### Tuesday 19 April 2016

## Nominations open for ASG National Excellence in Teaching Awards

There are so many fabulous educators who work in our communities and now you can nominate an outstanding teacher for the 2016 ASG National Excellence in Teaching Awards (ASG NEiTA).

Now in its 22<sup>nd</sup> year, ASG NEiTA is Australia's only community centred teaching awards where parents, grandparents, secondary student councils, school boards/councils, parent associations, committees of management and community organisations get to nominate teachers for an award.

Nominated teachers, principals and centre directors have the chance of becoming the state and territory award recipients, with the national award recipients announced in March 2017.

The national award recipients will be presented with \$5000 professional development grants, helping them to pursue further studies, embark on international study tours and one teacher also gets the opportunity to attend International Space Camp at the U.S Space and Rocket Center in Alabama. One teacher is also awarded the Disability Inclusion Grant.

ASG NEiTA Chief Executive Officer, John Velegrinis, says it's a wonderful opportunity for local communities to thank teachers for the crucial work they do and making a real difference in education.

"ASG's core mission is about supporting children's education and there are thousands of teachers in Australia who live by this mission and put it into practice every day. What these teachers may not realise is that they are also having a profound and positive influence in their communities by building relationships and engaging with the broader community who can in fact be the richest educational resources.

"That's why ASG NEiTA resonates with communities and has gone from strength to strength, attracting more than 30,000 nominations since the awards started in 1994. These are dedicated and passionate teachers who are fearless in their approach and ensure that each student receives a quality education equipped with skill, knowledge and a desire for lifelong learning. More often than not they are our unsung education heroes and they deserve to be recognised and awarded for their tremendous contribution."

Nominations for the awards close on 31 July 2016. To nominate go to: <a href="https://www.asg.com.au/nominate">www.asg.com.au/nominate</a>. Teachers can be nominated across early childhood, primary and secondary school categories.

More than 30,000 teachers have been nominated by their communities across Australia and New Zealand since the awards started in 1994. ASG NEiTA started in 1996 in New Zealand. ASG NEiTA has distributed more than \$830,000 in grants and prizes since the awards started 22 years ago.

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# Media Release

# For more information, please contact:

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#### **Editors notes:**

ASG is a member owned organisation, helping to create educational opportunities for children. ASG has been helping families and their children for more than 40 years. During this time, more than 520,000 children have been enrolled with ASG and more than \$2.3 billion in education benefits and scholarship payments returned to members. For more information visit: www.asg.com.au.



