

Ochre Award for First Nations Australians

Ochre is a natural clay pigment, predominantly Ferric oxide.

In Australia, we commonly find Brown Ochre FeO(OH) , Yellow Ochre $\text{FeO(OH)} \cdot n\text{H}_2\text{O}$, and Red Ochre Fe_2O_3 .

These Ochres were prepared in grinding groves (Australia's first mortar & pestles) before being used by the Traditional Owners for ceremonial purposes with body painting and rock art.

This scientific process is just one of many and solidifies that the First Nations people were truly Australia's first chemists.

This award of up to \$500 is designed as an encouragement award, with the applicant choosing how best to use the prize.

The award opens 1 April and closes 12 June 2022

This award is given with thanks to our sponsors Envirolab and Biامي Scientific

Criteria

The candidate must be a person of Indigenous Australian or Torres Strait Islander descent and have a genuine interest in Chemistry.

The application will be judged predominantly on how the prize money will be used, in a beneficial or innovative way, relating to science.

The award is open to all ages – from high school to post-retirement.

The applicant must be a financial RACI member for a minimum of 6 months, or for high school students, their school must be an affiliate member.

Please provide some information about yourself, your goals, and how you would use this award to highlight science within your community (no more than 1 PDF page). Email to awards@raci.org.au (Subject: - Ochre Award) - no later than 12 June 2022. Receipt will be acknowledged by return email.