MEDIA RELEASE

Business & Professional Women are supporting the Business Woman of the Year Award in the 2015 Belmont Small Business Awards

The 22nd annual Belmont Small Business Awards are well underway, and nominations and entries are open until 5pm Monday 22nd September 2015.

Business & Professional Women (BPW) in conjunction with the BPW Business Incubator Training & Mentoring Project are sponsoring the Business Woman of the Year Award in the 2015 Belmont Small Business Awards. This year's Belmont Small Business Awards include a total of 23 categories for entrants to consider such as Best New Business, Business Person of the Year, Enterprise of the Year, Spirit of Australia, Business Migrant of the Year, and Young Entrepreneur Award.

The Small Business awards are coordinated by the Belmont Business Enterprise Centre (Belmont BEC). Belmont BEC is a non profit community based organisation established, in 1994, to assist in the growth and development of small business. Over the years it has originated a large range of well known projects and programs for the benefit of its small business clients that have included Belmont Small Business Awards, Designedge Innovation Festival, Multicultural Business Support Services, WA Racing Industry Project and the Belmont BEC is also an industry specialist on creative industry, fashion and TCFL industries.

Kate Waters, State President, BPW WA said, "Business & Professional Women Australia is a network of women who want to end gender inequality. Their focus is on issues that affect women and work. BPW develops the professional, leadership and business potential of women on all levels through networking, skill building, advocacy, mentoring and economic empowerment projects around the world. Members give their time and passion to run the projects and generally make an impact that's good for women and therefore the world. And along the way, women network, have fun and learn a lot."

"We are proud to support such an important women's award in the 2015 Belmont Small Business Awards. I would also like to congratulate last year's Business Woman of the Year winner Bianca Chater, from Talent Co. Dance & Entertainment. I encourage all businesses in Western Australia to see if they qualify for any of the 23 award categories. The Belmont Small Business Awards are free to enter, and the Belmont BEC can offer lots of assistance for small business entrants, including providing free online information sessions on How to prepare an Awards submission", Kate said.

For more information on how to nominate a business (including your business clients or suppliers) for the 2015 Belmont Small Business Awards or for information on attending the awards ceremony in October call the Belmont BEC on (08) 9479 3777, email <u>awards@belmontbec.com</u> or visit the website <u>http://www.belmontbec.com/awards</u>

The "Night of Stars" event, where winners will be announced, is going be held on Thursday 22nd of October at the Perth Exhibition and Convention Centre in the Ballroom.

For further information please contact:

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