



The Professional Association for Learning Support Inc PALS

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www.pals.org.au

PALS celebrate a quarter of a century as a volunteer teaching Association and announce the winner of 2021 Anne Kennedy Award.

On Saturday June 26 the Professional Association for Learning Support (PALS) Inc. will be celebrating their 25th birthday.

The association was founded by Anne Kennedy who at the time was working as a consultant with Department of Education. Anne and other teachers realised that teachers who worked in the area of learning difficulties needed a professional association to share ideas and resources, to provide support and professional development. The augural meeting was held at the Joint Council Meeting rooms at Leichhardt Primary School on June 26, 1991, and teachers from all three systems attended. Over the last quarter of a century PALS has been there representing teachers in a Learning Support role and providing professional development opportunities. Now like other teaching Associations PALS comes under the umbrella of The Professional Teaching Association.

On the occasion of the 20th birthday of PALS, the Anne Kennedy Award was established. It is awarded to the teacher who is exemplary in their practice.

This year 3 teachers were selected as Finalists from an extremely strong group of nominations.

The finalists were.

Philip Baumhammer - Royal Prince Alfred Hospital School

Nicole Hext - Bringelly PS

Amy Hill - Nulkaba PS

On January 21 at the Successful Learning Conference Prof David Evans from the University of Sydney announced that that

Amy Hill was the overall winner of the 2021 Anne Kennedy Award

The nominations revealed the complexity and challenges faced by teachers in schools who work with students who have diverse learning needs. Since those early days the role has changed significantly to become more challenging and more diverse. The role of associations like PALS in supporting teachers is vital.