

2023 Kate Mullin Educator Award

for excellence in improving language and literacy for Aboriginal EAL/D students

Open to all Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal educators¹

Are you (or do you know) an Australian educator who has helped to improve English language and literacy outcomes for Aboriginal students, while maintaining links to Aboriginal culture and identity?

The Kate Mullin Award has been created in memory of Kate Mullin, a passionate and visionary EALD consultant who made significant improvements in the teaching of Indigenous literacy in Western Australia. This award aims to recognise and celebrate educators who demonstrate excellence in the teaching of English to Aboriginal students, whose first language may be Aboriginal English, an Aboriginal Language or a creole such as the Kimberley Kriol. The educator can self-nominate or be nominated by a line-manager, colleague, student or community member.

The application should demonstrate the following:

1. **Improved student outcomes in English language and literacy.** (This could be improvements as substantiated by community member(s) or evidenced through appropriate monitoring tools such as the EAL/D Progress Map.)
2. **Educator awareness, recognition and valuing of home language/dialect and culture.**
3. **Educator engagement with Aboriginal families and community to improve student outcomes.**
4. **Evidence of strong rapport with Aboriginal students.**

The total Award is \$3000; it can be split if two nominees cannot be separated or they have been working in the same school as a two-way learning team. The winner(s) will be announced at the Westralian Association of Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (WATESOL) AGM in November 2022. We invite applications from both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal teachers, and other Aboriginal Educators including Education Officers, Education Workers, and/or Liaison Officers. The award is open to colleagues who make a joint application, or to individual applicants. Applications will be judged on merit, based on the criteria of the applicant's role in the classroom.

The award, sponsored by the Lindsay Cozens Trust, is provided to **enable the recipients to extend their knowledge and skills in teaching English to Aboriginal students and to share their exemplary practice with other educators.** Award winners are also expected to construct a brief report, indicating how they used the prize money to extend their skills and experience, to the Kate Mullin Association (KMA), for publication on the KMA website. It is anticipated that the Principal of the winners' school will support their staff member(s) by assisting them to source and access suitable professional learning opportunities, managing the funds on their behalf, and mentoring them as they share their practice with other educators.

Applications should be no more than two pages long and **must include supporting evidence as appendices** (additional to the application). Evidence could include student work samples, referee reports, emails, letters, etc. **Applications must include at least one referee statement from an Aboriginal person, who may be an educator or community member.**

The application form can be downloaded from the website: <http://katemullinassociation.org/teacher-award/>; all award submissions must be emailed to kmasecretary@iinet.net.au, Kate Mullin Association by 5.00 pm on Wednesday 8 November, 2023. For advice and further information regarding award submissions, please contact Award Coordinator Bev Burnside at burnside.bev@gmail.com.

¹ Including all those who work on improving SAE literacy outcomes for Aboriginal students: Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal teachers, Aboriginal and Islander Education Officers, Aboriginal Teaching Assistants and Aboriginal Education Workers