



# REGISTERED MASTER LANDSCAPERS YOUNG LANDSCAPER OF THE YEAR 2023



## ENTRY GUIDE





## 2023 Entries Now Open

The Registered Master Landscapers Young Landscaper of the Year competition offers significant opportunities for young, motivated landscapers to showcase their skills and compete alongside the best emerging professionals in New Zealand, before going on to represent our sector in the Young Horticulturalist of the Year competition.

Open to young landscapers throughout New Zealand, entrants do not have to be working for a Registered Master Landscaper to enter the competition.

Competitors will take part in both written and practical activities day on competition day with award winners being announced at our gala dinner, where the industry comes together to celebrate and support the outstanding achievements of Landscapes of Distinction and Young Landscaper of the Year entrants. This year, we're excited to bring the event to Dunedin, with the Young Landscaper event taking place on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> September, and the awards gala dinner on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2023, at the stunning Dunedin Town Hall.

## Key Dates 2023

26th June	Entry to competition opens
4th August	Entry to competition closes 5:00 pm
10 <sup>th</sup> August	Finalists announced
August	Zoom interview TBC
1 <sup>st</sup> September	Competition Day: Practical/ written tests; speech
2 <sup>nd</sup> September	AWARDS GALA DINNER - WINNER ANNOUNCED, Dunedin Town Hall, All finalists are required to attend
5 <sup>th</sup> September	Young Horticulturalist Orientation Day, Auckland
7 <sup>th</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup> November	Winner competes in 2023 Young Horticulturalist Competition, Auckland

## Why enter?

- See how you measure up against your peers
- Gain industry recognition for your skills and commitment
- Increase your profile within the landscape industry
- Learn new skills, gain confidence and progress your career development
- Network with other young landscapers, suppliers and industry professionals
- Win great prizes!

The winner of the Young Landscaper of the Year 2023, will progress through to represent Registered Master Landscapers at the 2023 Young Horticulturalist of the Year Competition, gaining more amazing opportunities for career advancement and prizes

## Who is eligible to enter?

### Entrants must:

- Be working fulltime in the landscape industry with a minimum of 3 years' experience.
- Be 30 years of age or under at 31st December 2023 (This is a requirement of The Young Horticulturist competition to which the winner progresses)
- Candidates shortlisted must be prepared to participate in the Young Landscaper of the Year finals in Dunedin on 1<sup>st</sup> September as well as attending the Awards dinner on 2<sup>nd</sup> September at the Dunedin Town Hall.
- The winner must also be available to take part in the Grand Final of the Young Horticulturist of the Year competition 5<sup>th</sup> September, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> November 2023 and attend the gala dinner.

## Prizes

The overall winner is the competitor with the highest overall score achieved on competition day

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place            \$2,500 cash prize
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place           \$1,500 cash prize
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place           \$1,000 cash prize

## Outstanding Achievement Awards

In addition, finalists will compete on the day for recognition of outstanding achievement in the following categories

Outstanding Achievement in Construction and Practical Challenge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This award recognizes a competitor who has demonstrated exceptional skills across practical tasks in landscaping</li> </ul>
Outstanding Achievement Emerging Leader Award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This award recognizes an inspirational competitor who has demonstrated exceptional entrepreneurial spirit, innovation and/ or social/ environmental responsibility in the workplace</li> </ul>
Outstanding Achievement Excellence in Innovation Award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This award recognizes an outstanding competitor who has demonstrated significant contribution to their workplace through the introduction or improvement of a workplace-based technology, process or service.</li> </ul>
Career Development Award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This award recognizes an outstanding competitor who has demonstrated exceptional business operation and customer service skills</li> </ul>
Outstanding Achievement in Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This award recognizes an outstanding competitor who has demonstrated excellence in the development of content and delivery of their Young Landscaper of the Year speech</li> </ul>



## All Finalists will receive

- One Year Affiliate Membership to Registered Master Landscapers.
- Complimentary ticket to gala dinner on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> September
- Competition kit bag

## What happens next?

### Stage 1 – Complete Your Entry

Entries are open from 26<sup>th</sup> June to 4<sup>th</sup> August 2023.

Entrants must complete the entry form and submit by email to [business@masterlandscapers.org.nz](mailto:business@masterlandscapers.org.nz) by no later than 5pm Friday 4<sup>th</sup> August 2023. No late entries will be accepted.

Entry form must be completed and signed by both the employer and entrant.

Entrants may be contacted for further information on workplace experience and training progress if required, by the Registered Master Landscapers judging panel.

If you require additional space to complete questions on the entry form, you may include supporting attachments including photo or video submissions.

A \$50 non-refundable application fee is payable for each entry at time of entry submission.

There is no limit on the number of entrants from any one company, but individual entrants may not compete in the event more than twice.

### Stage 2 - Finalists Selected

10 competitors will be selected from the submitted entries to move forward to compete for the 2023 Young Landscaper of the Year. During the week commencing **4<sup>th</sup> August**, entrants and their employers will be contacted by email to confirm if successful in progressing through to the competition.

### Selection Process

Judges will consider attitude to work, maturity, personal development, and overall skills to identify finalists. They also consider the following:

- Work ethic
- Communication skills and personal presentation
- Ability to follow instructions
- Industry knowledge
- Ability to work unsupervised
- Understanding of work, health & safety practice
- Relationships with fellow workers, suppliers, and clients
- Training and study achievements

### Competition Programme

Finalists will be sent an information pack with the competitors' programme **3 weeks** prior to the competition day. The information pack will include a brief on a 3-minute speech topic to be prepared





and then presented by each competitor.

For 2023, interviews by a panel of 2 judges will be held with each competitor. These interviews will be held via zoom. Entrants will be advised of the date in the competition programme

## Stage 3 - Competition Day

Finalists will compete in **Dunedin on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023**. Competitors will take part across the day in both written and practical activities.

This competition requires competitors to showcase their skills across a number of technical and written challenges, planning and material management. Competitors will be assessed against the following criteria:

- A written test, covering general knowledge questions on the landscape sector, health and safety in the workplace and preparation of a costing / estimate for a job.
- 3-minute speech.
- Practical skills exercises. These can be expected to include some elements showing competency associated with the implementation of a landscape design.

These may include, but are not limited to:

- Profile set out
- Irrigation exercise
- Plant identification
- Paving exercise
- Weed identification
- Lawn preparation
- Planting demonstration
- Small digger operation / maintenance

## Award Winners Announced

On Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2023 finalists will attend the Landscapes of Distinction Awards Gala Dinner at the Dunedin Town Hall, where the prizes will be awarded.

The Young Landscaper of the Year 2023 will then proceed as a finalist representing Registered Master Landscapers at the 2023 Young Horticulturist Competition.

## Entrant Terms and Conditions

- The number of finalists will be limited to a maximum of 10.
- You do not have to be working for a Registered Master Landscaper to enter the competition.
- Entrants must be 30 years of age or under on 31 December 2023. Entrants must have a minimum of three years' practical experience and currently be working full time in the landscape sector.



and understood the terms and conditions of entry.

- All sections of the entry form must be completed. A \$50 non-refundable entry fee is to accompany each application.
- The judges must be satisfied that you meet the criteria established for the competition.
- The judges have the right to disqualify any entries.
- Written tests, interviews and speeches are moderated by the Registered Master Landscapers Competition Committee.
- Components of the YLOY practical skills test are overseen by an independent moderator from Primary ITO, or suitably qualified industry professional and based on industry best practice
- The judge's decisions are final, and no correspondence will be entered into.
- Finalists agree to participate in any media activity/publicity and for the use of photos taken at the competition and gala dinner to be used for media / promotional purposes only.
- Entrants are responsible for providing their own toolbelt and PPE (NZ safety approved footwear, ear, and eye protection) for use during the practical components of the competition. All equipment is to be of a standard to be working safely. A list of requirements will be provided in the finalist pack.
- To enter the Young Landscaper of the Year competition participants must be a New Zealand citizen or hold a current New Zealand residency permit.
- If the competition is cancelled due to extreme weather conditions or as a consequence of COVID-19 restrictions, RML will contact finalists and their employers to notify new date of competition.
- Award of finalists outstanding achievement certificates of recognition is at the discretion of the judges and may not be awarded should criteria not be met.
- By entering the Young Landscaper of the Year 2023 competition, entrants agree, if selected as winner of the Young Landscaper of the Year 2023, to represent Registered Master Landscapers at the 2023 Young Horticulturist competition and must be available on the following key dates:
  - Auckland Orientation Day: 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023.
  - Auckland Competition / Gala Dinner: 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> November 2023
- Travel and accommodation expenses in relation to entry in Young Horticulturist will be covered by Registered Master Landscapers.
- Contestants in previous years YLOY competitions may re-apply, but may not compete in the event more than twice. Events do not have to be in successive years providing the entrant remains eligible for all other entry criteria.

## Travel, Accommodation and Gala Dinner

- All finalists must attend the Gala Dinner at the Dunedin Town Hall on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2023.
- Registered Master Landscapers will cover the cost of Gala Dinner tickets for finalists
- Travel and accommodation costs for out-of-town employees of a RML member will be met by Registered Master Landscapers.
- Finalists who are not in the employment of a Registered Master Landscape member are required to cover their own travel and accommodation costs in full.
- Partners and supporters of competitors are welcome to attend the competition on Friday 1st September. (Venue TBC)
- Partners of finalists are warmly welcome to attend the Gala Dinner on the 2<sup>nd</sup> September



- Meal costs associated with attending the competition day will be met by Registered Master Landscapers for all competitors.

## COMPETITION Enquires

### Competition Entry Queries

Business@masterlandscapers.org.nz

### Accommodation & Travel

Contact [hello@pandaevents.nz](mailto:hello@pandaevents.nz)

### Gala Dinner ticket bookings

Contact [hello@pandaevents.nz](mailto:hello@pandaevents.nz)

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