

Maloney, Mike

# Maloney's pen puts him on short list

*Canada Post announces local author's honour*

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By Barry Ellsworth *p. 12*

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Mike Maloney is in the running for a prestigious literacy award, and he didn't know it.

"I'm astounded," the Belleville educator said when contacted by The Intelligencer for an interview, Wednesday.

Canada Post sent out a press release announcing the 12 individuals and organizations in Ontario who are finalists in its Canada wide 2000 Literacy Awards program. Not only was Maloney unaware of the honour, he didn't know he was even entered in the competition. But the founder of the Quinte Learning Centre made a guess as to how it happened.

"Obviously, one of my staff..." Maloney began. "That is so exciting."

The preliminary judges felt he had the credentials to make the finalist list, one of 85 chosen from

300 nominations.

"Michael is a teacher and principal who has taught disadvantaged children and adults to read, write and spell and do math for 30 years," the judges said in a statement.

"He is also an author, co-designer of the internationally acclaimed Math Tutor software program, and one of the partners launching CyberSlate, an Internet literacy tutorial for children (and adults)."

A panel of judges made up of educators and business leaders is now doing final evaluations of submissions and will name the winners in August, Canada Post said.

Up to 45 individuals and organizations could be honoured for their work in four categories: Individual Literacy Achievement, Community Leadership, Business Leadership and Educator. Maloney is a finalist in the latter category.

The winners will receive either a computer system or cash award of \$2,000.

A Belleville resident since 1970, Maloney has taught in Kingston and Hastings County, and in 1979 started the Quinte Learning Centre, which he still runs here.

He has helped colleagues launch 19 more centres across North America.

He will soon launch a reading series for people trying to tutor children at home. It will be available in September.



Mike Maloney

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