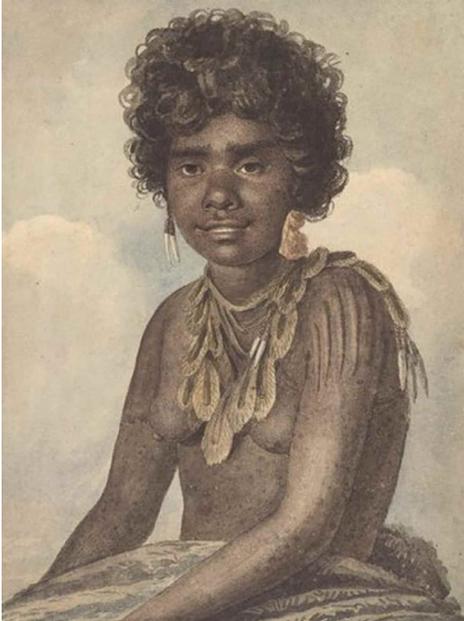


ARC CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR THE DYNAMICS OF LANGUAGE



The Patji-Dawes Award

The purpose of the Patji-Dawes award is to honour outstanding achievements in language teaching by an accomplished practitioner in Australia. It reflects our belief that achieving proficiency in other languages is one of the great learning experiences in the human condition, that this happens all too rarely in contemporary Australian society, and that there is unfilled need for public recognition of those who defy our national mediocrity in this arena.

The teaching may take place in any setting – school, university, private language school, an indigenous community – provided that the learner is led, by the teacher's inspiration, to a high level of mastery in the chosen language. Nominations are made by someone who has achieved a very high level of fluency in their chosen language and would like to honour their teacher by setting out what it was about their practice which inspired and enabled them to unlock the rewards of learning another language despite all the difficulties involved.

About the name

The name commemorates the teaching-learning partnership which underlay the earliest documented language learning in Australia's history: that between a young indigenous Eora woman, Patyegarang (Patye or Patji, pronounced Pat-che), and Lieutenant William Dawes. Their close and humane relationship, resulted not only in an exceptional mastery of the Sydney language by Dawes, but in a relationship of cross-cultural understanding that has been all too rare in Australia's history.

Nomination Procedure

Nominations should consist of three parts:

- (a) name, address and position/professional details of the nominee and the nominator (the nominee must be an Australian citizen);
- (b) a short account by the nominator (at most one page, plus supporting documentary evidence where useful) demonstrating that they have accomplished a high level of competence in the relevant language;
- (c) a short account by the nominator (up to two pages) of what made the teacher so inspiring and effective in helping them to learn the designated language. Please visit our website for further instructions on how to upload a nomination (<http://www.dynamicsoflanguage.edu.au/get-involved/dawes-award/>)

Jury

The Jury will be made up of five outstanding practitioners in the field of language teaching, learning and language study, with rolling membership from year to year. This year, judges will include Kylie Farmer (President of the Australian Federation of Modern Language Teachers Associations), Lia Tedesco (Principal of the School of Languages) and Tim McNamara (Vice-President of the American Association for Applied Linguistics) among others.

Award and Award Ceremony

The award will consist of a certificate, plus an airfare and accommodation for both the prizewinner and their nominee to attend the award ceremony. This will be held in one of the four cities at which the Centre is located – Canberra, Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane – on a rotating basis, and will be widely publicised. This year, the conferral ceremony will take place in Sydney.

Since a major goal of the award is to further public awareness of what makes for inspiring and effective language teaching and learning, both the nominee (the teacher) and the nominator (the pupil) will be asked to make a short address (20-25 minutes) talking about (for the teacher) their philosophy and practice of language teaching, and their love of the relevant language, and (for the pupil) what was most effective for them in how their teacher imparted the language and its culture, and what they have gained from learning it.

Recordings and/or transcripts of these two addresses will be placed online on a special page of CoEDL's website, to form an evolving portfolio of success stories in language teaching and learning.

Deadline for submission of nominations: 20 August, 2015

Award announced: 16 October, 2015 **Award conferred:** 25 November 2015

The Patji-Dawes award is an initiative of the ARC Centre of Excellence for the Dynamics of Language through its Communications and Outreach Program, which includes a commitment to improving levels of multilingualism and mastery of other languages in Australia through understanding and public debate on how we learn (and teach) second and other languages most effectively.