

DART

EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING STEM AWARD

DART ENTERPRISES LTD.

MINDS
INSPIRED

MARCH 1, 2021

DART Minds Inspired Excellence in Teaching STEM Award

Overview

A common characteristic of schools where STEM thrives are committed, knowledgeable teachers and STEM resources. The goal of the Dart Minds Inspired Excellence in Teaching STEM Award is to support growth in STEM through rewarding and recognising excellence in teaching STEM subjects, and providing school grants to purchase STEM related resources.

This STEM educator award is:

- Given in recognition of superior teaching, innovative instructional practice, high educational standards, creation of productive learning environments, and the ability to inspire and motivate students.
- For teachers who make a significant difference in the lives of students by providing excellent STEM content and inspiring a passion for STEM beyond the classroom and into the future.

Eligibility

All home school and public and private teachers of STEM subjects working within elementary and high schools in the Cayman Islands are eligible. Once nominated, a teacher must confirm his/her intent to participate, and willingness to be assessed by a panel of judges who will select two recipients annually. Once a teacher receives the award he/she is not eligible to be nominated again for three (3) years.

Nominations

To ensure the integrity of this award, please follow these nomination guidelines:

- a. Another teacher, department head, or Principal may nominate a teacher for the award.
- b. A teacher may not self-nominate or be nominated by a spouse or relative.
- c. Nominations open 1 March 2021 and close 30 April 2021.

Nomination forms and detailed guidelines are available on www.MindsInspired.ky

Timeline

1 March 2021	Nominations Open
30 April 2021	Nominations Close
1 – 15 May	Nomination Evaluations
Late May	Announce 2020 and 2021 finalists and winners

Judging

A 'blind' process ensures that applications are anonymous. The teacher, nominator and teacher's school remain anonymous to the judging panel until the final stage.

The panel of judges comprises a representative from the Dart Scholar Selection Committee, a STEM specialist and education advisors.

Final decisions or a tiebreak may use a classroom visit to observe STEM learning in action.

Prizes

There are two prizes: one in the elementary category and one in the high school category.

The awardee receives a trip, including conference fee, hotel, airfare to a STEM conference* and a cash award of \$1000. The awardee's school also receives recognition and a STEM grant of \$3,000 to be used to enhance STEM educational resources** within the school.

*The conference portion of the prize is non-transferable for cash or for additional resources for the school. An important part of the Dart Minds Inspired Excellence in Teaching Award is investing in the continued development of our teachers. With travel restrictions in place due to COVID-19, alternate professional development opportunities will be offered as a replacement for travel.

**The nomination process identifies the resource. (E.g. Robotics equipment, IT or Hi-tech lab equipment, etc.)