

MSAWA AWARDS FOR 2009

RATIONALE - The MSAWA Awards aim to acknowledge and celebrate the achievements of those members who make a significant contribution to the education of young adolescents. The presentation and publication of the achievements of the nominees will allow the sharing of best practice in the implementation of the principles of Middle Schooling and encourage others in the pursuit of excellence in education of those in the middle years.

METHOD - Members are invited to nominate candidates for a MSAWA Award/s and complete the nomination application form. The Awards Committee (a Sub-Committee of the MSAWA) will assess the nominations according to the prescribed criteria and table their recommendation in each of the categories at the MSAWA Management Committee meeting in Term 4 of each year. The awards will then be presented at a ceremony preceding the Annual General Meeting later that term.

AWARDS CATEGORIES

a) MSAWA Career Service Award

The award for Career Service is the highest award given by MSAWA. This award is given only when an individual has demonstrated, over an extended period of time a level of service, integrity, and leadership in middle years education that warrants this special recognition.

b) MSAWA Distinguished Educator Award

This award recognizes outstanding practitioners in middle level education. It recognises those who have made a significant impact on the lives of young adolescents through leadership, vision, and advocacy.

c) MSAWA Outstanding Service Award

This award recognizes outstanding service by an organisation or an individual who makes a significant contribution to advancing the work of the Middle School Association of Western Australia in reaching middle level educators, schools and young adolescents.

d) WA Middle School of the Year

The WA Middle School of the Year is chosen from among the nominations from member schools who demonstrate excellence in middle schooling. It acknowledges outstanding achievement by staff and administrators in the implementation of Middle Schooling principles in the culture of the school.

e) WA Middle Schooling Team of the Year

The WA Middle School Team of the Year is chosen from among the nominations from member schools who demonstrate excellence in a middle schooling project. It acknowledges an outstanding collaborative achievement by a teaching team in the implementation of Middle Schooling principles in the curriculum.

f) WA Middle Schooling Educator of the Year

The WA Middle Schooling Educator of the Year is chosen from among the nominations from member schools who demonstrate excellence in teaching in a middle schooling environment. It acknowledges outstanding achievement by an educator in the implementation of Middle Schooling principles in the curriculum.

g) Teams or Individuals that “Make a Difference” Award

This award recognises outstanding individuals or groups (eg parents or volunteer groups) who demonstrate excellence by implementing initiatives for positive changes that make difference in Middle Schooling communities. The number awarded is at the discretion of the Awards Committee

h) Students that “Make a Difference” Award

This award recognises middle schooling students who demonstrate excellence by implementing initiatives for positive changes that make a difference in their communities. The number awarded is at the discretion of the Awards Committee

Prizes

In categories a – f, the winner will receive a MSAWA plaque acknowledging their achievement and in the case of the WA Educator of the Year, the winner will be sponsored by the MSAWA to attend a National Middle Schooling Conference. In the case of the “Make a Difference” Awards the recipient/s will be presented with a certificate.

MSAWA Awards work to be completed and possible timeline for 2009

- Selection panel appointed February 2009 1st meeting of the MSAWA
- Criteria agreed and disseminated February 2009 1st meeting of the Awards Committee
- Nominations received September 2009 - to the Secretary
- Selections made and winners notified October 2009 – by the Secretary
- Awards announced and presented AGM and Awards Presentation in November 2009

Points to be considered for 2009 - National Middle School Teacher of the Year

In 2009 it is envisaged that the MSAWA will work collaboratively with other State Middle Schooling Associations to devise a selection process to acknowledge a National Middle Schooling Educator of the Year. It is anticipated that the winners of the awards in each participating state and/or territories will attend a nominated National Middle Schooling Conference and the overall winner to be announced at that Conference. Additionally it is envisioned that each of the state and territories winners would be afforded the opportunity to present a paper showcasing their achievements.

Wendy Sinden

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President MSAWA