

SPEECH TEMPLATE

- Acknowledge VIPs
 - Acknowledge Country – see the [welcome and acknowledgment of country flyer](#) for sample wording.
 - Australia Day is a time for all Australians to reflect, respect and celebrate.
 - The story of Australia is a great story.
 - It is one that began more than 65,000 years ago.
 - It is a story that continues today.
 - On Australia Day, we reflect on the past, present and future.
 - We listen and respect each other's stories, contributions and aspirations.
 - And we celebrate being Australian together fair and free
 - Australia Day 2022 we once again reflect on being surrounded by friends, family and community.
 - It is a day to respect that the return of simple pleasures, once taken for granted, have been hard earned.
 - Australians are resilient – we roll up our sleeves, help others and unite to overcome any challenge.
 - Australia Day is when we celebrate the simple act of being together.
 - On Australia Day we reflect on the resilience of communities and the spirit of helping and giving that defines the Australian spirit.
 - On Australia Day we respect the personal stories, histories and contributions of all Australians.
 - We're all part of The Story of Australia. Let me tell you a little about my story
 - *[Include points on your background, focusing on contribution to Australia and what Australia Day means to you]*
 - Before I go, I want to tell you about an exciting new initiative in 2022.
 - This year, the National Australia Day Council has launched a photo competition to tell the Story of Australia in a new way.
 - Images connect us and can show us how each local community reflects, respects and celebrates on Australia Day.
 - A picture can tell a thousand words, but in this competition, pictures just need to tell ten words: Reflect, Respect and Celebrate. We're all part of the story.
 - We'd like to invite you to take a special photo from today that for you captures the essence of Reflect, Respect, Celebrate. We're all part of the Story.
 - Three finalists from each state and territory will be selected with the overall winner chosen by the NADC Board.
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- Entries can depict reflection on the past, present and future, respect for each other's stories, contributions and hopes or celebrating being Australian and part of a proud, ancient, multicultural nation that values each citizen.
- All finalists and the overall winner will receive cash prizes. Winning photos may be to help promote Australia Day activities in the future.
- For more information on how to enter or to view the competition guidelines visit <https://australiaday.org.au/get-involved/grants-information/>.

ADDITIONAL MESSAGES FOR AMBASSADORS AND GRANT RECIPIENT BRIEFINGS

The NADC is asking ambassadors/grant recipients to spread the word and encourage attendees at your events to enter the photo competition.

We'll be providing updated speaking points and information that can be included in MC notes, promotional materials and social media posts.

- On Australia Day, I encourage everyone to share a bit about their story, listen to the stories of others and celebrate with the people around you.
 - Because we're all part of the story.
 - Thank you.
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