

Media Release

Tuesday 24 October 2017

Queensland educators dominate awards

Teachers in Queensland have scooped up the ASG National Excellence in Teaching Awards (ASG NEiTA), receiving the highest number of state and territory awards.

The 19 outstanding teachers who have all made an impact in their local communities, are among 60 recipients to be awarded the prestigious honour selected from almost 1450 community nominations.

Now in its 23rd year, ASG NEiTA gives parents, grandparents, school boards and councils and committees of management the opportunity to formally thank and recognise outstanding and dedicated teachers, who are passionate about driving a world class education system and encouraging students to reach their full potential.

ASG NEiTA Chief Executive Officer, John Veleginis says these educators recognise that 'it takes a village to raise a child,' which is testament to their dedication and the impact they have on the lives of those they serve in local communities.

"In many respects, teaching is about giving, not only to children and students but to their families and the community networks around them. Some of the ASG NEiTA recipients come from very small towns and do represent the heartbeat of these communities.

"These teachers have an enormous responsibility in shaping and guiding these young people as well as supporting the educational aspirations families have for their children. Their teaching stretches beyond the core curriculum and standardised testing, and they also help children develop the social skills they need to develop into successful adults. Ensuring children have a well-rounded education is something our ASG NEiTA recipients are absolutely passionate about. This passion is welcomed by families as they want teachers to play a greater role in developing their children's life skills, which was one of the key findings in the latest [ASG Parents Report Card](#)."

The awards are classed into early childhood, primary and secondary categories.

ASG NEiTA chairman, Allen Blewitt says the awards highlight a long history of positive relationships being built between teachers and their communities.



The NEiTA Foundation is proudly supported and administered by the Australian Scholarships Group Friendly Society Limited ABN 21 087 648 879, a registered member owned organisation. Registered Office 23-35 Hanover St Oakleigh Vic Australia 3166
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“These teachers are also mentors and the influence they have on young people is remarkable as they learn to appreciate the value of lifelong learning as they navigate their life journeys. So, ASG NEiTA is one of the only channels where the community gets to express their sincere gratitude through nominating an inspirational teacher, educator, principal or centre director.”

Western Australia had 13 ASG NEiTA recipients, followed by 12 in New South Wales, four each in Victoria and South Australia, three each in Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory and two for Hobart.

ASG NEiTA will announce the national award recipients in March 2018. Professional development grants are available at the national award level, and one recipient gets the opportunity to go to Space Camp in Alabama alongside top teachers from each US state.

Queensland			
Teacher	School	Postcode	Category
Kirrrili Balshaw	Camp Hill Kindergarten	4152	Early Childhood
Sheena Hewlett	Bethlehem C&K Kindergarten	4207	Early Childhood
Lesleigh Dwyer	Eidsvold State School	4627	Early Childhood
Leigh Mayes	Canterbury College	4133	Early Childhood
Robyn Lane	Sunnybank Community Preschool & Kindergarten	4109	Early Childhood
Cassie McGregor	Sheldon College	4157	Early Childhood
Ashlea McClaer	Sheldon College	4157	Early Childhood
Lisa Moseley	Annandale Christian College	4814	Early Childhood
Sharna Te Hau	The Mulberry Bush	4207	Early Childhood
Sarah Slade	Sheldon College	4157	Early Childhood
Debbie Driver	Camp Hill State Infants & Primary School	4152	Primary
Denise Maindonald	Southport Special School	4215	Primary
Monica Wright	Burleigh Heads State School	4220	Primary
Patrick Hammond	Brisbane Bayside State College	4178	Secondary
Brendan Burgess	Sunshine Beach State High School	4567	Secondary
Scott Francis	The Lakes College	4509	Secondary



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Barbara Mossman	Cannon Hill Anglican College	4170	Secondary
David Hughes	Sheldon College	4157	Secondary
Laura Tognolini	North Lakes State College	4509	Secondary

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For more information, please contact:

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Editor's notes:

The Australian Scholarships Group (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 530,000 children have been enrolled with ASG and more than \$2.5 billion in education benefits and scholarship payments returned to members.

The ASG National Excellence in Teaching Awards (NEiTA) started in 1994 in Australia and 1996 in New Zealand. Since inception, more than 34,000 teachers have been nominated by the community in the two countries.

For more information visit: www.asg.com.au.



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