

EBS



ACE Awards

Adults Continuing Education Awards

2010



NALA

National Adult Literacy Agency

Áisíneacht Náisiúnta Litearthachta do Aosaigh

Exploring new approaches to teaching and demonstrating the impact of adult literacy learning

Literacy is deeply connected with the rights of individuals and communities: it is about their right to have a voice in society; to continue and extend their education; to read and to be read. The National Adult Literacy Agency knows from its work in this area that improving adult literacy and numeracy can bring massive benefits to individuals, families and communities.

The aim of the ACE Awards is to identify and support research into innovative and high quality learning opportunities for adults. Previous winners include Kildare Youth Training Centre's highly successful project on integrating literacy in a youth education setting and last year's winner 'A B Sea', County Galway VEC's project aimed at supporting early school leavers who are involved in the fishing industry.

This year the ACE Awards want to identify and share new and innovative approaches to adult literacy tuition and to demonstrate its impact and effectiveness. The awards, now in their fifth year, have once again been given a generous donation of €10,000 in a research grant by **EBS Building Society**. This presents a fantastic opportunity to evaluate and examine some of the incredible and innovative work that is going on around the country.

Good practice in adult literacy work starts with the needs and interests of individuals. It is concerned with personal development and building confidence as well as technical skills. Many organisations are contributing greatly to this work, however in order to share this work we need to prove its effectiveness and impact through research.

In a time of economic uncertainty, adult literacy tuition has a unique part to play in the context of assisting people develop their literacy and numeracy. Now more than ever, our challenge is to present compelling, evidence-based research as to why adult literacy teaching and learning is vital for Irish society and the economy.

All those involved in adult basic education are invited to submit nominations that focus on original and effective programmes that would benefit from further research and development.

The closing date
is the 31st March 2010



Nomination Form

Please read these instructions before filling in the form:

- » Read the guidelines on the back page to ensure that your organisation and proposal meet the ACE Awards objectives
- » Write clearly. Type your answers or write in capital letters in black ink

Please return the form by email to cmcnally@nala.ie and ensure that you also post a copy with your original signature to ACE Awards, NALA, 76 Lower Gardiner Street, Dublin 1.

You may submit additional information to support your application.

Nominator's name	
Organisation	
Project name (as it will appear on the certificate)	
Address	
Town/city	
County	
Postcode	
Daytime phone number	
Email	
Website	www.

Please complete the details of the person most able to respond to media enquiries about the nominated organisation or project.

Name:	
Telephone:	
Email:	
Website:	
If known, who is your local media organisation?	

Proposal

1. Provide an overview of the work of your organisation or project
(not more than 350 words)

2. Describe briefly the work and research you plan to do, should you be successful?
(100-150 words)

3. Summarise the aim of the work and research (100-150 words)

4. What is innovative about this work? (not more than 350 words)

5. How would the work involve and support people with literacy difficulties?
(not more than 200 words)

6. What impact could this work have? For example on literacy practice, student participation, the community and/ or the economy. (not more than 200 words)

7. How easily could this work be adapted, applied or transferred to other literacy settings? (not more than 200 words)

8. Provide a detailed overview of the research you would like to carry out in relation to your project? (not more than 400 words)

9. Who is the target audience? (not more than 100 words)

10. Why is important that these audiences are targeted? (not more than 200 words)

11. To what extent will your research build the capacity of the target audience or demonstrate continued impact in the future? (not more than 250 words)

12. What is the timescale involved, taking into account that the overall winner will be announced by May 2010? (not more than 100 words)

13. Provide a breakdown of the research costs involved? (not more than 100 words)

14. How do you envisage the research will be conducted? (not more than 200 words)

15. Any other comments (not more than 350 words)

16. Please list any supporting material you are providing with your application for example project resources, leaflets, promotional material or references.

Declaration

Please read the following statement and sign it.

- » I/We have read what has been written about my project/organisation in this nomination and confirm that these are true and accurate statements.
- » I/We agree to be nominated for an ACE Award.
- » I/We understand that NALA or EBS may use publicity from these awards in advertising or other media, and that I/we may be referred to in the press, radio and on television.
- » I/We agree to let NALA/EBS use my name and any other information contained in this nomination.

Signature:

Position in organisation:

Date: ____ / ____ / 2010

Please return to:

ACE Awards
National Adult Literacy Agency
76 Lower Gardiner Street
Dublin 1
Telephone: 01 8509109
Email: cmcnally@nala.ie

What we are looking for?

This year the ACE Awards aim to capture new and innovative approaches to adult literacy tuition and to demonstrate its impact and effectiveness.

The main objectives of the Awards are to:

- » Make it easier for more adults to develop their literacy and numeracy through education and training programmes
- » Support and share new approaches to teaching and learning
- » Use the findings of research to provide evidence-based solutions to adult literacy issues and to inform future advice to organisations
- » Explore and communicate the concept of literacies – that people use different skills for various real-life situations

We would like to encourage research into:

- » The impact that developing new literacy skills and confidence can have on everyday life, community engagement and/or the workplace
- » What adult literacy means for social and economic development in Ireland
- » New approaches to adult or family literacy and numeracy teaching and learning
- » The ways people learn
- » How to reduce barriers to engaging in adult literacy tuition

How decisions are made?

Each application will be assessed by an independent judging panel against the following criteria:

- » Is the proposal clear, well planned and thought-out?
- » Does the work demonstrate new or innovative teaching methods?
- » Will the work make it easier for more adults to develop their literacy and numeracy
- » Does the work show the potential to have a longer term impact?
- » Would the work benefit from further research?
- » Will the work build the capacity of the target audience?

Terms and conditions:

- » Each entry must be submitted online and one copy of the official entry form must be posted with an original signature.
- » Additional pages and supporting documents may be attached, but the organisers take no responsibility for their safe-keeping and will not return submissions.
- » The judges' decision will be final and no correspondence will be entered into before or after the judging.
- » Highlighting winners' achievements is a key part of encouraging others to continue, or get back to learning. We may edit the information you send us about your nominee and what your nominee says about themselves and forward it to the media and to the hosts at award ceremonies. Unless previously requested, it will therefore become available to the public.
- » Nominations for organisations and businesses must be submitted with the knowledge and support of the Adult Literacy Organisers, CEO or Managing Director.
- » **The closing date for entries is the 31st March 2010.** Late applications will not be considered.
- » Shortlisted entries will be notified at the end of April 2010 and invited to an award ceremony in May 2010.

**For more information on the ACE Awards, please contact
Clare McNally by email at cmcnally@nala.ie or 01 8509109.**