Dear Student Leader,

 We are pleased to announce that applications are now open for the 2021/22 Young Women in Public Affairs Award (YWPA), proudly sponsored  by the Zonta Club of Ballarat.  The goal of Zonta International YWPA 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 YWPA Award is annual event for  the Zonta Club of Ballarat and our intention is to proceed with the event adjusting to COVID-Safe  requirements as required.

 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:
\*   2022 YWPA  application form (interactive PDF format) – available to download from the Zonta Club of Ballarat website [*https://www.zontaballarat.com/ywpa*](https://www.zontaballarat.com/ywpa.html) from Friday 20 August 2021.

 \*   2021 Verification of Enrolment (to be completed by school representative)
 \*   2021/22 YWPA Ballarat poster (which you may wish to circulate to students)

  **2021/22 YWPA Award - Zonta Ballarat key dates:**

 **Applications due:**        5.00 pm Friday  24 September 2021

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

 **Shortlisted Interviews:**   Saturday 9  October 2021 (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* Honouree.

Further details will be provided closer to the date.

 **Finalist Awards Event:**   Friday 15 October  2021 (details to be confirmed in line with current restrictions). At this event, finalists will be invited to provide a short 5-minute speech in support of their application.  The Finalist of the 2021/22 YWPA Award will be presented with a $500 bursary to be used to further their studies. Family, friends 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.

Kind regards,

Caroline Nolan

President, Zonta Club of Ballarat  and on behalf of the Young Women in Public Affairs Sub-Committee