



50 YEARS OF NYSABE:

**BREAKING
BARRIERS** *Through*

BILINGUAL EDUCATION



March 19 - 21, 2026 | Sonesta White Plains Downtown | www.nysabe.net/2026conference

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS NYSABE PROFESSIONAL AWARDS

Over the years, the New York State Association for Bilingual Education (NYSABE) has honored individuals for their outstanding dedication, contributions, and commitment to bilingual education. Please accept this **Call for Nominations** as an invitation to acknowledge your colleagues' excellent work at our upcoming annual conference.

By completing your nominations, you are participating in NYSABE's initiative to raise awareness of bilingual education in New York State. The awards to be presented this year include:

- THE GLADYS CORREA MEMORIAL AWARD
- THE DR. ANTONIA PANTOJA BILINGUAL ADVOCACY AWARD
- THE BILINGUAL PARENT OF THE YEAR AWARD
- THE DR. XIMENA ZATE BILINGUAL TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD
- THE BILINGUAL ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD
- THE BILINGUAL SUPPORT PERSONNEL AWARD
- THE BILINGUAL INSTRUCTIONAL ASSISTANT OF THE YEAR AWARD

Please review the eligibility criteria and nomination packet requirements for each award.

Nominations must be submitted electronically by using the following Link:

<https://forms.office.com/r/JkJhtHHbRz>

For questions, you may email us at Conference@NYSABE.NET

Deadline: Friday, December 19, 2025



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DR. XIMENA ZATE BILINGUAL TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD

The purpose of this award is to recognize the leadership, advocacy work, and contributions of parents whose children participate in bilingual education programs throughout New York State.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

- Bilingual education teachers of PreK-12 ELLs/multilingual learners are eligible for nomination. Bilingual education teachers in post-secondary institutions are also eligible. School personnel with major responsibilities in administration, supervision, or guidance are not eligible.
- Nominees must be currently working in a bilingual education program in New York State.
- Candidates should be exceptionally skillful and dedicated teachers who are respected and admired by students, parents, and colleagues.
- The most important attribute the candidate should possess is the superior ability to inspire his/her students to attain academic excellence, to become bilingual and biliterate, and to seek a path toward lifelong learning.
- Prior recipients of this award are not eligible for nomination.
- **The nominee must be a member of NYSABE.**

NOMINATION PACKET:

In addition to a completed **nomination form**, the supporting documentation to be submitted by the nominator must include:

- **The nomination letter:** This letter must provide evidence of the nominee's professional excellence, leadership, advocacy, and impact on the achievement of ELLs/multilingual learners. The supporting evidence may include testimonial quotes, descriptions of curriculum designs and/or of unique bilingual education pedagogical approaches, activities, and projects.
- **Three letters of recommendation:** These letters must provide supporting evidence of the nominee's qualities, accomplishments, and impact on the achievement of ELLs/multilingual learners. Letters of recommendation may be written by administrators, teachers, parents, and students, when possible.
- **Nominee's Statement:** This statement details the nominee's beliefs and practices regarding bilingual education (200-250 words).

NOTE: Each supporting document must be double-spaced and should not exceed four typed pages. All documents must be in either MS WORD or PDF format.

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