

## Teachers invited to apply for Bell Shakespeare's Regional Teacher Mentorship

*Without a shadow of doubt the greatest professional learning I have experienced in my 30+ years of teaching.*

**Catherine McEwen, Corndale, Coffee Camp, and Goolmangar Public Schools NSW**

*I expected to gain strategies for teaching Shakespeare. I left with a whole new perspective on teaching.*

**Jack Braithwaite, Wellington High School NSW**



IMAGE: Bell Shakespeare's Regional Teacher Mentorship participants, 2022. Photo: Emlyn Crockett

**Sydney, Australia:** Regional teachers in need of inspiration, support, new ideas and community are encouraged to apply now for **Bell Shakespeare's 2023 Regional Teacher Mentorship**.

Supported by the Australian Government and Teachers Mutual Bank, this fully-funded program is for regional teachers of English and/or Drama at any stage of their teaching career. Successful applicants travel to Bell Shakespeare HQ in Sydney, train for four days in innovative Shakespeare strategies and active learning, connect with like-minded teachers from across Australia, and then continue to be mentored by Bell Shakespeare artists for the duration of the year.

All travel, accommodation and professional learning expenses are provided.

**Joanna Erskine, Head of Education** said: *"The Regional Teacher Mentorship is an unparalleled professional development opportunity for teachers from regional areas, who often lack resources, training and support due to socio-economic challenges and geographic isolation. It allows teachers to engage deeply with their own learning and reflect on their practice; to be looked after so that for a few days, they can be a student again."*

*"It's a program that promotes active learning in the classroom, reignites the passion for teaching, and creates networks of support in a profession that can wear people down. Teachers come away from the experience with increased confidence and knowledge, and enthusiasm to test these proven engagement strategies with disengaged learners,"* continued Ms Erskine.

Teachers Mutual Bank Limited Chief Marketing Officer Nichole Banks said Teachers Mutual Bank and Bell Shakespeare share a passion for teaching and believe that geography should not be a barrier to professional development.

*"We feel fortunate to see, firsthand, how impactful this mentorship can be and how it can transform the way teachers refine their craft. We are truly proud to continue supporting the mentorship that enables regional, rural and remote teachers to build their resilience for the greater good of their school and local community."*

Applications for the Regional Teacher Mentorship close on **5 December 2022** with winners announced on 12 December 2022. The recipients will join Bell Shakespeare in two tranches in May and June 2023.

For more information and to apply go to: [www.bellshakespeare.com.au/learning/](http://www.bellshakespeare.com.au/learning/)

*Ends*

**Images:** [2022 Regional Teacher Mentorship participants](#)

**Media contact:** For more information and interview requests please contact Sally Buckingham, Marketing & Communications Manager, Bell Shakespeare  
[sallyb@bellshakespeare.com.au](mailto:sallyb@bellshakespeare.com.au) 0422 134 042

## KEY DETAILS:

### Eligibility

To be eligible for the Regional Teacher Membership candidates must:

- be a current primary or secondary (English and/or Drama) teacher in a regional, rural or remote secondary school;
- demonstrate a clear need for participation in the Regional Teacher Mentorship; and

- be able to clearly demonstrate the potential value of participation in the program to the applying teacher and to their school community.

**Applications:**

Entry is by application via [www.bellshakespeare.com.au/learning/](http://www.bellshakespeare.com.au/learning/)

- Applications close Monday 5 December 2022 5pm (AEDT)
- Successful applicants notified Monday 12 December 2022

**Mentorship dates:**

- Group 1: Friday 26 – Monday 29 May 2023
- Group 2: Friday 2 – Monday 5 June 2023

Travel to and from Sydney is in addition to these dates.

**ABOUT BELL SHAKESPEARE:**

**Bell Shakespeare** is Australia's national theatre company specialising in the works of William Shakespeare and his contemporaries. Founded in 1990 with the dream of sharing Shakespeare's plays in a way that was relevant and exciting to all Australians, the company has evolved further than its visionary founder, John Bell AO, could have hoped.

Today, Bell Shakespeare tours major theatre productions, education programs and outreach initiatives to every state and territory in Australia and beyond. Performing and teaching in theatres, schools, youth justice centres and regional and remote communities, the company enjoys unrivalled reach and impact, further extending its influence through innovative digital programs.