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MEDIA RELEASE

FINAL DAYS TO NOMINATE FOR WESTERN AUSTRALIA'S TOP AWARDS FOR INDIVIDUAL EXCELLENCE

There is less than a month left for people to nominate outstanding members of our community for the Western Australian of the Year Awards, with the online nomination process closing on Friday, 1 March.

Western Australians are encouraged to take 5 minutes to self-nominate or nominate a person they know who is doing extraordinary work in their specialist field, or in the community at large, and acting as a role model for others.

The online nominations process can be completed at www.waday.com and simply requires people to select the Award category their nominee should be in; and say what that person's achievements are and why they should win. To be nominated, a person must only have been born in WA or have made Western Australia their home.

The seven Award categories are:

- **Aboriginal** Award supported by Wesfarmers
- **Arts & Culture** Award supported by Woodside
- **Business** Award supported by Perdaman
- **Community** Award supported by Alcoa
- **Professions** Award supported by APM
- **Sport** Award supported by Channel 7
- **Youth** Award supported by BHP

The finalists for each category are announced in April with the winners being named on the evening of Friday, 31 May 2019 at a Gala Dinner marking the start of the WA Day weekend. An overall winner will be declared as Western Australian of the Year 2019.

Emeritus Professor Mike Daube AO was named Western Australian of the Year in 2018 for his extraordinary contribution to global public health. Professor Daube has campaigned tirelessly to reduce rates of smoking worldwide and was instrumental in implementing plain packaging on tobacco products. His work is credited with saving millions of lives.

Other outstanding winners in 2018 include, Janet Holmes à Court AC (Arts & Culture), Diane Smith-Gander (Business), Professor James Trevelyan (Professions), Ron Alexander (Sport) and Greg Hire (Youth). A full list of Award winners from 2018 and earlier years can be viewed in the Hall of Fame at www.waday.com.

The Awards were created to celebrate inspirational role models in the Aboriginal community; excellence in business leadership, social entrepreneurship and innovation; making a positive difference to the vibrancy of our state through arts and culture; positive social, scientific and

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economic impact; achievement in sport; and improving the lives of Western Australians and the community as a whole.

Celebrate WA Chair Michael Anghie said he encouraged all Western Australians to consider the outstanding people they had encountered in their lives, and to nominate them before the closing date.

“Every year the calibre of finalists never ceases to amaze me, and I am sure 2019 will produce another group of high calibre individuals who are pursuing important goals in a dedicated and selfless way. The Awards allow us to appreciate the fantastic work people do in our communities, inspiring young Western Australians to continue striving to improve our great State. I ask everyone to nominate their role models for an Award, so they can receive the recognition they deserve,” said Mr Anghie.

The WA Day celebrations and events are proudly supported by the Government of Western Australia, Lotterywest and BHP.

If you have any questions about the Awards or the nomination process contact Celebrate WA on 08 9324 5000 or celebratewa@celebratewa.com.au.

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Photos of previous winners are available. Emeritus Professor Mike Daube AO and other Award winners are available for interviews.

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About Celebrate WA

Celebrate WA is a not-for-profit organisation responsible for promoting and organising the annual WA Day celebrations; promoting excellence and achievement by Western Australians in all fields of endeavour; and encouraging pride in all things Western Australian.



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