

**ED Connect Australia, Maylands winner of Perth Airport's  
'Volunteer of the Year Award'  
In 23rd Belmont & WA Small Business Awards**

Maylands based ED Connect Australia, was one of many Western Australian small businesses awarded in the 23rd Belmont & WA Small Business Awards on the 26th October 2016. The winners were showcased at the 'Night of Stars Event' in the ballroom of the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre.

The awards provide a fantastic opportunity for small and growing enterprises from Belmont and across Western Australia to be recognised for their achievements.

To start proceedings, Spirit of the Streets Choir performed followed by the Welcome to Country given by Ken Hayward from Marr Mooditj Training. Chair of the Belmont Business Enterprise Centre, Jules Lewin gave the official welcome, and then WA Small Business; Mines & Petroleum & Finance Minister, Hon Sean L'Estrange delivered his message. The Australian Small Business Minister, The Hon Michael McCormack spoke and presented the certificates to the Finalists.

MC's for the evening were Past Chair of Belmont BEC Cassie Rowe and BPW Australia National President Jasmyn Mumme. Attendees on the night enjoyed a WA Designer Showcase which was supported by Silverstar Designs, La Luna Lifestyle, AANI, Concrete Ambition, Cherrilane Corsets, d'Clare House of Design and Villamar Couture with Lust Pearls. Thank you to all models and the behind the scenes team co-ordinated by SaSSy Minx Events.

Winner of the 'Volunteer of the Year' Award was ED Connect Australia, Maylands which was sponsored by Perth Airport.

Julie Mullet from ED Connect said, "Ed Connect Australia enhances wellbeing and enriches lives and communities by enabling people of all ages to help each other. We connect volunteers who want to make a difference, with young people in school who need extra help. They harness the wisdom and skills of older generations to enrich the learning experience of young people who are at risk of falling by the wayside in an often over-burdened school system."

Gemma Hunter from Perth Airport said, "As the gateway to Western Australia, and with an exciting phase of redevelopment well underway, Perth Airport's own Gold Coat Volunteer Program is vital to ensure that passengers and visitors to the airport are provided with information and assistance within the international and domestic terminals. The airport recognises the invaluable contribution that volunteers like the Gold Coats make to the community, and would like to congratulate the winner of the Volunteer of the Year Award and all entrants in this category. Congratulations to Julie and ED Connect Australia team."

For further details on all winners of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Belmont & WA Small Business Awards 2016 visit [www.belmontbec.com/awards](http://www.belmontbec.com/awards)

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