



Government of South Australia

Department for Industry,
Innovation and Science

20 23 | SA Science Excellence + Innovation Awards

Nomination Guidelines

Enquiries

Department for Industry, Innovation and Science
Email: DIISCommunications@sa.gov.au

www.scienceawards.sa.gov.au

The South Australian Government invites nominations for the 2023 South Australian Science Excellence and Innovation Awards.

These annual awards recognise South Australian individuals and teams that have demonstrated outstanding leadership, innovation and scientific contributions to the fields of science, technology, engineering, mathematics and medicine (STEMM).

Nominations from individuals and teams with diverse backgrounds across South Australia are welcomed.

The objectives of the South Australian Science Excellence and Innovation Awards are to:

- celebrate the importance of excellence, collaboration, innovation and translation of work across STEMM fields for a healthy economy, environment and community
- recognise outstanding achievements by individuals and teams in STEMM research, innovation and education
- highlight the critical role that South Australia's STEMM leaders across research, industry, and education are playing in a changing world to deliver solutions for health, environmental, and economic challenges of the future
- showcase the importance and diversity of STEMM professionals and careers for the current and future workforce.

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Professor
Maria Makrides


2022 South Australian Scientist of the Year

“I’m delighted and humbled by this recognition. Science takes an extraordinary effort to do well, and it is never the result of the work of a single person. All scientific discoveries are built on the work of those who went before them.”



These awards shine a bright light on our strong community of scientists, innovators and STEMM educators whose achievements and leadership support the delivery of better economic and social outcomes for our state and the world.

These champions inspire the next generation to pursue STEMM careers, as well as showcasing the impact of collaboration to solve some of the world's most challenging problems.



Professor Caroline McMillen AO FAHMS
Chief Scientist for South Australia





2022 winners at the awards celebration with Deputy Premier the Hon Dr Susan Close MP and Professor Caroline McMillen AO FAHMS.

2023 Award Categories

There are six award categories:

- South Australian Scientist of the Year
- South Australian Innovator of the Year
- STEMM Educator of the Year
 - Primary or Secondary School Level
 - University or Registered Training Organisation
- Excellence in Science and Industry Collaboration
- PhD Research Excellence

Awards

Award recipients are publicly recognised and celebrated for their achievements. Each recipient or team receives a trophy designed by a local artist and a monetary award with a total value of:

- \$25,000 each for the Scientist of the Year and for the Innovator or Innovation Team of the Year
- \$10,000 each for the STEMM Educator of the Year (two prizes), Excellence in Science and Industry Collaboration Award and PhD Research Excellence Award.

The monetary award for a team will usually be shared equally by all team members.

Recipients are expected to use award money for their work-related activities. This may include support for professional development activities related to growing leadership, management, or business skills, conference support including travel, support for publication outputs, and work-related expenses e.g. childcare, collaboration or innovation related expenses.



Dr
Richard Lilly

2022 STEM Educator of the Year
University or Registered Training Organisation

There are two ways to nominate for an award.

Self-nomination:

- Review the eligibility criteria.
 - Ensure you are nominating in the correct category.
 - Read and agree to the conditions of entry.
 - Complete the online form addressing each selection criterion.
 - Provide a copy of your curriculum vitae (CV) or copies of current CVs for up to five team members where the application is for a team award – each CV should be abbreviated to no more than four (4) pages. Nominations providing CVs longer than 4 pages will not be considered for selection.
 - Provide a written endorsement for your individual nomination or in the case of a team nomination, a written endorsement for each member of the team. Without the appropriate written endorsements, the nomination will not be considered for selection.
- Nominations from staff or students from:
 - universities must be endorsed by their Deputy Vice Chancellor Research (DVCR) or Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic (DVCA)
 - registered training organisation must be endorsed by their Education Manager
 - schools must be endorsed by their school Principal.
 - Nominations from industry must be endorsed by their employer or company chairperson
 - Complete a survey for statistical purposes
 - Any nomination that does not include all of the information as outlined above will not be considered for selection.

Nomination of others:

- Provide a short reason which explains why you are nominating the person or team and what your relation is to them.
- Complete the online nomination form 'Nominating Others', including contact details for the person or team you wish to nominate.

All nominations must be submitted online via the 'How to nominate' link on the website at www.scienceawards.sa.gov.au

Endorsing an application:

If you are endorsing a nominee for the 2023 SA Science Excellence and Innovation Awards, you must endorse that:

- the nominee is an Australian citizen or permanent resident
- to your knowledge, the nominee has not been formally accused of or is currently under a formal investigation for any misconduct, academic misconduct or criminal behaviour
- the nomination of the candidate is based on their achievement to date
- the the majority of the nominee's work was undertaken in South Australia
- for PhD Students, that the student has received conferral of their PhD degree and that this occurred no more than 24 months prior to the closure of the nominations for the awards.

Selection process

- The Department for Industry, Innovation and Science manages and administers the selection process for the 2023 South Australian Science Excellence and Innovation Awards.
- Nominations will be reviewed by independent selection panels (panel). Assessment will be based solely on the written information provided in the nomination form.
- Each nominee will be assessed by the panel against the selection criteria to determine the award recipient (winner) and short-listed finalists (finalists) for each award category.
- During the selection process, the employer, colleagues, endorsers or associates of finalists may be contacted to confirm relevant details within an application where appropriate.
- Finalists may also be required to participate in an interview, which will be at the discretion of the panel. The decision of the panel is final.

Award presentation

- The 2023 South Australian Science Excellence and Innovation Awards presentation will be held in November 2023.
- Individual finalists will receive a maximum of two complimentary tickets to the presentation; team finalists will receive a maximum of four (4) complimentary tickets, at the discretion of the Department for Industry, Innovation and Science.
- It is a requirement that all finalists or their representatives attend the presentation event and be available for promotional opportunities leading up to and following the award presentation.



Conditions of entry

By entering the 2023 SA Science Excellence and Innovation Awards, you agree to abide by the following conditions of entry:

- Closing date for entries is 5pm ACST Friday, 21 April 2023. No extensions will be provided.
- Nominees must be Australian citizens or hold permanent resident status.
- The majority of the nominee's work or research should have been undertaken in South Australia.
- Nominees must be eligible for entry according to specific award category criteria. Non-compliance with entry criteria will be sufficient grounds for rejection of the nomination.
- Nominations must include all of the information listed under the self-nomination or nomination of others sections above. Any nominations not in compliance with these conditions of entry or the above information will not be considered for selection.
- Nominees enter on the understanding that the Department for Industry, Innovation and Science (Department) or its nominee reserves the right to alter, vary and/or modify any prize or condition of entry and reserves the right to make any new conditions at any time.
- The Department reserves the right to revoke an award in particular circumstances as outlined in the award revocation policy.
- The Department reserves the right to use non-confidential details, photographs and/or film footage for any publicity purpose pertaining to promoting the South Australian Science Excellence and Innovation Awards as important contributors to South Australia's economic, social and environmental wellbeing.
- Written digital material submitted as part of the nomination process may be used by the Department for media releases or case studies.
- Award recipients and finalists may be asked to undertake a number of local public events and engagements in the year following their award, such as National Science Week, or to present addresses at official events.
- Nominees must abide by the decisions of the Department or its nominee, whose decision shall be final on all matters pertaining to the awards. No correspondence or justification for any decision shall be required of the Department.
- Past award recipients (winners) cannot apply in the same category in subsequent years, but may apply for other categories if they are eligible.
- Previous nominees and finalists are eligible to reapply for the 2023 South Australian Science Excellence and Innovation Awards in any award category for which they are eligible.



Professor
Andre Luiten



2022 South Australian Innovator of the Year

“It is a wonderful honour. There’s something really special going on in Adelaide, it makes it a unique incubator for innovation.”



South Australian Scientist of the Year

Awarded to an individual who has demonstrated excellence in any STEMM field. The Scientist of the Year will also have made an outstanding contribution in providing leadership that has inspired others.

Eligibility

- Individuals from either the private, public, or not-for-profit sectors across academia, industry and government are eligible to nominate.
- Nominations must be based on achievement to date.

Selection criteria

Criteria 1

Significant international contributions made in their field, providing evidence of the recognition of the global impact of their research by peers and stakeholders.


Criteria 2

Demonstrated track record of excellence as a leader within or beyond their field of research. This may include examples of:

- building, leading and mentoring successful teams
- leading successful collaborations either across disciplinary fields, engagement with industry, other public organisations or end users of research
- contributions to activities which shape the future of individuals or communities, or the future directions of their field.

Criteria 3

In addition to the above, any other evidence of the benefits (e.g. environmental, social, health and economic) of the translation of research to South Australia from their activities.



South Australian Innovator of the Year

This award recognises individuals or teams presently working in South Australia, either in the private or public sector, who have harnessed work in any STEM field to develop new-to-world or new-to-industry products, processes or services, or delivered innovation that has changed practice and resulted in significant outcomes in other fields.

Eligibility

- Individuals or teams from either the private, public, or not-for-profit sectors across academia, industry and government are eligible to nominate or be nominated.
- Where a team is nominated, all individuals must meet the eligibility criteria, and a high level of collaboration must be demonstrated for the nomination to be eligible. An outline of who was involved in the team and their role(s) must also be provided.

Selection criteria

Criteria 1

Demonstrate innovation and translation, outlining:

- a summary of the problem being addressed
- a description of the endpoint of the work, including any novel elements that were required to address the key problem.

Criteria 2

- Demonstrate a relentless entrepreneurial spirit and drive to impact economic, social, and/or environmental change in South Australia, including how the next generation is inspired or encouraged to start a business.

Criteria 3

Describe how this innovation delivered a positive impact, and provide evidence.





SPARK Team

2022 STEMM Educator of the Year
Primary or Secondary School



STEMM Educator of the Year

The STEMM Educator of the Year Award recognises educators who have made an outstanding contribution to STEMM education. Part time educators are eligible.

The STEMM Educator of the Year is awarded in the following sub-categories:

- Primary or Secondary School Level
- University or Registered Training Organisation

STEMM Educator of the Year – Primary or Secondary School Level

The STEMM Educator of the Year – Primary or Secondary School Level is open to applications from an individual teacher or from a teacher and their team from the education sector (early childhood, primary or secondary, public and private sectors) who have made an outstanding contribution to enhancing student learning and have inspired their students to engage actively in STEMM.

Eligibility

- Individuals from either the private or public sectors are eligible.
- Nominations are to be endorsed by the school Principal.
- Provide a copy of your CV or copies of current CVs for up to five team members where the application is for a team award – each CV should be abbreviated to no more than four (4) pages. Nominations providing CVs longer than 4 pages will not be considered for selection.
- All nominees should be active in teaching STEMM subjects in the classroom at the time of their nomination or provide an explanation where this is not the case.

Note: As part of the judging process, the following criteria will be adapted to take into consideration the age of the nominee's students and their learning needs.

Selection criteria

Criteria 1

An innovative and imaginative approach to teaching STEMM that motivates students to learn.

Criteria 2

Active involvement in STEMM education through teaching that reflects a command of the field and is evidenced by high standing in the professional community.

Criteria 3

Demonstrated ability to develop students' confidence in learning, and use and apply STEMM knowledge and processes.

STEMM Educator of the Year cont.

STEMM Educator of the Year – University or Registered Training Organisation

The STEMM Educator of the Year – University or Registered Training Organisation Award is open to individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to enhancing student learning in STEMM areas.

The award recipient will have inspired their students to become involved in student-centred investigation in STEMM areas, where students seek answers to scientific questions posed by themselves and set in real-world contexts.

Eligibility

- Nominations are to be endorsed by the Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic (university) or Education Manager (registered training organisation).
- All nominees must be active in teaching STEMM subjects at the time of their nomination or provide an explanation where this is not the case.
- Provide a copy of your CV abbreviated to no more than four (4) pages. Nominations providing CVs longer than 4 pages will not be considered for selection.

Selection criteria

Criteria 1

An innovative and imaginative approach to teaching STEMM that motivates students to learn. Contribution to activities that have promoted an understanding of STEMM and influenced and enhanced learning and teaching.

Criteria 2

Active involvement in STEMM education through teaching that reflects a command of the field and is evidenced by high standing in the professional community.

Criteria 3

Demonstrated impact on students. This could be evidenced through:

- increased enrolments in subject areas
- number of graduates proceeding to STEMM related careers
- recognition from a professional body
- other measurable outcomes.

Excellence in Science and Industry Collaboration

Driving Australia's Blue Bioeconomy

2022 Excellence in Science and Industry Collaboration

Open to teams that have harnessed innovative and productive models of STEMM and industry collaboration which may lead to positive economic, social or environmental impact.

Eligibility

- Team members from either the private, public, or not-for-profit sectors are eligible across academia, industry and government to nominate.
- There is no fixed limitation on the length of time that has elapsed before the impact of the collaboration has been realised.
- The partnership should endeavour to include, but is not limited to, academia, government, industry, or other relevant organisations.
- Provide copies of current CVs for up to five team members – each CV should be abbreviated to no more than four (4) pages. Nominations providing CVs longer than 4 pages will not be considered for selection.

Selection criteria

Criteria 1

Outline a summary of the collaborative project that resulted in this effective partnership between industry and research to drive innovation, describing specifically:

- the science excellence involved in the collaboration, and providing evidence
- who was involved in the team and their role
- the partnership model, how it began and why it is novel or innovative
- the benefits and challenges of the industry/ research collaboration.

Criteria 2

Outline how the collaboration has generated or has the potential to generate significant economic, social, health or environmental benefit to South Australia. Examples may include improvements in public health or in key environmental indicators, or acceptance by policy makers of reports and/or recommendations arising from the collaboration.

Criteria 3

Outline any effective strategies used to connect partners from different sectors to engage in the collaboration.



Dr
Chelsea Thorn

2022 PhD Research Excellence

PhD Research Excellence Award

This award recognises recent PhD graduates who have demonstrated outstanding research achievement in any STEMM field. Nominees are encouraged to discuss the potential longer term impact of their work within and beyond their field.

Eligibility

- Nominees must have undertaken their PhD research within a South Australian higher education provider.
- Nominees must have received their conferral of a PhD degree and in a time period that is no more than 24 months prior to the closure of nominations for these awards.
- Nominees must include a statement of support from their primary supervisor or co-supervisor.
- Nominees must be an Australian citizen or permanent resident.

Selection criteria

Criteria 1

Evidence of research excellence during the completion of a PhD. This may include, but is not limited to:

- the quality of research publications or conference papers as appropriate
- awards, honours and recognition by peers, external bodies, community, etc.

Criteria 2

Evidence of research engagement and collaboration. This may include an explanation of:

- the approach taken to initiate engagement with potential research partners
- the level of involvement of partners outside research in a collaborative venture.

Criteria 3

In addition to the above, any other evidence of recognition of leadership contributions and potential career success. This may include:

- demonstration and/or recognition of leadership attributes within or outside the field of research during the PhD
- indicators of career progression.

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 LinkedIn: Chief Scientist for South Australia



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