

Media Release

23rd Belmont & Western Australian Small Business Awards Highlight Small Businesses Across WA

On the 26th of October, the 23rd Belmont & Western Australian Small Business Awards 2016 were announced during the 'Night of Stars' event with more than 400 guests in attendance at the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre.

Carol Hanlon, Founding Manager of the Belmont Business Enterprise Centre Inc. and the Belmont & WA Small Business Awards said "The Awards now in their 23rd year provide a fantastic opportunity for small and growing enterprises from across Western Australia to be recognised for their achievements."

"Previous winners have found the awards a fantastic launching pad to bigger and better things and this year's awards were no different. Kath Snell, from Volunteer Taskforce Inc. was the 2016 inductee into the prestigious Belmont & WA Small Business Awards Hall of Fame."

To start proceedings, Spirit of the Streets Choir performed followed by the Welcome to Country given by Ken Hayward from Marr Mooditj Training with 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.

Carol Hanlon said, "What a thrill to be celebrating 23 years of business excellence in Belmont and across Western Australia. All finalists and winners from the night are champions of small business and do us proud as role models and inspiration in their tenacity to strive for business excellence. I'd like to thank all of our judges, sponsors, staff and particularly our volunteers that helped out on the night".

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.

Major sponsors of the awards include the City of Belmont, Belmont Business Enterprise Centre Inc. (BEC), and the Textile, Clothing, Footwear Resource Centre of Western Australia Inc. (TCFWA). Other sponsors include Aaragon Construction Management, Belmont Forum, Belmont Rotary, Business News, Business & Professional Women of Western Australia, Hanssen Project Management, Mustera Property Group, NAB, Perth Airport, Qbit, Racebreed Australia, Southern Gazette, Telstra Business Centre Belmont, The Australian Asian Association of WA, Watering Concepts, Westways Visual Communications, Worldwide Printing Solutions, WA Treeworks, BPW Business Incubator ONLINE Training & Mentoring Program, BEC Global, My Business Incubator and TCF Global

Full List of 2016 Winners (photos available on request)

BEST MARKETING AWARD – Volunteer Task Force Inc.

MOST CREATIVE AWARD – Owl & Bear

TECHNOLOGY AWARD – Fortix

KARL FARRELL INSPIRATION AWARD – Spirit of the Streets Choir

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD – ED Connect Australia

MOST INNOVATIVE ENTERPRISE – Lust Pearls

COMMUNITY SPIRIT AWARD - Starick

BEST RETAIL BUSINESS – OPSM Belmont Forum

ACHIEVEMENT AWARD – Training For Me

HOME BASED BUSINESS AWARD – Hilton Plumbing

BUSINESS WOMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD – Nita Sams, Classic Bookbinders

BEST NEW BUSINESS – Airport Apartments by Aurum

ENVIRONMENT AWARD – R. Moore & Sons

SPIRIT OF AUSTRALIA AWARD – The Space Place Observatory & Cartref Park Country Gardens

YOUNG ENTREPRENEUR AWARD – Samuel Ong, Mustard Seed Podiatry

INDIGENOUS BUSINESS OF THE YEAR AWARD – Marr Mooditj Training

FASHION INDUSTRY AWARD – La Luna Lifestyle

WA RACING INDUSTRY AWARD – Paula Wagg

CUSTOMER SERVICE AWARD – WiseClick Training and WiseClick Business Services

BUSINESS MIGRANT OF THE YEAR AWARD – Crusty's Fresh Bread

INTERNATIONAL TRADE AWARD – In Balance Australia

ENTERPRISE OF THE YEAR – Optus Business Centre Perth

BUSINESS PERSON OF THE YEAR – Sharon Kais, Kais Contractors

JUDGES AWARD - Shanks Pony Tours

All finalists, winners and profiles can be viewed online at www.belmontbec.com/awards

For more information contact awards@belmontbec.com

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