preferences, participants can work on other subtopics they consider relevant to the theme.***

## SUBMISSION FORMAT AND DEADLINE

9 Each group is to submit hard and soft copies of the newsletter through the school.

10 The newsletter will consist of four printed sides of A4 pages. Soft copies should be submitted in a CD in two formats – i) PDF Format, and ii) Word Format. The PDF document should not exceed 10MB in size.

11 The hard copy should be printed in the “A3 folded into A4” format as shown in the diagram below:



12 The following should be placed at prominent positions on the newsletters:

- GMAC's logo
- The name of the competition (i.e. "The GMAC Student Reporters' Challenge 2008")
- The category entered for (i.e. Upper Primary Category, Lower Secondary Category, or Upper Secondary Category)
- Theme of the Newsletter

- Names, age, and level of education of all group members
- School represented by the group

13 ***In terms of layout and presentation (design, font size, use of colours, etc), GMAC poses no particular restrictions.*** Our aim is to give students maximum room for exploration.

14 All submissions must reach the GMAC Secretariat **by Friday, 21 March 2008** at the following address:

Attn: Ms Tan Kim Ping  
GMAC Secretariat  
20 Biopolis Way  
#08-01 Centros  
Singapore 138668

15 ***Submissions must be made through the schools and must be accompanied by the contact details (email address and phone number) of the teacher-in-charge.***

16 GMAC Secretariat will acknowledge receipt of all submissions by 28 March 2008.

## **JUDGING CRITERIA**

17 The entries will be judged based on the following criteria:

- Content (70%)
- Layout and Presentation (30%)

18 Credit will be given for objectivity, scientific accuracy, creativity, and originality.

19 A three-tiered judging system involving government officers, journalists, and scientists will be employed, with final decisions being made by the GMAC main committee.

20 The results will be revealed by June 2008 at first instance on GMAC's website. Notifications will be sent subsequently to all winners.

## **PRIZES AND RECOGNITION**

21 Attractive prizes are in store and will be announced by GMAC Chairman during the GMAC Press Event.

22 To enable the participants to share their findings and knowledge, the best entry from each of the three competition categories will be disseminated through the following channels:

- Hard copies of the winning newsletters will be made available at the national libraries and the Singapore Science Centre for pick up by members of the public
- Soft copies will be posted on the websites of GMAC and the Singapore Science Centre
- E-copies will be forwarded by the Ministry of Education to all primary and secondary schools in Singapore for further dissemination to students.

23 GMAC will explore other channels to share the best works of the students with as wide an audience as possible.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

24 GMAC would like to remind all participants that ***plagiarism will result in direct disqualification from the competition.***

25 The top entries will be reproduced in bulk and disseminated to the public and general student population. Participants should note that there are strict copyright laws governing the use of images, diagrams, photographs, and text from other sources. As such, ***all images, diagrams, photographs, and text used in the newsletters must be the original work of the participants.***

26 ***The schools and teachers-in-charge are to ensure the absolute originality of their students' work. With the exception of GMAC's logo, other images found on GMAC's website are NOT to be used in the newsletters.***

27 References are to be appropriately cited.

28 By submitting the newsletters to GMAC, all participants agree to grant to the GMAC, free of charge, permission to use the material in any way it wants (including modifying and adapting it for operational and editorial reasons). ***GMAC may amend the contents of the winning entries before these are disseminated to the larger population. GMAC may also use the entries for purposes other than those outlined in para 22.***

29 For more information and clarification, please contact:

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 GMAC Secretariat  
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 Website: www.gmac.gov.sg