

**Tuesday 24 October 2017**

## **Local communities say thanks to Western Australia teachers who stand out in state awards**

Thirteen exceptional teachers who have made an impact in their local communities in Western Australia have been honoured with ASG National Excellence in Teaching Awards (NEiTA).

They are among the 60 state and territory recipients to be awarded the prestigious honour—selected from almost 1450 community nominations.

Now in its 23<sup>rd</sup> 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 Velegrinis 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.



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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.”

Queensland had 19 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.

Western Australia			
Teacher	School	Postcode	Category
Fiona Scidone	Clifton Hills Primary School	6111	Early Childhood
Luisa Mander	Telethon Speech & Hearing School	6014	Early Childhood
Vanessa Hince	Mary MacKillop Catholic Community Primary School	6066	Primary
Jo Wright	St Mary's Primary School	6430	Primary
Kevin Mazzer	The Perth Waldorf School	6163	Primary
Penny Crossland	All Saints College	6149	Primary
Louise Barber	Kearnan College	6258	Primary
Lee-Anne Morroccolli	Emmanuel Catholic College	6164	Secondary
Shaloni Naik	Ashdale Secondary College	6065	Secondary
Carl Grice	Frederick Irwin Anglican School	6210	Secondary
Bridget Murphy	St Norbert College	6987	Secondary
Ulrich Purwein	Mindarie Senior College	6030	Secondary
Stephen Julian	Mandurah Catholic College	6210	Secondary

ENDS.

**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](http://www.asg.com.au).*



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