The Information Literacy Award 2025

This document provides guidance on creating nominations for the award, as well as showing information given to the award judges, with the aim of making the nomination and judging process clear and transparent.

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Information Literacy award marking criteria

There are four criteria for nominations to address.

Criteria 1: Strength of information literacy focus

This criteria is about the strength of IL incorporated into the nomination. It involves the extent to which the submission develops our understanding of IL as a practice, competency and/or critical pedagogy, including how it interacts with other, connected literacies. How does the nomination clearly demonstrate the relevance of the project/initiative/approach to IL methods, theory and practice?

Criteria 2: Quality and extent of output

This might include practical outputs (e.g. programmes, resources, online tools) and/or research (including publication/dissemination). This criteria should also include the overall quality of the application and extent of the supporting evidence/material presented as well as how well the application is articulated.

Criteria 3: Evidence of impact

This might include: feedback from learners, statistical evidence, evidence of widespread adoption of techniques or recommendations, contribution to operational processes/excellence and delivering an improved service, or an extensive publication profile. Has the nomination raised the profile of IL within an organisation, community or sector? Has the output developed internal/external relationships and partnerships?

Criteria 4: Innovation and creativity

Consider originality and the extent to which nominee(s) are pushing boundaries, and the delivery of creative and imaginative practical solutions and/or scholarly rigour. This could also include using an innovative methodology and uncovering of evidence which will enhance practice and build on existing IL pedagogy.

Information about the Information Literacy award

The Information Literacy Award recognises an outstanding UK-based practitioner or researcher.

The CILIP Information Literacy Group is proud to offer an award for achievement in the field of information literacy (IL). IL "is the ability to think critically and make balanced judgements about any information we find and use. It empowers us as citizens to reach and express informed views and to engage fully in society".

IL applies within a number of contexts, including:

- Everyday – when people find information online
- Citizenship – helping people to understand the world around us
- Education – developing critical thinking skills at all stages of education, from school to higher education
- The workplace - contributing to employability
- Health – finding reliable sources of health information.

(CILIP Definition of Information Literacy, 2018).

The award is open to all practitioners, researchers and academics working in the IL field within the United Kingdom. Nominations may be from any sector. We welcome nominations for individuals as well as for groups or teams. The winning individual or team will receive £500 for personal use and £500 for their nominated charity.

The winner of the IL award will be announced at the networking evening of LILAC on Monday 14th April 2025. As we are a non-profit organisation, run entirely by volunteers, any profits that we make from the conference go back into running the conference and providing free training to librarians across the country. This means that unfortunately we don't have funds to provide free places to the conference for those that have been nominated for the award.

Award categories

Nominations must demonstrate impact, innovation, initiative, and originality in one or more of the following areas:

- Raising the profile of IL within an organisation / community or sector
- Initiating or contributing to national, regional or local projects / initiatives which enhance IL skills for an identified client group(s)
- Developing a digital resource (e.g. online course, service, product or app) which develops and enhances IL skills

- Undertaking original research in the field of IL and making a significant contribution to the literature.

There should be evidence that the nominated individual or team is committed to sharing knowledge and expertise and/or disseminating their learning and/or research within their organisation and beyond.

Nominations

Nominations will be judged upon evidence of impact within the **past 3 years only**.

Individuals and teams may self-nominate or be nominated by colleagues. Nominations should take the form of:

Either

A written statement of evidence of the nominee contribution(s) in one or more of the areas above. This should not exceed 1500 words and may include visual elements e.g. images, graphics etc. where appropriate - please provide URLs to these where necessary.

Or

A short video (10 minutes maximum) addressing the nominee contribution(s) in one or more of the areas above. If this option is selected, the video should be uploaded to YouTube as unlisted content and the URL provided on the application form. Unlisted videos won't appear in YouTube's search results nor on your channel homepage. When creating a video submission please avoid using nominee(s) and institution name(s) as these are difficult for us to anonymise. Please contact help@lilacconference.com if you need any clarification.

Evidence

Nominations should include a range of evidence, where appropriate, to support the nomination. This could include (but is not limited to) URLs or links to online tools or courses/modules or webpages, publications, images, references to scholarly literature, qualitative or quantitative evidence and/or feedback. Self-nominees should consider providing one or more supporting statements from colleagues, library users or other appropriate people to evidence their nomination.

Anonymity

There are usually three people who judge the award. Whilst the names of nominees and their institutions will be removed prior to judging, where this is not possible in the provision of evidence, the judges have a duty to declare personal interest. If a conflict of interests is declared the judge will withdraw from judging that nomination and a fourth judge will be allocated. Anonymisation is to help mitigate against unconscious bias rather than to fully anonymise the nominations, which is challenging to do holistically as each nomination's written statement or video, and supporting evidence differ. For written statements, the nominee(s) name and institution(s) names will be removed where possible before being passed to the judges. For video nominations we ask that

nominee(s) names and institution(s) names are avoided when the video is created. Please contact
help@lilacconference.com if you need any clarification.

Guidance for Information Literacy award judges

There are four marking criteria for nominations to address:

1. Strength of information literacy focus
2. Quality and extent of output
3. Evidence of impact
4. Innovation and creativity

The marking grid should be completed individually when you assess each nominee and will serve as the basis for your discussion with your co-judges. Judges should meet online after completing the scoring grid to discuss the nominees and make a final decision. Please comment on each nominee and award a score out of 0 - 4 points for each criteria. The scoring is:

0 - no evidence
1 - minimal or poor evidence
2 - some evidence
3 - good evidence
4 - extremely strong evidence

Where a difference in scoring occurs between judges an overall agreed decision on the winner is required. If judges are unable to unanimously agree and there is a tie-break, the nominee(s) who has scored most against criteria 4: 'innovation and creativity', once all scores are collated, will be the winner(s).