Teacher off to New York

Tracey Findlay

WAHROONGA: Knox Grammar head of English Kath Lathouras is off to the US after winning a scholarship.

Ms Lathouras was one of 32 recipients of the 2011 NSW Premier’s Teacher Scholarships, awarded to primary, secondary and TAFE teachers across the state.

She was the only English high school teacher to receive a scholarship, which will take her to New York to participate in a creative writing workshop next month.

“I was truly shocked (to receive a scholarship) because I heard that the number (of applicants) had increased by 20 per cent from previous years,” she said.

While in New York she will attend four days of workshops led by world-class writers. She will be visiting schools in Harlem, the Bronx and Queens to explore how they teach creative writing.

“I want to learn how to write so I can teach the kids how to write better,” she said.

The mother-of-three hopes to inspire and assist the next generation of writers.

“I aim to set up a writers’ lab and teach the skills I learned at the creative writing workshop with students and their teachers from across the state,” she said.

“The aim is to get some publishing houses in and basically get the staff and the kids to pitch an idea to the publishing houses and see if we can get some of these kids published before they finish (school).”