

2020

TEACHX AWARDS





About the Awards

The Excellence in Teaching Awards, now known as the TEACHX Awards, were inaugurated in 2009 to recognise and celebrate the achievements of inspiring teachers from schools and early childhood centres across Queensland.

Now in their twelfth year, the awards have over the years, attracted more than 2,000 nominations for Queensland registered teachers who have achieved exceptional outcomes. These teachers have achieved exceptional results in their fields.

The nominees for these awards are representative of the excellent teachers we have in all sectors of education and all geographical areas of Queensland.

The TUH Health Fund Dr Roger Hunter OAM Excellence in Beginning to Teach Award provides recognition for inspirational teachers with up to four years' experience.

The Teachers Mutual Bank Dr Alan Druery OAM Excellence in Teaching Award provides recognition for inspirational Queensland teachers.

The Schoolzine Merline Muldoon Innovation in Teaching Award was introduced in 2019 to provide recognition for the ground-breaking work of teachers and school leaders in schools and early learning centres across Queensland.

The Teachers Mutual Bank Dr John Dwyer Excellent Leadership in Teaching and Learning Award was introduced in 2012 to recognise classroom teachers or school administrators who have taken a leading role in enhancing teaching and learning in their school or early childhood centre.

The QSuper Dr Joe McCorley OAM Outstanding Contribution to School Community Award was introduced in 2018 to provide recognition for inspirational teachers who are the heart of the school community.

The Courier-Mail Professor Betty Watts OBE Memorial Award for an Outstanding Contribution to Teaching was introduced in 2011 to recognise teachers and school and early childhood administrators with an outstanding history of service.



Read the inspiring **stories** of the
2020 **AWARD NOMINEES**

TEACH 

AWARDS

EXCELLENCE IN
TEACHING
CONFIDENCE IN
THE PROFESSION

www.stories.qct.edu.au



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The challenges of 2020 have reminded everyone of the important role of teachers and offered an opportunity to reframe how the profession sees itself.

Teachers – your adaptability, commitment and resilience has shone through and highlighted all the wonderful characteristics that we know teachers possess.

Thank you for your sustained work to make this year count for the young people and school communities you serve.

DEANNE FISHBURN
Director

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Deanne Fishburn

Director

Deanne Fishburn is the Director of the Queensland College of Teachers. She is a leader who has national influence in teacher regulation in Australia and a personal understanding of teachers' work and child safety.

Deanne joined the Professional Standards Unit of the Queensland College of Teachers in 2007 and has implemented national reforms to Initial Teacher Education and Professional Standards in Queensland.

Deanne commenced as the QCT Director in May 2019.



Presenters



MR DAVID BLISS
Principal of St Andrews
Lutheran College

David is an experienced school leader in the independent schooling sector. He has taught for 35 years in public and independent schools. He is currently the Principal of St Andrews Lutheran College, a P-12 school of more than 1200 students at Tallebudgera on the Gold Coast. He has served in an extensive range of positions, including in rural and semi-remote schools in Queensland.



MR ROB SELJAK
Chief Executive Officer,
TUH Health Fund

Robert Seljak is the CEO of TUH, a not-for-profit private health insurance fund based in Brisbane which was started by Queensland teachers over 45 years ago. Prior to joining TUH, Rob held a number of senior executive roles, including General Manager WorkCover NSW and General Manager Workplace Health and Safety Queensland. He holds B.A., LL.B., and Master of Business degrees, and is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and the Australian Institute of Management.



MR DION GUTHRIE
Acting
Chief Executive Officer,
Schoolzine Australasia

After beginning his time at Schoolzine in the advertising department in 2011, Dion rose to his current role of Acting CEO. Dion is passionate about providing schools with software that gives them the chance to showcase the wonderful things they are doing. Currently, Dion is working to expand the rapidly growing company further, and on developing new products for the 3000 schools that Schoolzine is currently partnered with.



MS ANNE FINNEY
Chief Risk Officer,
QSuper Ltd

As the Chief Risk Officer, Anne leads the Group Governance team that develops and implements QSuper's risk, compliance and internal audit strategies. She is a member of the QSuper Group Executive team and has responsibility for the risk management framework including risk appetite and risk management strategy and ensuring ongoing compliance while continuing to strengthen the Group's risk culture. This role is responsible for relationships with key regulators and for reporting risk matters to the Audit and Risk Committee.



MR ANDRE GRIMAUX
Partnerships Editor,
The Courier-Mail

Andre manages The Courier-Mail and Sunday Mail's events, community and sport partnerships portfolio. A content specialist, he helps clients develop editorial and promotion plans that connect with print and digital readers across Queensland. Andre also manages The Courier-Mail's major campaigns, including the Future series, and is a former digital editor for couriermail.com.au and business and sport journalist with News Queensland.

MR TONY COOK PSM

Director-General

Tony Cook PSM is the Director-General of the Department of Education. Before joining the department in April 2018, Tony worked for six years in the Australian public service as the Associate Secretary for Schools and Youth within the Department of Education and Training.

Tony has held several senior executive positions in the Victorian public service, including Deputy Secretary, Government and Corporate with the Department of Premier and Cabinet; Deputy Secretary, Office for Children and Portfolio Coordination; and Deputy Secretary, Office for Planning, Strategy and Coordination within the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development. He began his career with Education Queensland.

Tony is a registered primary school teacher with a major in early childhood education. He has been a deputy principal and has taught in schools and preschools in Queensland and the United Kingdom. He holds a Bachelor of Education from the Queensland University of Technology.

In October 2013 Tony was made an Honorary Fellow of the Australian Council for Educational Leaders, and in January 2014, he was awarded a Public Service Medal for outstanding public service, especially in driving schools policy and funding reform in Australia.



Order of proceedings

3:30 pm The TEACHX Awards Virtual Ceremony portal opens

Master of Ceremonies opens the proceedings

Welcome

Presentation of finalists and recipient of the Dr Roger Hunter OAM
Excellence in Beginning to Teach Award
sponsored by TUH Health Fund

Presentation of finalists and recipient of the Dr Alan Druery OAM
Excellence in Teaching Award
sponsored by Teachers Mutual Bank

Presentation of finalists and recipient of the Merline Muldoon
Award for Innovation in Teaching
sponsored by Schoolzine

Presentation of finalists and recipient of the Dr John Dwyer
Excellent Leadership in Teaching and Learning Award,
sponsored by Teachers Mutual Bank

Presentation of finalists and recipient of the Dr Joe McCorley OAM
Award for an Outstanding Contribution to School Community
sponsored by QSuper

Presentation of finalists and recipient of the Professor Betty Watts
OBE Memorial Award for an Outstanding Contribution to Teaching
sponsored by The Courier-Mail

Director-General's message

Chair's message

4:00 pm Proceedings commence

Mr David Bliss

Principal, St Andrews Lutheran College and
Queensland College of Teachers Board member

Hon Grace Grace MP

Minister for Education and Minister for Industrial Relations

Hon Jarrod Bleijie MP

Shadow Minister for Education and Shadow Minister for
Industrial Relations

Mr Rob Seljak

Chief Executive Officer,
TUH Health Fund

Mr David Bliss

Principal, St Andrews Lutheran College and
Queensland College of Teachers Board member

Mr Dion Guthrie

Acting Chief Executive Officer,
Schoolzine Australasia

Mr David Bliss

Principal, St Andrews Lutheran College and
Queensland College of Teachers Board member

Ms Anne Finney

Chief Risk Officer, QSuper

Mr Andre Grimaux

Commercial Partnerships Editor,
The Courier-Mail

Mr Tony Cook PSM

Director-General, Department of Education

Emeritus Professor Wendy Patton

Chair, Queensland College of Teachers Board



Emeritus Professor Wendy Patton

Board Chair

Wendy took up her appointment as Chair of the QCT Board in August 2017. Wendy was until 2016 the Executive Dean of the Faculty of Education at QUT. Prior to becoming a lecturer in education in 1989, Wendy worked as a teacher, curriculum developer and guidance officer.

In 2016 she received The Miller-Grassie Award for Outstanding Leadership from the Australian Council for Educational Leaders, and presented the Miller-Grassie Oration at the Queensland Annual Awards Celebration. In the same year, Wendy received an award from the Australian Council of Deans of Education for Outstanding Contribution to Education and the ACDE Board. In 2016, the QUT Council conferred the title Emeritus Professor in recognition of Wendy's extensive leadership in, and service to, the university and to teacher education, and her significant contribution to research in the field of career development.

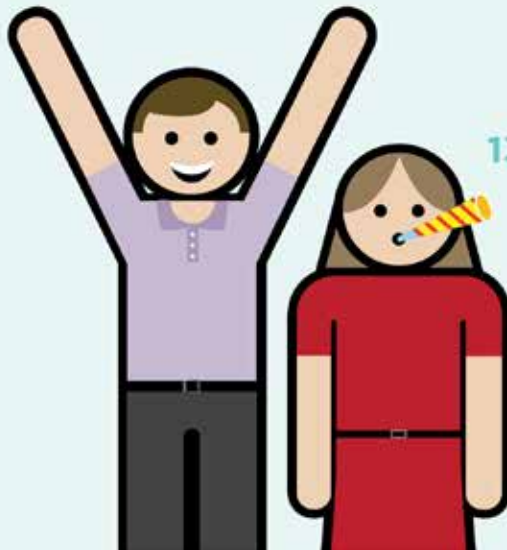
Proud sponsors of the TeachX Awards

Congratulations to this year's 2020 TEACHX Awards finalists and winners!

Thank you for all the wonderful work you do; encouraging young minds to think, helping young hands to create and nurturing young hearts to love. The work you do is truly inspiring!

Now it's time to let us look after YOU!

In fact, at TUH Health Fund we've been looking after Queensland's education community since 1972 with quality, affordable health insurance. We're great at what we do and we are proud of it. That's why we were voted Australia's most trusted health fund and the most recommended members-owned health insurer in Australia.*



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Source: Ipsos Healthcare & Insurance Australia survey 2017 and DBM Consultants Australian Financial Awards 2019, for more info visit dbmconsultants.com.au.

*The TUH Health Fund Dr Roger Hunter OAM
Excellence in Beginning to Teach Award*

TEACH *BEGINNING*



DR ROGER HUNTER OAM
Excellence in Beginning to
Teach Award

Dr Roger Hunter has a lively and continuing commitment to excellence in education. A graduate of three universities – Queensland, Sydney and Southern Illinois – as well as The Australian School of Pacific Administration, he was a Board member of the QCT and the Board of Teacher Registration for 23 years. He is a Fellow of the Australian College of Educators, and has served as President of Independent Schools Queensland (ISQ), as Executive Director of Lutheran Education Queensland, and as Adjunct Professor at Griffith University.



PEITA BATES
Maryborough State High School

A former business consultant turned teacher, Peita is making an invaluable contribution to the Fraser Coast, lifting student performance at Maryborough State High School and helping pupils from across the region to complete business qualifications and learn coding and robotics.

Peita has also helped maintain her school's Vocational Education and Training program, introduced coding as a language, set up virtual classrooms to provide programs to neighbouring schools, created an interschool competition in the wake of COVID-19 and works with the Fraser Coast Regional Council, and local businesses, to identify opportunities and projects for students.



ALEXANDRA CALLIGARIS
Maroochydore State High School

Alexandra Calligaris's creative and innovative use of digital technology to engage students and her strong leadership skills are just two of the reasons she is a finalist for the Queensland College of Teachers TEACHX Excellence in Beginning to Teach Award.

As a Humanities teacher, Alexandra works hard to deliver dynamic lessons and uses students' high engagement with memes and gifs to build rapport. When teaching geospatial mapping in geography, she frames it around using geospatial technology to survive a zombie apocalypse. Alexandra's innovative approach to cross-curricular teaching, learning and assessment is credited with improved results in Year 9 Humanities at Maroochydore State High School.



MATALENA DANIELLS
Centenary State High School

An international soccer player, Matalena is proving to be just as successful in teaching as she is on the football field. Matalena, who has captained the Samoa Women's National Football Team, became the Centenary State High School Sports Director, and a coordinator of two school subjects, in her first eighteen months of teaching.

This innate leader has coached multiple schools' sporting teams to win championships, co-ordinated interschool competitions and carnivals, rewritten unit plans, lessons and assessments, introduced school student sporting awards and student leadership opportunities, and has been awarded a NESLI Women's Middle Leadership Scholarship.



SOPHIE GRUHL
Mabel Park State High School

As a beginning teacher, Sophie has been dedicated to lifting her students' expectations of what can be achieved.

Over the past 18 months, the Mabel Park State High School teacher has taken the school's first Indigenous netball team to a tournament, organised a second-hand shoe drive with her local gym, organised a Year 12 'Big Day Out' successfully increasing attendance and decreasing truancy, taught Muslim students how to float in a lake for the first time, managed a girls' Metropolitan East Rugby League team and organised the Year 9 celebration evening.

Her ability to build relationships with students has also seen her appointed as the school's Year 11 and 12 Coordinator.

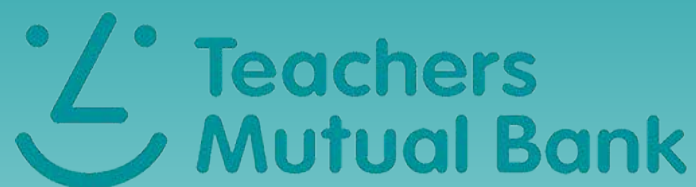


MICHAEL KING
John Paul College

A former musician turned teacher, Michael was a Prep Learning Assistant at John Paul College for seven years before becoming a Year 1 teacher. He was recognised for his outstanding work with a regional Queensland Training Award in 2015 when he was studying a Diploma in Community Services in Education and Care.

Michael, who started studying teaching in his 40s, has made a significant impact in his school community. Last year, he led the way for early career teachers to receive more support at the College, thanks to a suite of improvements he put forward, including weekly professional development meetings, welcome packs and a strengthened mentoring system.

Michael is known for being an outstanding classroom practitioner who provides engaging lessons and builds a strong and positive rapport with his students and their families.



PROUD SPONSOR

*The Teachers Mutual Bank Dr Alan Druery OAM
Excellence in Teaching Award*

TEACH**X** *EXCELLENCE*



DR ALAN DRUERY OAM
Excellence in Teaching Award

As the first CEO and later Executive Director of the Queensland Catholic Education Commission, Dr Alan Druery was, until his retirement in July 2001, an active advocate for the state's Catholic education system for more than 50 years. Dr Druery started his teaching career in the state system before joining St Laurence's College in 1957. His leadership achievements also include McAuley College, which later became part of Australian Catholic University (ACU), where he was on the Senate for 20 years, the Archdiocesan Education Council, and 22 years' service much of it as Deputy Chair with the QCT's predecessors, the Board of Teacher Education and the Board of Teacher Registration. He has received honorary doctorates for distinguished services to the Queensland University of Technology and ACU.



JODI AUDOSS
Silkstone State School

Ipswich teacher Jodi Audoss has been recognised for her inspirational work as the Inclusion Teacher for Year 1 students with learning difficulties at Silkstone State School.

After working in education for 30 years and experiencing a life-changing event, Jodi sought an inclusion role to help students overcome learning challenges. The enormous difference she is making in children's lives marked the culmination of a hard-fought journey back to classroom teaching.

Jodi is passionate about the significance of the first five years of a child's life, and she uses her extensive knowledge and skills in the area to benefit her students. She became a primary school teacher after working for many years in early childhood education.



SONG HUANG
Yeronga State High School

A pioneering program connecting students learning about the Chinese language and culture with jobs in the tourism and hospitality industries is being taught in schools across southeast Queensland and is ready to be introduced across the state, thanks to Yeronga State High School experienced senior teacher Song Huang.

Song set up the Chinese language program at Yeronga State High School in 2014. In late 2017 he became the first teacher in Queensland to introduce the Certificate II in Applied Languages, which provides students with a Vocational Education and Training qualification, which links them with tourism and hospitality opportunities.

Through the course, Song's students have provided tourist information to Chinese-speaking guests at Lone Pine Koala Sanctuary in Brisbane and the certificate has been taught at Merrimac State High School on the Gold Coast.



CECILIA KOVACIC
Maryborough State High School

Cecilia Kovacic is co-creator of an award-winning Fraser Coast festival run by Maryborough State High School (MSHS) students.

MSHS Head of Department – Student Performance, Cecilia came up with the idea of the Fraser Coast regions popular culture expo (FraserPop) to provide her Diploma of Business students with real-world experiences as part of their course. The event attracted more than 15,000 people last year, driving up tourism dollars for the town.

She is committed to boosting her students' employment opportunities, being innovative in her teaching approaches and building relationships to help pupils succeed. Cecilia works closely with her school's leadership team to connect students to employers and business opportunities.



MATTHEW LOURIGAN
Loreto College

Students have floated in zero gravity, designed solar ovens for developing countries, stared at the stars in astronomy nights, and led their school's Science Week, thanks to Matthew Lourigan. Matthew has driven up the number of girls studying senior Science subjects, and their results, at his school.

Matthew can engage students – and his entire Loreto College Coorparoo community – through exciting, thought-provoking and innovative activities and programs. He is behind an increase in student results and in the number of students choosing to study senior Science subjects at the school.



JOEL SPERANZA
Ormiston College

Ormiston College's Head of Mathematics, Joel Speranza has had more than half a million hits on his YouTube videos, placed more than 1,000 lessons online for students and teachers to use, led his school through making video lessons during the COVID-19 remote teaching period, and leads a classroom different to any other you have seen, in which students are the drivers of their lessons.

He was one of the first teachers in Australia to use a Lightboard – which sees teachers writing lessons on the glass as if the teacher is writing on the camera lens of the video that viewers are watching – in video lessons for students.

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*The Schoolzine Merline Muldoon
Innovation in Teaching Award*

TEACH *INNOVATION*



MERLINE MULDOON

Award for Innovation in Teaching

Merline Muldoon was the first Chair of the Board of Teacher Registration (the QCT's predecessor) and in the late 1960s was at the forefront of the Queensland Teachers' Union campaign which led to the establishment of teacher registration in this state.

Miss Muldoon began teaching in 1954. As principal of West End Infants State School in the 1970s, Miss Muldoon helped turn the school into a unique educational environment to meet the needs of children from multicultural and underprivileged backgrounds. She ended her career as principal of the Royal Children's Hospital State Special School in Brisbane.

She was one of Queensland's first registered teachers.



AMY FREEMAN

Mackay District Special School

Amy has helped transform culture at Mackay District Special School by introducing a Core Word Classroom (CWC) teaching approach that supports students being taught at the correct curriculum level, using their preferred communication method, whether it be Auslan, Key-Word Sign, Pragmatic Organisation Dynamic Displays or iPads with Proloquo2go.

Amy undertook the CWC project while still teaching a class of students and also helped provide teachers and parents with resources during the COVID-19 learning@home restrictions, including recording activities like cooking, painting and making a poppy for Anzac Day, which families could then undertake with their child. The work is credited with improving school moral, student engagement and student engagement at Mackay District Special School.



GAVIN JONES

Mabel Park State High School

Gavin Jones' students are the first in Queensland to undertake a drone-piloting course at school, which led them to participate in a World of Drones event and learn from the police how to map out crime scenes. The drone-piloting program has put his students on the cutting-edge of technology and ahead of their peers in the booming drone industry.

Gavin, who obtained his own commercial pilot's licence while on long service leave, introduced to his school the Certificate III in Aviation (Remote Pilot – Visual Line of Sight) course, and every student enrolled has obtained the qualification.

The aviator comes from a family of teachers and has taught at Mabel Park State High School since graduating from his teacher education program 32 years ago.



CAMERON LYNCH
Marsden State High School

Electronic Sports (Esports) is a growing billion-dollar industry taking off around the world and Marsden State High School is one of the first schools in Queensland to be introducing students to it.

Cameron Lynch, who is a Business, IT and HPE teacher, and also a sports coach, has been using his skills to introduce the ground-breaking industry at his school.

He has built links with local companies XP Sports and Federation of United School Esports which run Esports tournaments, as well as with The University of Queensland and the Queensland University of Technology. These partnerships give Marsden State High School students links to real-world knowledge and provide pathways to further study or employment.



BRETT MURPHY
Belgian Gardens State School

Inspirational Townsville teacher Brett Murphy helps students create a positive difference in the world. His dedication to ensuring students have hands-on, real-world learning experiences and discover that they too can make an impact on their environment, has led his school to install an aquarium filled with 20 fish tanks; an aviary filled with endangered finches and parrots; a clownfish breeding program; and a Green STEM Project. Students from across Townsville are drawing life-size whales, learning about flying drones, coding Ozobots to help save sea turtles, and creating projects to help clear the Great Barrier Reef of marine debris.

Brett's students have picked up more than 70,000 pieces of rubbish from Townsville beaches over the past 15 years, and he is called on by other schools across the region to provide Science lessons for their students.



CHRISTOPHER PACEY
St Patrick's College, Townsville

Students travel more than 1,000km to Townsville to take part in a STEM conference led by Christopher Pacey, who has helped inspire almost one-third of his school's students to become Great Barrier Reef guardians.

Christopher, a former Marine Ecologist and Queensland Parks and Wildlife Ranger and Team Leader has introduced dynamic, hands-on, real-world experiences to students at St Patrick's College and students state-wide.

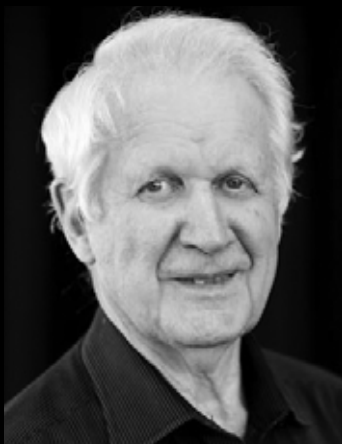
Christopher started as a Science teacher before working with his principal to introduce Marine Science. In his classrooms, there are fish tanks filled with coral ecosystems, which are used as real-life lesson examples; the fish tank glass can serve as a whiteboard.



PROUD SPONSOR

*The Teachers Mutual Bank Dr John Dwyer
Excellent Leadership in Teaching and Learning Award*

TEACHX *LEADERSHIP*



DR JOHN DWYER

Excellent Leadership in Teaching and Learning Award

A former Chair of the Board of Teacher Registration (predecessor of the QCT), Dr John Dwyer has over 60 years' experience in education and training, including as a teacher, principal, inspector, director and consultant. Dr Dwyer began his teaching career at Ironside State School and went on to become principal of a number of state schools, including Cherbourg, where his experience led him to specialise for some years in the education of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children. Recently, he has been heavily involved in vocational education and training.



DONALD CAMERON

Marsden State High School

Transformational change in Marsden State High School's teaching and learning culture has been attributed to Donald Cameron.

The Head of Department –Teaching and Learning oversees the training and mentoring of over 70 early career teachers. In 2019 he created the FOCUS team of 25 highly dedicated teachers who work to improve staff development and performance.

Donald's use of mindfulness, lessons from neuroscience and yoga have also been credited with helping to retain more than 95 per cent of beginning teachers at his school. He has set up teaching and student frameworks for learning at the school, developed an Attention Focused Classroom Management Program for Marsden's Beginning Teachers Program, and has been invited to speak to universities and other schools about his innovative strategies.



SUSAN DALTON

Miami State High School

Transformational principal Susan Dalton has driven exciting initiatives at Miami State High School which have helped increase student inclusion, respect from the local community, and academic and sporting outcomes. The programs have also seen her students recognised on state, national and international stages.

Susan started her career as a Japanese teacher before quickly ascending to leadership roles. The outstanding results being achieved by Miami State High School and its students – including record OP results – STEM from Susan ensuring teaching practices are "exemplary". She increased professional development for all teachers and changed the timetable to accommodate it. Susan introduced interpreters for all deaf and hard of hearing students and lesson captioning, which has benefited all pupils, and has implemented a student leadership framework to increase student empowerment at the school.



KEITH GRAHAM
Rosedale State School

Principal Dr Keith Graham has transformed and improved school performance, has influenced the education of future teachers across Queensland, is widely consulted on topics of educational leadership and has been awarded an Order of Australia Medal for his service to school sports.

In his previous position at Chatswood State School, Keith lifted staff morale and increased parent satisfaction. Enrolments increased by about 150 students while he was at the helm. At Rosedale State School, which was the first state school in Queensland to establish the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme, Keith has worked assiduously on making the school a leader in the international programme.

Keith is committed to advancing the teaching profession and preparing future generations of teachers.



BEN HABERMEHL
Yeronga State High School

Before Ben Habermehl became the Mathematics Head of Department at Yeronga State High School (YSHS), the school's NAPLAN numeracy performance was showing "red", with 13 per cent of students performing below the National Minimum Standard (NMS).

YSHS students have improved at a rate 30 per cent higher than the state average and by 2019, 94 per cent of Year 9 students met the NMS. YSHS has since received Gold Medal Status from the Queensland Association of Mathematics Teachers, one of only eight Queensland schools to do so.

To achieve the turnaround Ben consulted with his staff, conducted an audit, wrote a handbook, looked at what other schools were doing and brainstormed for innovative ideas on unit plans, pedagogy and assessment. He also introduced school activities to promote Mathematics, including Pi Day, Numeracy Week and activities which include guest speakers.



MEREDITH WENTA
Kirwan State High School

Townsville leader, Meredith Wenta, has played a key role in ensuring her school is years in front of others and that students continuously succeed on the local, state and national stage.

Under her leadership, Kirwan State High School is a school of choice for graduate teachers, after Meredith formed the Beginning and Continuing Teachers' Program in 1998 – decades before other schools had similar, comprehensive induction programs. The school is renowned for its award-winning education and multicultural programs, as well as its outstanding graduate achievements.

In 2015, Meredith helped galvanise her community after the painful and tragic loss of their former executive principal, John Livingstone, to brain cancer. The school has raised \$355,000 for 'The Cure Starts Now' charity.



Thank for all that you do

Celebrating teachers this World Teachers' Day

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*The QSuper Dr Joe McCorley OAM
Outstanding Contribution to School Community Award*

TEACH**X** *COMMUNITY*



DR JOE MCCORLEY OAM
Award for an Outstanding
Contribution to School Community

Dr Joe McCorley chaired the QCT Board from late 2009 until mid-2017. Joe's professional career began in 1961 as a state primary school teacher and he later became a District Inspector of Schools. In 1980 he joined Catholic education as Supervisor of Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Rockhampton. Joe was appointed in 1989 as the first lay Director of Catholic Education for the Diocese. He went on to become the Director of the Queensland Catholic Education Commission. In 1995 he was awarded an OAM for his services to education and in 2008 Joe was awarded an honorary doctorate by Central Queensland University.



CHANTELLE AMSON
Nambour Special School

A belief that all students have the right to, and can, learn, has led Nambour Special School (NSS) teacher Chantelle Amson to provide her students with school fetes, days at water parks and the opportunity to share the spotlight with other schools in Chorale Spectaculars.

Chantelle is involved with the NSS's choir, 'Sing Sign Sway', where students can contribute their ability to sing, sign key words or convey the joy of music through swaying or facial expression.

She ensures accessibility with organisers of events, raises funds to hire suitable transport, organises support staff and prepares the students. She also coordinates the school's Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) program, and in 2019 NSS was awarded PBL Demonstration School status.



RON ARMSTRONG
The Cathedral College

During the global pandemic, Ron Armstrong's leadership of his tireless team of boarding staff at The Cathedral College (TCC) in Rockhampton ensured his school was one of the first in the state able to reopen to a full complement of students on site.

Since taking on the role of Assistant Principal: Boarding in 2009, Ron has increased TCC's boarding numbers from 120 students to full capacity at 190, with a waiting list. He has built strong relationships and trust with communities and families in regional, rural and remote areas.

Mr Armstrong is known as an exemplary teacher who shows deep pastoral care for his students, colleagues and the school community, and who is available for long hours every day to parents of boarders. He also contributed to nationwide boarding standards and professional development.



CARLY BELL
Clermont State High School

Carly Bell has inspired students to go to university and beginning teachers to stay in Clermont as a result of her outstanding leadership and continuous support.

Carly has helped increase the proportion of the school's students enrolling at university from 4 per cent in 2015 to 31 per cent in 2018, and she has paved the way to keep Clermont State High School (CSHS) at the forefront of the new Senior Assessment and Tertiary Entrance system, ensuring Year 11 students trialled external assessments and that staff were upskilled.

Carly's active welcoming of preservice, beginning and new teachers to the school, and to the town, has been credited with an increase of 60 per cent in beginning teachers staying at CSHS beyond the three-year cycle, and for the choice of final-year student teachers who undertake their practical experience at the school to stay in the community and teach there.



CATHY NIXON
Cairns West State School

Cathy Nixon has been instrumental in setting up one of the nation's most extraordinary hubs of support for students and their families at Cairns West State School (CWSS).

These hubs range from medical and legal services and a food bank on the CWSS site, to an 'It Takes a Village' strategy, which connects students and their families to external support agencies, to community-sponsored meal deliveries sent out to vulnerable families, to a teaching team which undertakes daily at-home "letterbox conversations" to build relationships with parents/carers, and to a referral hub for government services on school grounds.

Cathy has worked with local businesses, schools, charities and community organisations, and governments, to secure hundreds of thousands of dollars of services and resources to enable these programs to happen.



MARGARET SHERRINGTON
Mabel Park State High School

After decades of teaching at Mabel Park State High School (MPSHS), Margaret Sherrington has built profound connections with her students and their multicultural communities, and she is now teaching the grandchildren of students she once taught.

Her legendary kindness includes helping students through assessments even after they graduate, putting on lunches and providing essential items when families cannot afford it. She is described by colleagues as embodying all things wonderful about teaching.

Margaret has been involved in extra-curricular events at MPSHS and has an important role in the LEAD program, which has seen some students become the first in their family to attend university.

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*The Courier-Mail Professor Betty Watts OBE
Memorial Award for an Outstanding Contribution to Teaching*

TEACHX *OUTSTANDING*



**EMERITUS PROFESSOR
BETTY WATTS OBE**

**Memorial Award for Outstanding
Contribution to Teaching**

Betty Hazel Watts (1928-1997) made a significant contribution to Queensland's educational landscape. Twice Chair of the Board of Teacher Education, a predecessor to the QCT, Emeritus Professor Watts was Queensland's fourth female professor – progressing from teaching primary school students to shaping higher education at the University of Queensland with a strong focus on Indigenous and special education issues. She was awarded the Order of the British Empire – Officer (Civil) in 1976 for her service to education.



JOHN ALLOWAY
Ignatius Park College

John Alloway, 72, has led the way for Catholic schoolboys in the Townsville community since his appointment as Head of Sport at Ignatius Park College in 1978.

John is driven to foster complete young men, rather than just great athletes and as a result of his efforts, Catholic students in Townsville are now represented in all levels of Queensland secondary school competitions.

Under John's leadership there has only been a handful of times in which Ignatius Park College has not held the Melton Black Shield for Excellence in Townsville Boys Sport.

He is known for being a bedrock of his school community and for bringing his expertise built working with the North Queensland Cowboys over 20 years to benefit his students.



JOHN ALOIZOS
Yeronga State High School

John Aloizos' steadfast commitment to his school and students through his management of a Stage Crew has quietly changed lives, keeping some pupils, who otherwise might have disengaged from their schooling, in education.

He has worked at four different schools, acting as head of various departments. He has started up photography programs and Drumline groups and participated in Y-Connect research carried out by Griffith University. Mr Aloizos also researches internationally to ensure his classes use contemporary technical practices and he links his students with Drama Queensland.

Colleagues have praised the difference he has made, and the career paths he has helped carve out, for students in his Stage Crew.



PING DING
Marsden State High School

A teacher whose own education was disrupted has gone on to create one of Queensland's largest school Chinese language departments.

Marsden State High School's inspirational teacher Ping Ding grew up during the Cultural Revolution in China. Upon leaving school at 16 she was allocated to work in a public bathhouse. In 1978, she and a whole generation of Chinese citizens were allowed to apply for university for the first time in a decade. The value of education and the opportunities it provides never left her, and she became a teacher in 1983.

Ms Ding has secured thousands of dollars in funding to provide computers to her students and to help fund their overseas travel. Her Chinese students regularly win scholarships and Chinese Bridge (Proficiency) competitions – one student competed in the Chinese Bridge World Competition during Ms Ding's early tenure at Marsden State High School.



PEARL DONOVAN
Queensland Academies Health Sciences Campus

Already named as one of the Gold Coast's favourite teachers, Pearl Donovan started her teaching career in Canada in 1976 and has spent decades passing her passion for English literature on to students across the globe.

She has taught in the United States of America, at Wynnum in southeast Queensland and was the Head of Studies at a private business school in Hong Kong before arriving on the Gold Coast, where she has taught ever since.

Despite English being a second language for some students at the Queensland Academy for Health Sciences (QAHS), every single one of Pearl's students has passed the subject since the Academy opened. Pearl steeps students in English literature, and literature from around the globe. As one of QAHS's foundational teachers, she has helped some students transform from not liking English, to asking her for book lists before they graduate.



DELL RATHBONE
West Moreton Anglican College

A trailblazing teacher who first taught at 17 years old, returned to university at the age of 70, and is still making an enormous difference for students at '82 years young', West Moreton Anglican College teacher Dell Rathbone has educated three generations of students in her 65-year educational career.

In 1955, as a 17-year-old, Dell had her first class of 66 students at Graceville State School. In an age before Autism was recognised, Dell identified that the regimented classroom setting of the 1950s was inappropriate for some students and she adapted a range of teaching strategies and techniques to support children. She went on to author the paper 'Equity in Education', which influenced education in Queensland.

Dell also played a key role in developing Queensland's first Prep-Year 12 Mathematics Curriculum. She is described as an Ipswich educational stalwart who has a deep and long-lasting connection with her students.

Previous TEACHX Award Recipients

2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
SANDRA QUINN Forest Lake State High School	JESSIKA HOGAN Kingston State School	TARRYN BERNING Payne Road State School	KERRIE JOHNSTONE Moreton Bay Boys' College	PADDY MACLEOD Kirwan State High School	DAVID RAWSON St Ursula's Colleg
PATRICIA CARMICHAEL Concordia Lutheran College	PATRICIA CARMICHAEL Concordia Lutheran College	SCOTT ADAMSON All Hallows' School	FIONA ALTOFT Marymount College	DEBRA KOH St Aidan's Anglican Girls' School	LISA MILLER The Southport Sch
		ADELE RICE Milpera State High School	FRAN JONES Elanora State High School	BRENDA SHIRLEY Glenala State High School	DARYL HANLY St Joseph's Nudgee College
		SISTER ELVERA SESTA St Rita's College	GARRY BROWN Queensland Academies Health Sciences Campus	CORRINE MCMILLAN Glenala State High School	BEVAN PENROSE Bundamba State Secondary Colleg
					MICHELLE BOND Royal Children's Hospital School

2015

NATHAN CHRISTENSEN
Kelvin Grove
State College

ANTHONY YOUNG
St Laurence's College

WILL JONES
C & K Central

HELEN WARDROP
Sarina State School

2016

KRYSTAL FLYNN
Tagai State College,
Saibai Island

KRISTEN HOGG
Queensland Academies
Science, Mathematics
and Technology

KATH KAYROOZ
Queensland Academies
Science, Mathematics
and Technology

SUNANDA BRADBURY
Emerald North
State School

2017

TAHNEE BROWN
Wisdom College

JANE GREFFE
Marymount College

LYN NOTHDURFT
St Patrick's College,
Gympie

DIANNE AYLWARD
Moreton Bay
Environmental
Education Centre

TAMIKA MEGAWATT
Maroochydore
State High School

2018

MWEISI CARRA
C & K White Rock
Community Kindergarten,
Cairns

NATALIE HARRIS
Pacific Pines
Primary School,
Gold Coast

COLIN OREVICH
Australian Industry
Trade College,
Gold Coast Campus

STEPHEN CRAPNELL
All Hallows' School,
Brisbane

JESSICA WALKER
Yeronga
State High School

2019

LAURA LOUCKS
Tagai State College –
Badu Island Campus

CARLA TROTT
St Aidan's
Anglican Girls' School

NORAH PARSONS
Moura
State High School

ANDREW PEACH
Marsden
State High School

TAMIKA MEGAWATT
Maroochydore
State High School

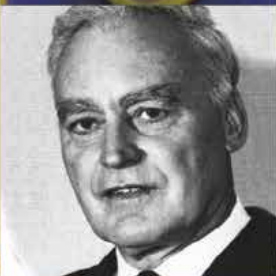
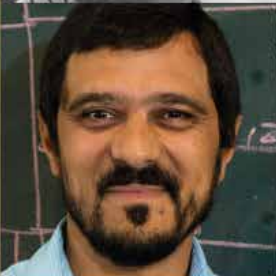
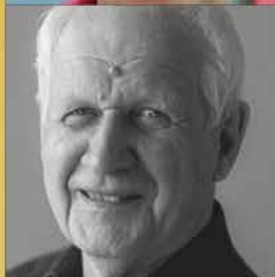
JENNIFER IRVING
Nambour Special School



**TEACHER
REGISTRATION**

1971–2021

*Celebrating 50 years
of a teacher registration
authority in Queensland*



Thank you

The QCT would like to acknowledge the support of its major stakeholders in showcasing Queensland's excellent teachers and thank them for assisting the QCT in its work.



*EXCELLENCE IN
TEACHING.
CONFIDENCE IN
THE PROFESSION.*