**The New Zealand Oral Health Practitioner   
of the Year Awards** **2023**

In recognition of oral health practitioners who exemplify commitment to oral health care, NZOHA wishes to acknowledge our members who are going above and beyond to raise the bar for our respective professions. We know that our members are humble and feel no need for any accolades, but these awards also ensure that valuable members of our professions are recognised by the wider oral health community and health sector.

Do you know someone who is a trailblazer in your field? Or is it you? Are you an outstanding oral health practitioner? Are you a shining light guiding future professionals? Do you go above and beyond what is required of ‘just your job’?

**What types of activities can practitioners be nominated for?**

* Clinical care e.g. special needs patients, aged care, unique services etc.
* Health promotion projects, representation.
* Excellence in provision of education.
* Networking and contribution to policy development to improve oral health care.
* Research activities – presentations at conferences.
* Volunteer projects provide care, education, or facilitating access to care.
* Actively advocating for inclusion and utilisation of oral health practitioners in practices and policies.

It is expected that the nominees demonstrate what we aspire to be as oral health professionals. If you know someone, or if you are someone who this applies to, then nominate now for the Oral Health Practitioner of the Year Award.

**Prizes include Category Awards for:**

* Dental Therapist of the Year
* Oral Health Therapist of the Year
* Dental Hygienist of the Year
* Hon. Dame Annette King Supreme Award
* People’s choice award.

Overall winners will be announced on **Friday 13th of October 2023,** **at the Queens Wharf Ballroom, Foxglove, Wellington.**

**Process**

Nominations can be made by completing the attached form and emailing it to **profdevelopment@nzoha.org.nz**

**Nominations open on the 1st of August and close on the 22nd of September.** Nominees will be shortlisted to ensure they meet the criteria.

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| **The NZOHA Oral Health Practitioner Awards** | |
| Purpose | In recognition of oral health practitioners who exemplify commitment to oral health care, NZOHA is continuing the tradition of NZDHA and NZDOHTA with the Oral Health Practitioner Awards. We wish to acknowledge our members who are going above and beyond to raise the bar for our respective professions. We know that our members are humble and feel no need for any accolades, but these awards also ensure that valuable members of our professions are recognised by the wider oral health community and health sector. |
| Timing of award | * The awards will be presented annually. * Members will have a one-month period for voting. * Awards will be announced at NZOHA Awards night in Wellington |
| Nominees | Nominations can be provided by any person; however, the nominees must:   * Have a current NZOHA membership. * Reside and practise in New Zealand. * Hold current registration with the Dental Council of New Zealand in the scope(s) of dental hygiene, dental therapy, and/or oral health therapy. * Meet one or more of the award criteria. * Photos, bios and/or nomination forms for each nominee will be displayed on the Association website |
| Categories | Nominees can be nominated for one or more categories:   * Hon. Dame Annette King Supreme Award * Dental Hygienist of the Year * Dental Therapist of the Year * Oral Health Therapist of the Year * All nominations will automatically get pooled into the People's Choice awards category, unless indicated otherwise on the nomination form |
| Award  criteria | **Part A**  The nominee:   * shows significant contribution to oral health in Aotearoa/New Zealand and internationally. * demonstrates a passion for their work and profession. * enhances professional recognition of oral health practitioners throughout Aotearoa/New Zealand. * displays respect for individual and community core values. * maintains the exceptional standards expected of an oral health practitioner.     **Part B**  The nominee excels in one or more of these areas:   * excellence in their provision of clinical care. * promote and contribute to research and/or education by/for oral health practitioners. * promote oral health throughout the Aotearoa/New Zealand community (oral health promotion). * promote the work of oral health professions or development of the professions of dental hygiene, dental therapy and/or oral health therapy. * promote oral health and/or provide care in a volunteer capacity. * advocate for national policies on matters related to oral health professions. * team work or networking beyond the workplace requirements. * recognition by other bodies for leadership or influence on the oral health of the community. |
|  | **Dame Annette King Supreme Award -** nominees excel in two or more:   * Leadership * Clinical care * Professional attributes * Involvement in association management (past or present) * Community work * Research * Volunteering * Mentoring * Encouragement and empowerment of other oral health professionals * Is seen as a cornerstone to the professions’ growth |
| Judging | * Award winners will be chosen by a select committee consisting of leaders in the field of oral health and chosen representatives from each association. * Nominees will be asked to submit a 250-word bio and CV to aid the panel in their judging. * The People’s Choice Awards winner will be selected by members, an email will be sent to all members with a link to vote. |
| Prize | **Awards consist of one Supreme Prize and three Category Prizes and one special prize** |
| Winners | * Practitioner of the Year Awards - plaque and certificate, monetary prize from sponsors, recognition on website and social media. * Dame Annette King Supreme Award - Trophy/plaque and certificate; Prize money from sponsor; recognition on website, social media, and email bite. * People Choice Award winner gets a special prize and recognition on website and social media |
| To apply | * Nominations will close at **5 pm, 22nd of September.** * Nominations can be submitted by any person using the nomination form. * Nominations should include a photo of the nominee. * Nominations must include reference to how the nominee meets the criteria.   Nominations must be emailed to **profdevelopment@nzoha.org.nz** |



# Nomination Form 2023

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| Name of person you are nominating:  Contact phone:  Email address: |  |
| Nominated by (self-nominations accepted):  Contact phone:  Email address: |  |
| **Which award are you nominating for?**    **Please delete all that do not apply:**  **Part A** - The nominee:   * shows significant contribution to oral health in Aotearoa/New Zealand and internationally. * demonstrates a passion for their work and profession. * enhances professional recognition of oral health practitioners throughout Aotearoa/New Zealand. * displays respect for individual and community core values. * maintains the exceptional standards expected of an oral health practitioner.   **Please elaborate (200 words or less):** | |
| **Please delete all that do not apply:**  **Part B –** The nominee excels in one or more of these areas:   * excellence in their provision of clinical care. * promote and contribute to research and/or education by/for oral health practitioners. * promote oral health throughout the Aotearoa/New Zealand community (oral health promotion). * promote the work of oral health professions or development of the professions of dental hygiene, dental therapy and/or oral health therapy. * promote oral health and/or provide care in a volunteer capacity. * advocate for national policies on matters related to oral health professions. * team work or networking beyond the workplace requirements. * recognition by other bodies for leadership or influence on the oral health of the community.   **Please elaborate (200 words or less):**  **For the Dame Annette King Supreme Award (please delete if this Award does not apply):**  **Dame Annette King Award (**nominee excels in 2 or more criteria)   * Leadership * Clinical care * Professional attributes * Community work * Research * Volunteering * Mentoring * Encouragement and empowerment of other oral health professionals * Is seen as a cornerstone to the professions’ growth   **Please elaborate (500 words or less):** | |
| **The People’s choice awards:**  (Please delete all that do not apply)   * **I don't want my nomination included in the People’s Choice Award** * **I want my nomination to be included in the People’s Choice Award**   Please send the completed form to:  [profdevelopment@nzoha.org.nz](mailto:profdevelopment@nzoha.org.nz)  Nominations close on Saturday 22nd September at 5 pm  Subject line: Awards Nomination 2023 | |