



MEDIA RELEASE

SEARCH BEGINS TO AWARD WA'S HIGHEST HONOURS FOR EXCELLENCE & LEADERSHIP

Monday 27 October 2014

Nominations are now open for the 2015 *Western Australian of the Year Awards*.

The Awards recognise the highest level of contribution made to Western Australia by those who were born in or choose to call the State home.

Organised by not-for-profit organisation, Celebrate WA, which has the responsibility for promoting and organising the annual WA Day celebrations, Award winners will be announced at a gala ceremony on Friday 29 May 2015, on the eve of the WA Day long weekend.

The 2015 Award categories are:

- Aboriginal Award, sponsored by Wesfarmers
- Arts and Culture Award, sponsored by Woodside
- Business Award, sponsored by Telstra
- Community Award, sponsored by Alcoa
- Professions Award, sponsored by St John of God Health Care
- Sport Award, sponsored by Hardy Brothers Jewellers
- Youth Award, sponsored by BHP Billiton

The overall Western Australian of the Year is selected from the winners of the individual categories.

Leading business figure and philanthropist Mr David Flanagan, Chairman of Atlas Iron and Chancellor of Murdoch University was named Western Australian of the Year in 2014, following respected author and researcher Professor Bruce Robinson AM in 2013.

Nominations can be made online at www.celebratewa.com.au.

Until 2011, the Awards were known as the WA Citizen of the Year Awards. A long list of respected individuals forms the alumni including: Professor Fiona Stanley AC, Michael Chaney AO, The Hon Chief Justice Wayne Martin AC QC, Ian Trust and George Jones AM.

Newly appointed Chairman of Celebrate WA, Mr Wayne Zekulich said the Awards recognised the contributions of West Australians.



“The Awards provide a wonderful opportunity each year to shine a light on the incredible talent of West Australians and the projects they are involved in, right across the State.

“As we look towards the WA Day long weekend in 2015, we encourage all West Australians to nominate those in the community who are making a difference.

“From arts and culture to business and sport, we’re seeking nominations across seven categories to acknowledge the incredible contribution and commitment of these individuals,” he said

Winner of the 2014 Western Australian of the Year Award, Mr David Flanagan said it had been a rewarding experience.

“It’s humbling to be joining the ranks of such a respected and talented alumni.

“The award has given me a tremendous opportunity to be a spokesperson for a place that I’m incredibly proud of, and pleased to call home.

“I encourage everyone to take a moment to nominate someone who deserves to be recognised, it’s a great opportunity to acknowledge their hard work,” he said.

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Information on Celebrate WA

As the State’s premier leadership organisation, Celebrate WA champions all that is positive about Western Australia and its people. It seeks to engage West Australians in a range of celebratory activities that promote and recognise excellence in our people, lifestyle, culture and potential.

Celebrate WA’s Major Supporters include BHP Billiton, the State Government, and Lotterywest. A range of corporate partners including, Hawaiian, Squire Patton Boggs, and Crown Perth also provide invaluable support.

MAJOR SUPPORTERS

