

NSW Environmental Education Awards 2022

About the 2022 Awards

In 2022, the AAEE NSW Environmental Education Awards will comprise of three categories of awards:

1. The 2022 Educator Excellence Awards
2. The 2022 Program Excellence Awards
3. The 2022 Business Excellence Awards

The 2022 Educator Excellence Awards

The Educator Excellence Awards recognise individual educators from a range of sectors who have exhibited leadership and made notable achievements in their sector to further environmental education.

The Overall NSW Environmental Educator of the Year Award is awarded to one of the winners in this suite. Nominees may self-nominate (but must provide a supporting referee). If a nomination is made on behalf of someone else, the nominator must advise if the nominee knows they are being nominated.

The 2021 Educator Excellence Awards has 6 nomination categories:

1. Community Educator of the Year Award
2. Government Educator of the Year Award
3. Tertiary Educator of the Year Award
4. Early Childhood Educator of the Year Award
5. Sustainable Schools NSW Teacher of the Year Award
6. Overall NSW Environmental Educator of the Year Award (chosen by the judge panel from one of the five sector award winners)

All individuals nominated must predominantly carry out their work in New South Wales. A nominee may only be nominated in ONE of the above categories 1–5.

Application Questions (250–word limit per question):

1. What are your notable achievements in environmental education in recent years?
2. How have you exhibited leadership in your field of environmental education and influenced others?
3. How have you developed your skills and understanding to take effective action for our environment in your field?

Judging:

- The winner of each award will be decided by a judging panel consisting of two AAEE NSW representatives and a representative from the sector to be awarded.

Prizes:

- Each sector award winner receives a Welcome to Country eVoucher and a printed certificate
- The Overall winner receives a free year of AAEE membership, trowel signed by Costa and framed winner award

The 2022 Program Excellence Award

– Sustainable Schools NSW School of the Year Award

Recognises a school that has shown excellence in embedding sustainability within their school and in the broader community in line with the values of [Sustainable Schools NSW](#). *Note: the Sustainable Schools NSW program has been focused on Primary and High Schools and therefore only these may apply. We hope to support an early learning program award in the future.*

– Return and Earn Program Leader Award

Recognises a teacher, student or parent who has helped embed the Return and Earn program into their school.

Application Questions (250–word limit per question):

Return and Earn Program Leader Award

1. Tell us about the program leader you're nominating. How have they championed your Return and Earn program and made the program a success?
2. Provide details of the way you are using Return and Earn at your school including how you collect and return your containers, amount of money fund raised and how it has been used and how students and the school community are engaged in the program

Sustainable Schools NSW School of the Year Award

Tell us about the key ways your school has embedded sustainability:

1. On campus (in your school's grounds, operations and processes)
2. In curriculum (in your schools' classrooms and teaching and learning settings)
3. In school culture (in your school's student, staff and leadership approach and the ethos of the school community)

Judging:

- The winner of each award will be decided by a judging panel consisting of two AAEE NSW representatives and a representative from the program to be awarded.

Prizes:

- Return and Earn Program Leader Award – Welcome to Country eVoucher and printed award winner certificate. Case study written up and promoted.
- SS NSW School of the Year – Welcome to Country eVoucher and printed award winner certificate. Case study written up and promoted.

The 2022 Business Excellence Award

– Sustainability Connect Business of the Year Award

The [Sustainability Connect](#) Business of the Year Award will recognise a business that has excelled in delivery of their environmental products and services, and/or any business that has excelled in supporting environmental and environmental education outcomes.

Businesses must be listed on the Sustainability Connect directory website to be eligible. *Note: this year's award is for the business sector, therefore government-funded programs are not eligible.*

Application Questions (250-word limit per question):

Sustainability Connect Business of the Year Award

3. Tell us about the program leader you're nominating. How have they championed your Return and Earn program and made the program a success?
4. Provide details of the way you are using Return and Earn at your school including how you collect and return your containers, amount of money fund-raised and how it has been used and how students and the school community are engaged in the program

Judging:

- The winner of each award will be decided by a judging panel consisting of two AAEE NSW representatives and a representative from the program to be awarded.

Prizes:

- Sustainability Connect Business of the Year Award – Welcome to Country eVoucher and printed award winner certificate. Press release written up and promoted.

All schools, organisations or individuals nominated must be located in New South Wales, and can only be nominated in ONE of the above categories.