**📋 Participation Guidelines for the Student Poster Competition “Orchids for Future”**

**1. Organizer**

The poster competition **“Orchids for Future”** is organized by the **German Orchid Society (D.O.G.)** as part of the **24th World Orchid Conference (WOC) 2026** in **Dresden**.

**2. Eligibility**

* The competition is open to **students in grades 7 to 10** enrolled at a **UNESCO project school** in **Germany or their UNESCO partner schools**.
* Each class, working group, or elective subject should select its **best poster**. Only **one submission per class, working group, or elective** subject is allowed. If multiple groups within a class, working group, or elective participate, the class, working group, or elective must select a single entry.
* Participation is **free of charge**.
* Collaboration with international schools is welcome and both, German and collaborative schools are welcome to submit a poster (in cooperation in total two, one each for the German and international collaborating class, working group, elective subject).
* A **consent form** signed by the class/group leader must be submitted along with the poster.

**3. Poster Requirements**

* The poster must visually highlight the **fascination of orchids** and combine both **scientific** and **artistic elements**.
* **Allowed format:** **DIN A0** (portrait or landscape orientation).
* **Techniques:** e.g., **drawing, painting, collage, or digital design** (**AI-generated images are not allowed**).
* **Text and image sources** must either:
  + Be **created by the participants** themselves, or
  + Be used under a valid **Creative Commons license** (e.g., CC BY, CC BY-SA).
  + The license type and source must be clearly credited on the poster.
  + **Images with commercial rights or without proper licensing information are not permitted.**
* Each entry must include the **name of the school** and the participating **class/group**.

**4. Submission of Entries**

* Posters must be submitted digitally in **high resolution** by **December 20, 2025**.
* **Recommended format:** 300 dpi for A0 posters (**9,914 × 14,032 pixels**) in **.pdf** format.
* **Submit to:** orchids4future@woc2026.orchidee.de
* **Group submissions** are encouraged. Prize money will be divided among group members.

**5. Evaluation & Prizes**

* A panel of **experts from science and art** will evaluate submissions based on:
  + **Creativity**
  + **Scientific relevance**
  + **Artistic execution**
* The **top 10 posters** will receive prize money and will be exhibited at the **WOC 2026**:

| **Placement** | **Prize Money** |
| --- | --- |
| 1st Place | €1,500 |
| 2nd Place | €1,000 |
| 3rd Place | €700 |
| 4th–10th Place | €400 each |

* The **winning poster** will also be featured in the magazine **of the German Orchid Society’s "Die Orchidee”.**
* The teacher has the flexibility to use the prize for the class’/groups’ **projects, clubs, workshops, or other group activities.**

**6. Usage Rights**

* By participating, the legal guardians agree that the **German Orchid Society** may use the submitted works for **non-commercial purposes** (e.g., **exhibitions**, **publications** in print and online media).
* The **copyright** of the participants remains unaffected.

**7. Liability Disclaimer**

* The **German Orchid Society (D.O.G.)** assumes **no liability** for lost or damaged submissions.
* There is **no guarantee** for the payout of prize money. If, due to unforeseen circumstances (e.g., **lack of funding**, **sponsor withdrawal**, or **force majeure**), the prize money cannot be paid out, the DOG assumes no liability. In such cases, the DOG will strive to provide an alternative form of recognition (e.g., **non-cash prizes**, **certificates**, or **exhibition opportunities**).
* **The right of legal recourse is excluded.**

**8. Data Protection**

* Personal data of participants will be used **exclusively** for the purpose of the competition and will **not be shared** with third parties.
* All personal data will be deleted after the competition unless further consent has been given.

**9. Acceptance of the Participation Guidelines**

By submitting an entry, participants (or their legal guardians) agree to the above **participation guidelines**.

📌 **Contact details:**  
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