

MEDIA RELEASE

Catergirls Focusses on Hospitality Training Since Winning A Belmont Small Business Award in 2011

The 19th annual Belmont Small Business Awards are once again underway and open for small businesses across Western Australia until 5pm Monday 15th October 2012.

One of last year's winners, Candice Fernando, the Manger of Catergirls is focussing on creating a Catergirl Hospitality Academy for Training with her new trainer in Hospitality II Kristina Woods, after winning the 2011 Belmont Small Business Spirit of Australia Award.

Candice said, "Myself and Kristina have overcome a lot of adversity in our lives, but winning this award has given us the confidence to keep expanding the business".

Both Candice and Kristina have completed the Esther Foundation program in South Perth, which is an organisation that offers a recovery program to educate, encourage, empower and enrich young troubled women.

Catergirls is a catering company that employs residents from the Esther Foundation Program. The company put all its profits back into the Esther Foundation.

"I'm blessed to have been given support to help me through some of lifes battles, and I'd like to encourage other small business owners to enter the awards. It's a great chance to sit down, take stock of what you've done, and share your story with others" Candice said.

This year's awards include 22 categories for entrants to consider such as Enterprise of the Year, Spirit of Australia, eCommerce, Indigenous Business of the Year and Business Woman of the Year.

The Belmont 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. The Belmont BEC offers 'one stop shop, low-cost advisory services' and provides small business support with a helpline, mentoring, networking, legal and accounting services and a range of other services.

For more information on how to nominate a business for the 2012 Belmont Small Business Awards or for information on attending the awards ceremony in November call the Belmont BEC on (08) 9479 3777, email awards@belmontbec.com or visit the website <http://www.belmontbec.com/awards>

The final "Night of Stars" event when the winners will be announced will be held on the 15th November 2012 in the Grand Ballroom, Crown Perth.

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