The Anti-Bias Award
Information and Application Details

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The Anti-Bias Award is an annual award presented by Social Justice In Early Childhood in partnership with MultiVerse and Early Childhood Australia and is awarded from The Anti-Bias Fund that has contributions from public donations, author royalty donations from The Anti-Bias Approach in Early Childhood, and donations from MultiVerse. The Koori Curriculum and Yarn Strong Sista have also generously contributed to the 2019 award.

There are 2 categories for the Award:

1. Anti-Bias Award for an individual

2. Anti-Bias Award for group/organisation/collective

Purpose of the Award

The Anti-Bias Approach in Early Childhood (3rd Ed) edited by Dr Red Ruby Scarlet has been integral to both quality and equality in early childhood. Since its initial publication in 1995, this book has informed practice across the country – in all types of children's services, in professional development workshops and programs, and in tertiary training and education courses. Anti-bias approaches have been the cornerstone of numerous teacher-research and practice-based studies undertaken in Australia. These studies are unique because they are teacher-research undertaken *by* early childhood teachers *for* early childhood educators and teachers.

While parts of the profession have sustained the use of anti-bias approaches in their practice, the speed at which the field is growing and the ever-changing policy landscape has caused anti-bias approaches to be less familiar to many professionals and less explicit in everyday practice.

This award has been designed to encourage educators and teachers from across the field of early childhood to reignite and reengage with anti-bias approaches, as well as to recognise educators for their pedagogical leadership in making anti-bias practices central to the everyday rather than an 'add on' to practice.

Award and Prizes

In 2019, there are two categories for the Award – an Individual Award and a Collaborative Award. Each award category will receive:

- An invitation to present at the annual Social Justice in Early Childhood Conference;
- $750 worth of cash prizes to be spent on furthering anti-bias projects and resources ($250.00 from the MultiVerse Anti-Bias Fund; $250.00 from The Koori Curriculum to support further anti-bias resourcing and projects; and a $250 voucher from Yarn Strong Sista);
- One Year subscription to ECA's The Learning Hub (value of $390); and
- A mentor (a leader in the field) to assist with the production of an advocacy/activist action. The outcome of this time spent with a leader in the field of ECEC will be an advocacy/activist action: an article for publication in an appropriate national publication (ECA), as well as the Anti-Bias Stories blog.

The Anti-Bias Award is presented at the annual Social Justice in Early Childhood Conference.

Applications for the 2019 Awards are due by **5:00pm, 14th June 2019**.

Eligibility and Requirements

Individual Award

Applicants must have:

- Early childhood qualifications or credentials;
- A minimum of five years' experience face-to-face with children birth to five years;
- An ECEC Professional as referee. The referee will be willing to support their application and to be contacted confidentially by phone and/or email by a member of the selection committee.

Collaborative Award

Applicants can be:

- pairs/groups of educators (who meet the criteria for the Individual Award) or;
- approved ECEC services.

Applicants must have:

- An ECEC Professional as referee. The referee will be willing to support their application and to be contacted confidentially by phone and/or email by a member of the selection committee.

Criteria

Applications will be judged against the following criteria.

A. How you engage with the four Anti-Bias goals in everyday practice.

B. How you embed Anti-Bias approaches in your practice in sustained, ongoing and central ways.

Section 2 of this application form (p. 7) provides more information on how to submit evidence in relation to these criteria.

Submitting the application

1. Complete the application on page 6
2. Attach your responses to the criteria on page 7
3. Sign and scan application on page 8
4. Email application by closing date
5. Attach any supporting documentation to your email, and/or include links to URLs

The due date for applications is **5:00pm, 14th June 2019**

Applications should be emailed to: **foundation@sjiec.org**

Process for consideration and selecting the winners

- Applications will be reviewed to ensure they meet the eligibility as outlined above;
- The Selection Panel will receive the applications for assessment;
- The Selection Panel will meet to deliberate and assess each application against the criteria as stated above;
- The winner will be notified by email on 12th July 2019 and presented their award at the Social Justice In Early Childhood Conference in Sydney on Saturday 27th July 2019.

Anti-Bias Award Application Details

Applications will be selected on merit. Please read the eligibility and selection criteria outlined above before preparing your Application.

CLOSING DATE: All applications are to be completed and emailed to:

foundation@sjiec.org by **5:00pm 14th June 2019**

Section 1

Applicant's name	
Completed qualifications/professional certification *(include award, date, institution, certifying authority)* *Please attach to this form copies of qualifications that have been certified by a Justice of the Peace (for group nomination please submit minimum of one qualification)*	
Current position *(for individual category only)*	
Referee contact details • Name • Phone number • Email	
Previous employment history relevant to the application *(not required if nominee is an organisation or group)*	

Section 2

Please attach, in a separate document, a written response describing how your practice* meets the following criteria (350-800 words per criterion)

1. Describe how your practice supports children, educators and/or families to demonstrate self-awareness, confidence, family pride and positive social identities;
2. Describe how your practice enables children, families and/or educators to express comfort and joy with human diversity, positive language for human differences and deep, caring human connections;
3. Describe how your practice enables children, families and/or educators to recognise unfairness, to have language to describe unfairness, and to understand that unfairness hurts;
4. Describe how your practice empowers children, families and/or educators to act, with others or alone, against prejudice and/or discriminatory actions;
5. Describe how you embed an anti-bias approach into your practice in ways which position it at the centre of your program and practice rather than as an 'add-on' component.

Your responses might choose to address anti-bias in general, or you might choose to focus on one particular aspect of anti-bias work *e.g. gender, ethnicity, Aboriginal and Torres-Strait Islander, LGBTIQ, ability etc.*

In this context 'your practice' might include (but is not necessarily limited to) one or more of the following:

- *educational program and practice;*
- *leadership and collaborative approaches;*
- *advocacy and activism;*
- *community outreach projects.*

- **Supporting Documentation**

Supporting documentation is not a requirement of the application but it may assist your nomination.

Please send supporting documentation with your application as a PDF or include a link to a URL.

Supporting documentation might include but is not limited to:

- curriculum documentation (with permission from children and families);
- testimonies from children or families;
- articles published in scholarly books or journals;
- articles published in professional publications;
- family and community newsletters;
- images, text, artwork, blogs, vlogs or other media/platforms;
- relevant excerpts from Quality Improvement Plans or other service documentation.

Section 3

I have read, understand and agree to the eligibility and selection criteria of the Anti-Bias Award. All documentation supplied with this form is complete, correct and up-to-date in every detail.

Signature: Date: