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**2023 BPA Best Research Paper Award**

**GUIDELINES**

Biological Psychiatry Australia (BPA) aims to promote excellence in research performed in the field of biological psychiatry within Australia. Research promoted by BPA is cross-disciplinary and cross-species, consisting of Psychiatry, Molecular Biology, Pharmacology, Psychology, Behavioural Neuroscience, Physiology, Genetics, and Epidemiology. The BPA Executive Committee invites nominations for the 2023 BPA Best Research Paper Award.

The awards are offered in two categories:

1. Student
2. ECR (0-5 years post PhD)
3. General

The winners in each category will receive a certificate and a $250 gift card to be awarded at the Annual BPA conference, held this year at Palm Cove, Far North Queensland 25th-27th October. In addition, the winners will be invited to present their research paper at a BPA Webinar (date to be advised).

**ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

To be eligible to apply for the award, the applicant must:

* Be either:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ***Category*** | ***Eligibility*** |
| Student | **- Currently enrolled in a Bachelor, Honours, Masters or PhD program** at an Australian university or research institution  **OR**  - ECR with paper accepted for publication in 2022 during PhD candidature |
| ECR | **Within 5 years of PhD completion** |
| General | Any BPA member |

* Be first/shared first author of the paper.
* Applicants **MUST** be current BPA members at the time of application.

The paper submitted for consideration must;

* have been **accepted for publication** **in** **2022**.
* be a peer-reviewed journal article featuring **original research** (including **meta-analyses**); abstracts, review articles, book chapters, guidelines or preprints (e.g. biorxiv, arxiv) will **not** be considered
* Papers will be judged exclusively on the basis of the following criteria:
  + scientific contribution and impact
  + contribution of the applicant.

**APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS**

Applicants must forward the following in **a single PDF file**, with subject title “2023 BPA Best Research Paper Award – YourCategory” to [biolpsychaust@gmail.com](mailto:biolpsychaust@gmail.com) by 5:00pm AEST, Friday 31st March 2023.

- Application Form (in the following pages), including

* A brief statement (<300 words) outlining the scientific contribution of your paper (including the quality/originality of the research) and the impact of the published research
* A brief statement (<100 words) outlining the author’s contribution to the publication

- A PDF copy of the paper.

**MARKING BREAKDOWN (20 marks)**

* Scientific contribution (*10 marks*)
  + Quality (*5 marks*)
  + Originality (*5 marks*)
* Scientific impact (*3 marks*)
* Author contribution (*7 marks*)

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

* Applicants may only submit one application.
* Only eligible and complete applications from individuals who satisfy the eligibility criteria stated above will be considered.
* Late applications will not be considered (5:00pm AEST Friday 31st March 2023).
* Awards may be split equally between two applicants at the discretion of the judges.
* Successful applicants will be announced in May and prizes will be awarded at the 13th BPA Annual meeting (25th October – 27th October 2023) being held **face-to-face** in Palm Cove, Far North Queensland.
* The decision of the judges is final, and no discussion will be entered in relation to their decision.
* By submitting an application, you agree to be bound by these terms and conditions.

I am applying for:

Student

ECR

General

**APPLICANT DETAILS**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| First name |  |
| Last name |  |
| Email |  |
| Phone number |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Institution |  |
| Position |  |
| Proof of enrolment (students only) |  |
| Proof of PhD completion date  (ECRs only) |  |

**Biography and paper summary (no more than 200 words; only used for the announcement of successful applicants)**

**Statements outlining the scientific merit and impact of your publication**

**1. Scientific contribution and impact**

Please describe in less than 300 words:

- the scientific contribution of your submission: elements to be judged include (but are not limited to) the overall quality and originality of the paper, originality of the tools used to answer the question, prestige of the journal in the field, etc.

- the impact of your submission: elements to be judged include (but are not limited to) the impact or relevance to the field, any supporting endorsements such as being the subject of editorial comment, featured on the journal cover, number of downloads, etc.

**2. Author contribution**

In no more than 100 words, detail the specific contributions of the applicant to the publication (e.g., applicants role in data collection, analysis, etc).