Dear Student Leader,

We are pleased to announce that applications are now open for the 2020 Young Women in Public Affairs Award (YWPA), proudly sponsored by the Zonta Club of Ballarat.  The goal of Zonta International Young Women in Public Affairs Award program is to encourage young women to participate in public affairs by recognizing  a commitment to the volunteer sector by evidence of volunteer leadership achievements and a dedication to empowering women worldwide through service and advocacy.

The Young Women in Public Affairs Award is annual event for the Zonta Club of Ballarat and this year, in line with COVID-Safe requirements, the Club will be hosting this event in an online environment.  Further details regarding the eligibility, application and assessment processes are detailed on the attached documentation.  The Award winner will be eligible to represent the Zonta Club of Ballarat through the Zonta International YWPA Award processes.

 Attached are:
\*   2021 YWPA  application form (interactive PDF format) – available to download from our Club website [www.zontaballarat.com.au](http://www.zontaballarat.com.au) from Friday 14 August 2020.

 \*   2021 Verification of Enrolment (to be completed by school representative)
 \*   2020 YWPA- Ballarat poster (which you may wish to circulate to students)

 **2020 YWPA Award - Zonta Ballarat key dates:**

**Applications due:**         5.00 pm Friday 18 September 2020

Full application requirements are detailed on the application form and also completion of the Verification of Current Enrolment Form.

**Shortlisted Interviews:**   Saturday 10 October 2020 (to be held virtually)

Shortlisted applicants will be invited to represent their application at an interview with a representative from the Zonta Club of Ballarat, a local politician and a *Ballarat's Great Woman* Honoree.  Further details will be provided closer to the date.

**Finalist Awards Night:**   Thursday 22 October 2020 (to be held virtually)

At this event, finalists will be invited to provide a short 5 minute speech in support of their application.  The Finalist of the 2020 YWPA Award will be presented with a $500 bursary to be used to further their studies Family, friend and school guests are welcome to attend this event.

Further details will be provided closer to the date.

We would be delighted if you could promote this opportunity to your senior female student group.   Please feel free to contact us at the above email address if you would like further information.

Caroline Nolan

President, Zonta Club of Ballarat

and on behalf of the Young Women in Public Affairs Sub-Committee