

GUAVA Innovation Awards

Call for Submission AY 2025-2026

Introduction

GUAVA is pleased to invite submissions for the GUAVA Innovation Awards for Academic Year 2025–2026, celebrating outstanding, innovative, and transformative work in Vietnamese language education. Building on the success of last year’s inaugural awards, the GUAVA Innovation Awards highlight creative teaching practices and projects that advance Vietnamese language learning across online, hybrid, and in-person environments. These awards aim to recognize and share impactful ideas that inspire educators, strengthen our community, and contribute to a growing collection of exemplary practices in the field.

Award recipients will receive monetary prizes ranging from \$150 to \$300, be recognized by the GUAVA community, and have their work featured on the GUAVA website and blog. Selected projects will also be showcased at the GUAVA Innovation Awards Showcase, offering recipients an opportunity to share their work with colleagues and peers. GUAVA warmly encourages members to submit their innovative projects and join us in celebrating excellence and creativity in Vietnamese language education.

Eligibility

We invite proposals showcasing innovative teaching and learning methods, including the use of technology in the classroom. Eligible innovations must have been implemented in courses offered between Spring 2025 and Spring 2026. Proposals of online, blended, or face-to-face (F2F) courses will all be considered. Only GUAVA Members are eligible to apply.

Awards Categories

We welcome submissions in the following categories:

- **Instructional Innovation:** *This category recognizes creative teaching strategies, methods or learning activities that enhance student engagement and learning outcomes. Submissions may include unique approaches, interdisciplinary projects, or creative use of classroom resources.*
- **Education Technology:** *This category celebrates the development and implementation of innovative educational technology tools, apps, or platforms that improve teaching and learning. Submissions may highlight new tech solutions or effective technology integration in classrooms.*
- **Community Engagement:** *This category recognizes initiatives that strengthen ties between schools, families, and communities. Submissions may include programs showcasing involvement, cross-cultural understanding, or resource sharing.*

- **Professional Development:** This category recognizes innovative approaches to educator professional growth. Submissions may include creation of peer learning communities or resources that support teachers' ongoing professional development.

Evaluation Criteria:

Each submission will be evaluated based on three key criteria. The most innovative, impactful, and scalable proposals in each category will be chosen as the award recipients.

- **Level of Innovation:** The degree to which the submission presents novel, creative, and pioneering ideas, tools, or practices.
- **Impact on Student Learning:** The demonstrated or potential impact of the innovation on improving academic performance, skill development, and overall student growth.
- **Potential for Broader Application:** The potential for the innovation to be scaled and implemented effectively across Vietnamese classrooms.

The committee will evaluate each submission holistically based on these three key criteria. The most innovative, impactful, and scalable proposals within each category will be selected as the award recipients. Award winners will give a presentation at GUAVA Awards Submit.

Timeline and Procedure

Application Open: **February 15, 2026**

Application Deadline: **March 15, 2026**

Winner Announcement: **April 25, 2026**

Awards Showcase/Presentation: **May 16, 2025**

How to apply

To apply, please submit the following by March 15, 2026:

- Completed application form
- 500-word executive summary describing the innovation
- Each applicant submit only one innovation (individual or group)
- Supporting materials (e.g. photos, videos, sample resources)

Submissions should be sent to guavamerica@gmail.com with the subject line "AY 2025-2026 GUAVA Innovation Awards Submission YOUR NAME"