



Minister's Art Education Preschool Arts Education Award 2026

INFORMATION: How do these Awards work? PART ONE

WHAT ARE THESE AWARDS ABOUT?

The prestigious Minister's Arts Education Award in a Government Preschool acknowledges excellent practice in Arts Education in any one or combination of Artsforms; dance, drame, media arts, music and visual arts.

This might include a combination of:

- * Integrating Arts provocations in the preschool's play programme
 - * Integrating one or more Artforms as a specific programme of play provocations
 - * Collaborating with artists in the preschool learning environment
 - * Working as a Preschool team to undertake professional learning in the Arts and then putting this new learning into practice and having an impact
- Other great Arts ideas, practices or initiatives

There is one Award for a Government Preschool (Stand-alone, School-based or a Children's Centre)

WHAT DO SUCCESSFUL AWARDEES RECEIVE?

The successful Preschool receives \$8 000 to support them to further develop and implement it's Arts programme. This could include acquiring resources, undertaking staff professional learning, hosting artists, sharing their Arts practices with other Preschools, engaging their community in the Arts or other relevant professional activity that enhances their Arts programme.

The Award funding is provided for expenditure during the 2027 calendar year.

WHAT ARE THE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA?

- The Preschool has NOT won a Minister's Arts Education Award before
- Your Director and Line Manager must be supportive of your application
- Your application is complete and adheres to the word counts
- You must be able to attend the Educators SA State World Teachers Day Award ceremony at Adelaide Over on the evening of the 30th October 2026 to receive your Award from the Minister for Education, Training and Skills.
- You must provide consent for your name and image to be used by Educators SA and the Department for Education, by completing a relevant consent form
- You must, as required, be willing to be videoed and/or talk with media, for the purpose of marketing the Awards
- You must be willing to share your professional learning with colleagues through an event organised by Educators SA or an Arts Professional Association, so that your experiences can be of benefit to the broader Arts

education community

· You are required to submit a short report to Educators SA outlining the outcomes of your professional learning by the end of 2027



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INFORMATION: How do these Awards work? PART TWO

HOW DOES THE SELECTION PROCESS WORK?

A Panel comprised of representatives from Educators SA, the Department for Education, and relevant Arts Professional Associations, will be the lucky ones to meet and consider your application. The panel will explore your:

- Eligibility
- Responses to the questions
- Supporting endorsements
- Your Grant Proposal

To ensure the Panel can make an informed decision, Educators SA may choose to chat with your Line Manager to provide additional information or another perspective on the information you have provided.

If they still feel like they want to dig deeper and understand your application better, you may be required to meet the panel online for a short discussion to clarify your professional learning proposal.

Recommendations from the Panel are then endorsed through Educators SA. Applicants will be contacted by the 12th October to advise you of the outcome!

SUGGESTIONS FOR MAKING THE APPLICATION PROCESS EASIER!

Before proceeding with this online application, have a look at the questions you will be required to answer and plan out your responses out. They can be found on the Preschool Arts Awards Page [Click here](#)

DON'T LOSE YOUR APPLICATION - UNDERSTAND HOW SURVEY MONKEY OPERATES!

Partially completed applications can be finalised using the same device and web-browser on which they were started. **HOT TIP** - don't switch devices as your application data will not transit across! When exiting a partially completed application, please ensure you click 'next' at the bottom of the page you have been working on before exiting.

HOW MUCH TIME HAVE YOU GOT?

Applications close at 11pm on Tuesday 29th September 2026

JULY - Awards launched

TUES 28th JULY, 5-6pm - Online Zoom Chat - "Getting Started"

JULY/AUGUST/SEPT - Prepare your application materials

29th SEPT - Applications close at 11pm!

12th OCT - Applicants notified of the results

WHO CAN YOU CHAT TO IF YOU HAVE MORE QUESTIONS?

You could come along to the "**Online Zoom Chat**" with the Arts Awards Ambassador on **Tuesday 28th July, 5-6pm.**

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Educators SA:

Lisa-Jane O'Connor, Chief Executive

T: 08 84635875

E: ce@edsa.sa.edu.au

ARTS AWARDS AMBASSADOR

Cherie Broad, Manager, Arts Projects, Department for Education

M: 0401 123 380

E: Cherie.Broad@sa.gov.au

HAVE A GO! GET INVOLVED...
We can't wait to read your proposals!



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Application

Applicants self-nominate for these awards

* 1. We are applying for the Preschool Arts Education Award

- ☐ We are a Standalone Government Preschool
- ☐ We are a School-based Government Preschool
- ☐ We are a Government Children's Centre

* 2. Site Details

Name of Site	
Partnership	

3. Director's contact details

Title/ Preferred pronoun	
Full Name	
Email Address	
Mobile	

4. Line manager's contact details

Title/ Preferred pronoun	
Full Name	
Location	
Role	
Email Address	
Mobile	



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Supporting Statements

This section is to be completed by the applicant.

Please note there is a 300 word limit in each comment box - the aim is to make this application process achievable for both you and the Panel. Thanks for complying with this limit so your application can be considered! 😊

USE OF AI - AI is an important tool that all educators use as they create materials and resources. It is important to note however, that applications created with AI tend to feel very generic to the readers on a Panel, and they are easy to spot! Use generative AI powerfully, and make sure it is your voice the panellists are hearing 😊

* 5. HOW ARE YOU CURRENTLY USING ARTS AS PART OF YOUR PRESCHOOL PROGRAM?

You could choose to share with us:

- the way in which you help your children be and become "artists" and/or "think, act and understand as artists"
- your Arts journey as a preschool team so far
- what your team are most passionate about as Arts Educators
- your team's biggest challenges as Arts Educators
- what your team are most proud of as Arts Educators

(max 300 words)

* 6. **DESCRIBE THE IMPACT YOUR ARTS LEARNING PROVOCATIONS HAVE HAD ON YOUR LEARNERS:** How do you excite children about learning in and/or through the Arts? What have been the most impactful outcomes for your learners? Is there a powerful child learning story you can share that illustrates your team's impact? (max 300 words)

* 7. **UNDERSTANDING YOUR TEAM AS PROFESSIONALS:** Professional educators are continually seeking to grow! Taking the step to apply for this Award is one way your team are demonstrating their commitment to developing further, but we would love to know more! Share with us some of the steps your team have already taken to develop themselves professionally in the Arts.

(eg: Leadership/Engagement in Arts Professional Associations, professional learning experiences...)

(max 300 words)

* 8. **GROWING YOUR TEAM AS ARTS EDUCATORS - PART ONE**

If successful, what do you plan to do with the Award grant of \$8 000?

NOTE: You can select more than one

- ☐ Integrate Arts provocations into the preschool's play programme
- ☐ Integrate one or more Arts forms as a specific programme of provocations
- ☐ Collaborate with Artists in the Preschool's play programme
- ☐ Acquire Arts resources
- ☐ Work as a Preschool team to undertake professional learning in the Arts and put this new learning into practice
- ☐ Other great Arts ideas, practices or initiatives

* 9. **GROWING YOUR TEAM AS ARTS EDUCATORS - PART TWO**

We would love to know more! Tell us in more detail what you intend to do so we have a picture of what it will look like for children and adults.

Make sure you include information about:

- **WHAT**
- **WHEN** (include specific dates where possible and relevant)
- **WHERE AND WITH WHO**

(max 300 words)

* 10. **GROWING AS AN ARTS EDUCATOR - PART THREE**

APPROXIMATE COSTINGS (They don't need to be exact, but it needs to be evident to the Panel that you have researched them. Could include event fees, artist fees, resource costs, TRT days...)

Event fees - e.g.
conference, course
fees

Associated costs
including
transport,
accommodation,
and per diem.

Mentoring or other
fees associated
with working with
an artist (s)

Arts relevant
subscriptions and
memberships

Acquire necessary
Arts equipment

Total number of
TRT back fill days
required (and
approved by line
manager/Principal)

NOTE: No more
than \$4 000 of the
funding can be
allocated to this
aspect of your
proposal

Other expenses



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Supporting Statement

This section is to be completed by your Line Manager eg: your Education Director or it can be delegated to an Education Lead Early Childhood

USE OF AI - AI is an important tool that all educators use as they create materials and resources. It is important to note however, that Line Manager Statements created with AI tend to feel very generic to the readers on a Panel, and they are easy to spot! Use generative AI powerfully, and make sure it is your voice the panellists are hearing 😊

* 11. Please provide a statement which provides examples of the site's interest, engagement, achievement and impact as Arts educators in a play environment. (max 300 words)

* 12. What do you see as the most important "learning characteristic" of this site team? What are the indicators for you that this Preschool team will embrace this opportunity to learn more?

(max 300 words)



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Declarations

* 13. **Applicant's declaration:**

By ticking yes, we confirm that we are nominating for the Minister's Preschool Arts Education Award 2026. I understand that, if successful, we will be required to attend the State Awards Presentation Evening on Friday 30th October 2026 and undertake our planned programme of learning activities in 2027, as per the EdSA approved learning plan. We also agree to share our learning with the education community in a manner to be negotiated with Educators SA. We agree to submit a report on our learning experiences by the advised date.

☐ Yes

14. **Line Manager's Declaration**

By ticking 'Yes', I confirm that our Line Manager (Education Director/ ELEC) has both seen, and endorsed this application.

I understand that the Panel may elect to contact our Line Manager as a Referee.

☐ Yes

15. **Line Manager's Name and Date of Confirmation**

Name

Date