# Alan Cruickshank Memorial ‘Germinator’ Outstanding STEM Teacher Award

In 2023, the DAF Hermitage Research Facility team lost a wonderful colleague, Alan Cruickshank, Senior Plant Breeder and passionate supporter of the CSIRO STEM Professionals in Schools program, to brain cancer. In Alan’s memory, his family are providing a new Award (valued at $1000) for a professional development opportunity for an outstanding teacher in recognition of the special role they play in ‘seed planting and germinating interest and achievement in STEM’ amongst the minds and hearts of young people.

**Applications close on Friday, 21 June 2024**

## ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

* Open to any primary or high school teacher who has guided students/class groups through the current DAF Hermitage Schools Plant Science Competition project and other STEM based curriculum or extra curricula programs, activities and learning.
* This application form must be completed and submitted by the competition closing date.

## PRIZE CONDITIONS

* This Award will cover up to $1000 towards a professional development (PD) opportunity, of the recipient’s choice, to be approved by the Cruickshank family.
* This Award will remain valid for up to 12 months.
* Eligible PD activities include conferences, training, study, workshops, events, etc and the associated costs in attending these (e.g., registration fees, travel/meals and accommodation).
* The Award recipient must liaise with the DAF Hermitage Competition Coordinator and/or the Cruickshank family who will either 1) book and pay for PD expenses directly, or 2) request copies of receipts/invoices incurred for the PD activity and arrange reimbursement of expenses.
* The Award recipient is required to provide written feedback (and photos if possible) to the Coordinator of the DAF Hermitage Schools Plant Science Competition, regarding their experience, within one month of completing/returning from their PD activity.
* If possible, please attach a letter of recommendation (from a colleague/mentor/student) to support this application.
* The Award recipient will be notified via email in late July and will be publicly announced during the competition’s annual ‘Awards Day & Ag Science Expo’.
* This Award is not transferable or redeemable for cash.

## ‘Germinator’ Outstanding STEM Teacher Award Application Form

Applicant (teacher’s) details:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAME:** |  | **SCHOOL NAME:** |  |
| **EMAIL ADDRESS:** |  | **YEAR LEVEL(S) TAUGHT:** |  |
| **CONTACT PHONE:** |  | **SUBJECTS TAUGHT:** |  |

[ ]  I have guided students through the current DAF Hermitage Schools Plant Science Competition and our project focused on:

[ ]  I have guided students through other STEM related programs, activities, subjects and learning, which include:

Applicant (teacher) please answer the following questions (please attach a separate page if you need more space).

***How do you go ‘over and beyond’ to make yourself available to, or take personal interest in, students who show an interest in STEM?***

***How do you organise and present STEM content in ways that interest and stimulate students?***

***How do you inspire a passion for STEM and foster students’ curiosity, critical thinking and problem-solving skills?***

***How do you connect classroom learning to real-world applications, industry practices and current research?***

***How do you build partnerships with colleagues, industry professionals and community organisations to enhance STEM education?***

***What opportunities do you take for continual professional growth?***

***How do you support diversity and inclusion for all students?***

[ ]  A signed letter of recommendation from a colleague/mentor/student is attached to support this application.

## Privacy statement

To manage our Hermitage Schools Plant Science Competition awards program, the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries collects your:

* Name
* Email address
* Telephone number
* Written feedback (and photographs) submitted, as a requirement of the award acceptance
* Your school name, specialist teaching subjects and year levels taught
* Your opinions, achievements and career aspirations

We collect this information in order to communicate with you, to assess applications, and to generally manage the Alan Cruickshank ‘Germinator’ Award application process.

Your information may be shared where necessary with Queensland Government staff, competition sponsors, and assessors of applications which may include the Cruickshank family.

Should your application be successful, you may also be asked for financial information in order to imburse, or re-imburse, you for any costs associated with the prize.

You may be invited to participate in publicity (social media; media; etc) to promote the competition. Your participation would be voluntary.

We will only use your information for necessary purposes which are directly related to the competition. Your personal information will not otherwise be used or disclosed unless authorised or required by law. For additional privacy information go to <https://www.daf.qld.gov.au/site-information/privacy>.