



STRICTLY EMBARGOED UNTIL 3PM GMT THURSDAY NOVEMBER 10

Western Cape Premier and Education Minister call on outstanding schools to enter \$250,000 World's Best School Prizes 2023 as applications open

Western Cape schools excelled in the inaugural World's Best School Prizes, founded by T4 Education in collaboration with Accenture and American Express

Western Cape Premier Alan Winde and provincial Minister of Education David Maynier today called on outstanding schools from the Western Cape to apply for the \$250,000 [World's Best School Prizes 2023](#) as applications opened. The World's Best School Prizes are the world's most prestigious education prizes, founded by T4 Education in collaboration with Accenture and American Express.

The five [World's Best School Prizes](#) - for Community Collaboration, Environmental Action, Innovation, Overcoming Adversity, and Supporting Healthy Lives - celebrate schools everywhere for the pivotal role they play in developing the next generation of learners and for their enormous contribution to society's progress, especially in the wake of COVID.

Even before the pandemic, the UN warned the world was on course to miss its Sustainable Development Goal 4 of quality education for all by 2030. With over 1.5 billion learners impacted by school and university closures, that mountain has grown even steeper. The World's Best School Prizes were founded as a grassroots solution to help build the systemic change needed. The prizes give inspirational schools a global platform, allow them to share their best practices, and help others replicate their innovative ideas.

South African schools excelled in the Prizes in their inaugural year: Pinelands North Primary School was a Top 3 finalist for World's Best School Prize for Overcoming Adversity 2022, while West End Primary was named in the Top 10 shortlist for World's Best School Prize for Overcoming Adversity 2022.

Alan Winde, Premier of the Western Cape, said:

"Western Cape schools excelled at the World's Best School Prizes 2022 and continue to make impressive strides, thanks to the hard work put in by learners and educators. I am immensely proud of our schools, learners, teachers, and other school staff and urge them to keep up the good work. I hope our outstanding schools will jump on the opportunity to shine on the global stage again and apply for the World's Best School Prizes 2023."

David Maynier, Western Cape Minister of Education, said:

“We are so proud of how well two of our Western Cape schools, Pinelands North Primary School and West End Primary School, did in the 2022 World’s Best Schools Prize. They showed that our schools are among the best of the best, so we really want to encourage every school in our province to enter! We’d love to see the 2023 competition showcase more of our schools, to celebrate the excellent work they are doing to provide a quality education for every learner, in every classroom, in every school, in the Western Cape.”

Vikas Pota, Founder of T4 Education and the World’s Best School Prizes, said:

“Every child left behind in the wake of the COVID pandemic is a child too many. Governments must take urgent action to tackle the global education crisis and ensure quality education is a right not a luxury. The best place to start is by working with schools at the coalface to understand what works.

“We founded the World’s Best School Prizes to create the conversations that lead to lasting change. Conversations between educators learning from one another’s vital solutions, and conversations in the halls and corridors of power where leaders must sit up and listen to those on the frontlines.

“I look forward to seeing inspirational schools from all over South Africa applying this year.”

There are [five Prizes](#) schools can apply for:

- 1) **The World’s Best School Prize for Community Collaboration**
- 2) **The World’s Best School Prize for Environmental Action**
- 3) **The World’s Best School Prize for Innovation**
- 4) **The World’s Best School Prize for Overcoming Adversity**
- 5) **The World’s Best School Prize for Supporting Healthy Lives**

A Top 10 shortlist for each Prize will be announced in June 2023, followed by the Top 3 finalists for each Prize in September. The winner of each Prize will be chosen based on rigorous [criteria](#) by a Judging Academy comprising distinguished leaders all across the globe including academics, educators, NGOs, social entrepreneurs, government, civil society, and the private sector.

The winners will be announced in October 2023. A prize of US\$250,000 will be shared equally among the winners of the five Prizes, with each receiving an award of US\$50,000.

The shortlisted schools across the five Prizes will share their best practices through virtual seminars and showcase their “secret sauce” through School Transformation Toolkits with step-by-step instructions on how others can replicate their innovative approaches to help improve education everywhere. These will be available on the new [T4 Communities app](#).

The Prizes are open to all schools who teach students in compulsory schooling, and are legally registered with their respective Ministry of Education or government regulatory authority, including early childhood centres, kindergarten, primary and secondary schools, and online schools.

Schools can apply online at worldsbestschool.org

Applications close on March 15th, 2023, at 11.45pm GMT.

ABOUT T4 EDUCATION:

We believe every child everywhere deserves a good education. We are building the world's largest community of teachers and schools to achieve this. Together. Our digital media platform provides opportunities for educators to network, collaborate, share good practices, and support each other's efforts to improve learning. We work to amplify teachers' voices because the world we want to see will only be built by listening to those at the heart of education.

<https://t4.education/>

<https://twitter.com/T4EduC>

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