Multicultural Excellence Awards

2013
The Multicultural Excellence Awards are awarded biannually by the Working Group on Multicultural Library Services (WGMLS), a working group of the Public Libraries NSW – Metropolitan Inc. The awards recognise a public library service and an individual practitioner for demonstrated excellence in the delivery of multicultural library services.

Multicultural library services encompass a range of services provided to a culturally and linguistically diverse community (CALD) and acknowledge and celebrate Australia's rich cultural diversity.

Multicultural library services are an important aspect of public library services. This prestigious award has been established to recognise and promote this importance.

**Objectives**

- To recognise the importance of multicultural library services
- To raise the profile of multicultural library services within the community
- To encourage excellence in the field of multicultural library services
- To acknowledge and celebrate excellence in the field by both individual practitioners and public library services across NSW

**Award categories**

Organisation: this award honours a NSW public library which has demonstrated excellence in the provision of multicultural library services. This award of $1100 is funded by the Public Libraries NSW – Metropolitan Inc.

Individual: this award honours an individual practitioner working in a NSW public library, who has demonstrated innovative, dedicated and outstanding service to the multicultural community. The individual will be presented with a plaque honouring their contribution.

**Eligibility**

All public library services in NSW and individuals working in the field of multicultural public library services are eligible for the award.

- **For the organisation category:** projects must have been devised and implemented in the two years prior to the closing date for entries. A public library service that has won this award is not precluded from entering a new project for a subsequent award.
- **For the individual category:** there are no time period restrictions. An individual is also eligible for an award more than once.

Entrants cannot be members of the judging panel or the Executive of the WGMLS.
Nominations

Nominations may be submitted by:

- individuals or teams working in public libraries in NSW
- members of the WGMLS
- members of the local community associated with the nominated project.

Applicants must submit a completed entry form (see attached), by the closing date. Entries should be of no more than five A4 pages in length (excluding supporting material, e.g. photos, samples etc) to demonstrate:

- the aims and outcomes of the project
- project implementation, including staff training, promotion and improved contact with the local community
- service improvement, including statistical and other data.

Individual entries must demonstrate the outstanding contribution of the applicant.

All documentation submitted for the award remains the property of the WGMLS and may be used for promotional purposes, with the permission of the applicant/s.

Award administration

The WGMLS Executive is responsible for all aspects of the administration, promotion, judging and conferring of these awards, including the selection of the judging panel, the timetable for the award each year, preparation of press releases, the organisation of the awards ceremony, maintenance of all documentation and minutes of meetings.

The 2013 Awards will be announced on Monday, 25 November 2013 at the SWITCH 2013 Public Libraries Conference and Exhibition Gala Awards Dinner
Judging panel
The panel will comprise the following members:

- a representative from the Public Libraries NSW – Metropolitan.
- a CALD representative or
- a representative from the Community Relations Commission of NSW, the Ethnic Communities’ Council of NSW Inc., or the ethnic media in NSW
- a representative from the State Library of NSW.

Rules for judging
The winning entry will demonstrate:

- creativity in service delivery
- ongoing relationships with the local CALD community
- excellence in service provision.

If, in the opinion of a majority of members of the judging panel, no suitable entry is received for either award category, the award will be withheld.

The judges’ decision will be final and no correspondence will be entered into.

The winners will be advised as soon as possible after the decision is made but this will remain confidential until the public announcement at the awards ceremony.
Multicultural Excellence Awards 2013 entry form

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Please send this application by the close of business on Friday 25 October 2013 to:
Oriana Acevedo
Multicultural Consultant
State Library of New South Wales
Macquarie Street
Sydney NSW 2000
Phone Number 02 9273 1544
e-mail: oacevedo@sl.nsw.gov.au
Please note that late entries will not be accepted.