

REGIONAL TEACHERS INVITED TO APPLY FOR MENTORSHIP WITH BELL SHAKESPEARE

Applications are now open for teachers from regional Australian schools to receive specialist training with national theatre company Bell Shakespeare.

Thirty teachers from across Australia will be selected to travel to Bell Shakespeare's Sydney headquarters for the **2022 Regional Teacher Mentorship** with all travel, accommodation and Professional Learning expenses provided.

They'll receive training in innovative Shakespeare strategies, active learning principles and engaging classroom techniques. On their return to school they'll continue to be supported with ongoing mentorship, guidance, and resources from the Company.

Bell Shakespeare's Artistic Director Peter Evans said that the mentorship gives teachers from regional and remote areas, who may not otherwise have such opportunities, access to an unrivalled training program.

"The mentorship is designed to strengthen your Shakespeare teaching arsenal, but its value goes far beyond that. Teachers get to play and be a student again, to remember why they became a teacher, and to connect with other teachers who face similar challenges to their own."

"It reignites their passion for teaching and pushes them out of their comfort zones, so they can return to their schools confident in these new approaches and ready to share their learning with other teachers."

Bell Shakespeare's Head of Education Joanna Erskine said "The strategies we teach can be applied to any texts, any subjects, far beyond Shakespeare. The program is based on the principles and power of active learning, and teachers tell us each year that the program has transformed their entire teaching practice. Many tell us they were burnt out and ready to leave teaching, but now feel refuelled, re-inspired, supported."

"Teachers don't often feel valued for the important work they do. This program allows us to celebrate them, to give back, and for them to have the time and space to reflect on what they do."

All travel, accommodation and Professional Learning expenses are provided thanks to support from the Australian Government and Teachers Mutual Bank.

Nichole Banks, CMO, Teachers Mutual Bank Limited said: "Teachers Mutual Bank and Bell Shakespeare share a passion for teaching and believe that geography should not be a barrier to professional development. The Regional Teacher Mentorship is an exemplary program that supports teachers to inspire their students, no matter where they live. This year we are proud to be celebrating five years of inspiring regional teachers with Bell Shakespeare and are excited to meet the next intake of educators in 2022."

Applications close on 22 November and winners will be announced in December.

For more information and to apply go to www.bellshakespeare.com.au.