

WA Youth Awards

imagine.

create.

inspire.

2012

Presented in partnership by:



Government of Western Australia
Department for Communities
Youth



YOUTH AFFAIRS COUNCIL OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA



What are the WA Youth Awards?

The WA Youth Awards were established in 1999 to recognise young Western Australians aged 12 to 25 years for their achievements and contributions to the community. The awards also reward outstanding youth groups and organisations that serve and support the state's young people.

In 2012 the WA Youth Awards are proudly presented by the Department for Communities in partnership with the Youth Affairs Council of Western Australia. The awards are supported by Lotterywest.

Information and key dates

- Entries close at 5.00pm on Friday 24 February 2012.
- Shortlisting will take place on Wednesday 29 February 2012.
- Interviews with finalists will take place in Perth on Thursday 15 March 2012.
- Winners will be announced at the WA Youth Awards gala ceremony on Thursday 19 April 2012 at Burswood Entertainment Complex.

WA Youth Awards 2012 Sponsors

Presented in partnership by:



Government of **Western Australia**
Department for **Communities**
Youth



Sponsored by:



Commissioner for Children and Young People
Western Australia



→ WA Youth Awards 2012



Western Australia's young people have the energy, enthusiasm and creativity to propel our community in innovative directions.

As Minister for Youth, it is a privilege to see first-hand the quality of leadership and commitment of young people across Western Australia. I believe it is essential that we ensure our young people are supported and encouraged to reach their full potential. I also believe that it is vital that their successes are publically acknowledged.

For over a decade, the WA Youth Awards have been celebrating the outstanding contributions Western Australian young people make to our communities. In that time we have highlighted the work of some fantastic young role models, while promoting positive images of young people.

The WA Youth Awards showcase the talents and contributions of our young people as demonstrated in their acts of leadership, citizenship, caring for the environment and as role models to others. In addition to recognising the achievements of young people as individuals, in schools and within the community, these awards acknowledge youth groups and organisations, as well as youth workers who provide vital support to our young people.

As we celebrate the 14th year of the WA Youth Awards in 2012, I'm certain we will uncover another group of talented, ambitious and community-minded young people who display passion and dedication in all activities they undertake.

I encourage you to show your appreciation of an outstanding young person's accomplishments by nominating them in one of the eight categories.

Hon Robyn McSweeney MLC
MINISTER FOR CHILD PROTECTION; COMMUNITY SERVICES; SENIORS AND VOLUNTEERING; WOMEN'S INTERESTS; YOUTH



It is often very easy to focus on the negative stories about young people. Sometimes we forget that many young Western Australians are out there in their community doing amazing things – it may be through volunteer work, creativity or their contribution to our environment.

The WA Youth Awards is an important opportunity for us to recognise, acknowledge and say thank you to young people for their contribution to the Western Australian community.

As the peak body for young people and the sector that supports them, the Youth Affairs Council of Western Australia (YACWA) is very pleased to be partnering with the Department for Communities for the 2012 WA Youth Awards.

The 2012 awards present an exciting opportunity for us to ensure that we recognise those young people whose stories are yet to be told, those who are supporting others, those who are using their skills to make our community a better place and those who are thinking outside the box. We encourage you to seek out those young people and nominate them for one of the eight categories in this year's awards.

The Minister's Most Outstanding Youth Worker Award is also an important opportunity for our community to acknowledge youth workers who are working hard to create positive outcomes for young people. If you are a young person who has been supported by a youth worker, an organisation that employs youth workers or a community member who has witnessed the contribution of youth workers, please take the time out to nominate them for the WA Youth Awards.

I congratulate the Minister and the Department for their ongoing commitment to highlighting positive stories about Western Australian young people and encourage you to be part of this year's awards.

Craig Comrie
EXECUTIVE OFFICER, YOUTH AFFAIRS COUNCIL OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

2012 Categories

Individuals and/or organisations can be nominated in one of the following eight categories:

Minister for Youth's Most Outstanding Youth Worker Award

This category recognises a WA youth worker that has made an outstanding contribution to their local community by doing paid or voluntary work in the youth service sector. This award is open to people of any age.

The category winner will be eligible for the WA Young Person of the Year Award if they are aged 12-25 as at 19 April 2012.

The applicant may have:

- demonstrated passion and commitment to improving conditions for young people in their community
- established sustainable partnerships and programs that benefit youth in their community
- delivered improved outcomes for young people in their community through their position.

Create! Propel Youth Arts Award

This category recognises young people who have made a significant contribution to the community through drama, visual arts, technical support, debating, literary pursuits or music.

An example of this may be a young person who:

- has participated in and supported the arts
- made a particular effort to mentor younger artists.

Motivate! Woodside Award

This category recognises an individual who, having overcome difficulties (such as issues related to family, culture, geographic location, health or disability), has made an important contribution to society and is an inspirational role model to others.

This may be demonstrated by:

- reuniting families and/or communities
- improving the quality of life for people with disabilities or health issues
- enriching cultural diversity within the community
- improving the opportunities available to people living in regional or remote communities.

Innovate! BHP Billiton Award

This category recognises a youth-led group or organisation that has made an outstanding contribution to the community and inspired others to participate actively in community life.

The youth-led group may have demonstrated this by:

- addressing a community need or issue
- assisting disadvantaged or at-risk individuals
- promoting a more inclusive and cohesive society
- encouraging individuals to participate fully in all aspects of life to create a stronger, more democratic society.

Recreate! Cadets WA Award

This category recognises an individual whose extensive involvement in sport or recreation has benefited the community.

The applicant may have:

- encouraged others to be physically active through personal example, achievements and leadership
- fund-raised and/or volunteered their time with local sporting and recreational activities or clubs
- developed skills and broadened their own life experience and that of others at national or international levels.

Activate! Department for Communities-Youth Award

This category recognises an individual or group that shows leadership and commitment to protecting and improving the environment, and educating others about environmental issues.

The applicant may have:

- conserved the diversity of native plants, animals and natural ecosystems
- protected or enhanced unique landscapes
- better managed resources or waste
- used resources in a sustainable way
- restored or rehabilitated environments
- increased community understanding of environmental issues and/or innovations, and influenced people's behaviour.

Educate! Edith Cowan University Award

This category recognises an individual with outstanding leadership qualities who has taken action to empower and educate others. They will be high achievers in their chosen field of education, business, government or community, and made a noteworthy contribution to our community.

The applicant may have:

- demonstrated innovation in youth programs or practices
- established sustainable partnerships
- delivered improved outcomes for individuals, families or communities
- guided and developed others
- developed and implemented a shared vision for the future.

Participate! Commissioner for Children and Young People Award

This category recognises a young person between the ages of 12 and 17 who has shown outstanding dedication to making a positive change in their community and who has inspired other young people to participate.

This may have been done by:

- giving young people a voice in important decisions
- getting young people positively involved in their community
- addressing a community need or issue
- bringing groups together to create a stronger community.

What do you win?

- Winners in each category receive a \$2000 cash prize and are presented with a trophy at the gala ceremony on Thursday 19 April 2012.
- The WA Young Person of the Year also receives return airfares for two people to a European destination, courtesy of Singapore Airlines and the Department for Communities-Youth.
- Finalists receive two complimentary tickets to the gala ceremony and will receive a framed certificate.
- Finalists and winners will be widely promoted through local media. Extensive publicity is gained, including ongoing promotion during the year and networking opportunities.

Entries close at 5.00pm
on Friday 24 February 2012

Entries should be completed online at
www.communities.wa.gov.au/youth

Or sent by post to:

2012 WA Youth Awards Coordinator
Department for Communities-Youth
Gordon Stephenson House,
140 William Street, Perth WA 6000

For more information

Contact Megan Sadler

2012 WA Youth Awards Coordinator
Department for Communities

Telephone: (08) 6551 8700

Freecall: 1800 281 116

Web: www.communities.wa.gov.au/youth

How to enter

There are two ways to enter the 2012 WA Youth Awards:

- online at www.communities.wa.gov.au/youth
- submit an entry form by post with a disc or USB flash drive containing digital images of the nominee.
- Please answer all questions listed on the entry form. You may provide a written response on a separate document (preferably typed). You can download a nomination kit and entry form online at www.communities.wa.gov.au/youth
- Please note that postal entries must be received at 140 William Street, Perth by 5.00pm on Friday 24 February 2012.
- Both nominees and nominators will receive an email confirming that their nomination has been received by Tuesday 28 February 2012. If you do not receive an email please contact the Department for Communities-Youth on 6551 8700 immediately, as it means that your entry was not received by the deadline.



Chevienna Hansen

Winner of the Participate! Commissioner for
Children and Young People Award 2011

What is the judging process?

- The Department for Communities-Youth and the Youth Affairs Council of WA coordinate an independent assessment process.
- All the judges, who include young people, are chosen for their expertise, knowledge and experience in youth issues.
- All entries are reviewed and four finalists are selected in each category.
- Finalists will be contacted by phone immediately after selection to arrange an interview at a judging day in Perth on 15 March 2012.
- Finalists are required to be interviewed by a panel of judges on 15 March 2012, where one winner for each category will be selected. Regional finalists will be interviewed by telephone if they are unable to come to Perth.
- The judges then select the 2012 WA Young Person of the Year from among the individual category winners.
- Awards will be presented at the WA Youth Awards gala ceremony on Thursday 19 April 2012.

What criteria will the judges use?

The judges will consider the following criteria when assessing and comparing entries:

- personal, academic and professional achievements – past and present
- contributions in the relevant field– how the young person or organisation has worked to benefit others
- demonstrated leadership, innovation and creativity
- extent of contribution to the Western Australian community
- degree of difficulty of the achievement and the sacrifices made
- previous rewards and recognition
- voluntary involvement in the community, and nature and length of involvement
- demonstrated commitment to personal, vocational, and career development
- availability and commitment to promote a positive image of young people throughout the year of appointment.

WA Youth Awards Gala Dinner 2011



WA Youth Awards 2012 Nomination Form

Section A

Which category are you entering?

Please tick one category only. The Department for Communities-Youth and the Youth Affairs Council of Western Australia reserve the right to place nominees in multiple categories during the shortlisting process if they are deemed suitable.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Participate! (under 18) | <input type="checkbox"/> Motivate! |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recreate! | <input type="checkbox"/> Innovate! (group) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Create! | <input type="checkbox"/> Minister for Youth's Most Outstanding Youth Worker Award |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Activate! (individual or group) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educate! | |

Section B

Nominee details *group or individual entries*

Group/organisation's name (Innovate! and Activate! only):

Contact person:

Size of group/organisation:

or

Individual's name:

Date of Birth:

All nominees to complete

Address:

Suburb :

Postcode:

Postal Address:

Suburb :

Postcode:

Home Telephone:

Mobile:

Email:

Name of school currently enrolled in (if applicable):

Have you been nominated for a WA Youth Award before?

Yes

No

Location:

Metropolitan

Regional

Section C

Nominee declaration

- I consent to being nominated for the 2012 WA Youth Awards.
- I am a permanent Western Australian resident.
- I declare that I am aged 12–25 as at 19 April 2012 (not applicable to those entering the Minister for Youth’s Most Outstanding Youth Worker Award).
- I am aware that I am required to attend the WA Youth Awards gala ceremony in Perth on 19 April 2012 if I am chosen as a finalist (financial assistance for travel and accommodation will be made available to regional finalists).
- I acknowledge that it is necessary to include my contact details on a mailing list for the purpose of the award.
- I agree that the Department for Communities and the Youth Affairs Council of Western Australia can contact the media about my nomination.
- I understand that, by signing this form, permission for the use of any information contained in addressing the selection criteria or any photographs and other creative media such as video clips, audio or art, will be ongoing from today, and I acknowledge that it is my responsibility to contact the Department for Communities in writing should I wish to withdraw permission.
- I agree to participate in any media interviews or photographic opportunities where possible, and that these will be used to promote youth sector interests and issues.
- I understand that all nomination material and information remains the property of the Department for Communities and the Youth Affairs Council of Western Australia.
- I am aware that award judges reserve the right to request additional information to support the nomination if required.
- I certify that all information and statements concerning this nomination are true and correct.

Nominee’s signature:

If entering online please type your name in the signature field above and, if possible, attach an electronic copy of the original signed declaration to your application (i.e. print and scan the page or take a photo with your smartphone). If you are selected as a finalist you will be required to provide an original signed copy of the declaration.

Nominee’s full name:

Date:

Section D

Nominator details

Location: Metropolitan Regional

Name:

In what capacity do you know the young person or group you are nominating?

Address:

Suburb: Postcode:

Postal Address:

Suburb: Postcode:

Telephone: Mobile:

Email:

Is this the first time you have nominated an individual and/or group in the WA Youth Awards?

Yes No

Declaration: I understand the information contained in this entry may be used to promote the WA Youth Awards. To the best of my knowledge, this information is true and correct.

Signature: Date:

If entering online please type your name in the signature field above

Section E

Contents of your entry

Please include the following items in your entry:

- A completed nomination form
- A written response (maximum 1 000 words) outlining the achievements of the nominee
- Three high-resolution digital images of the individual or group
- Any relevant supporting documentation (maximum 5 pages).

Section F

Your written application

In addressing the criteria for each category, please provide a written response of no more than 1000 words, preferably typed, which explains the achievements of the person or group that you are nominating, or yourself (if you are nominating yourself).

You may like to include details about how the young person began their work, how long they've been involved, who has benefitted from their work, and how the young person may continue their work in the future.



Peter Darch

WA Young Person of the Year 2011

Section G

Referee details

Please give the details of a referee whom we can contact to supply further information about the individual or group/organisation you have nominated. Please note, the referee should not be related to the young person or key members of the group/organisation.

Name of referee

First Name: Surname:

Postal Address:

Suburb: Postcode:

Home Telephone: Work Telephone:

Mobile: Email:

Job title/organisation:

In what capacity does the referee know this individual or group?

Department for Communities

Gordon Stephenson House
140 William Street
PERTH WA 6000

Telephone: (08) 6551 8700

Web: www.communities.wa.gov.au

Translating & Interpreting Service
(TIS National): 131 450

This document is available on request in alternative formats such as large type, audio tape, compact disc or Braille.



Joseph Davies,
Winner of the Recreate! Award 2011