

15 February 2021  
MEDIA RELEASE

## **WA'S MOST PRESTIGIOUS AWARDS ACCEPTING FINAL NOMINATIONS TO RECOGNISE OUTSTANDING INDIVIDUALS**

Time is running out to put forward exceptional members of the Aboriginal community for this year's Western Australian of the Year Awards, with nominations closing on Friday 26 February.

The 2021 Awards will be particularly special, celebrating the achievements of Western Australians over the past two years and raising the caliber of the Awards even higher. Celebrate WA was forced to cancel the 2020 celebrations in order to play their part in the fight against COVID-19, but the Board is confident the 2021 Awards will take place, with final decisions on the nature of the Awards ceremony to be made in line with the most up to date advice from the State Government. In the period since the 2019 Awards many Western Australians have performed inspirational work both at home and abroad, with the Awards set to recognise the State's 'best of the best'.

Celebrate WA Chair, Michael Anghie, said he looked forward to Western Australians naming worthy peers for the Awards, given the unique challenges of the past twelve months.

"The Western Australian of the Year Awards are our chance to highlight the many achievements of Aboriginal people in Western Australia, and celebrate the impact they have on our society as a whole. The recognition of these individuals is vital, as they inspire the younger generation of Western Australians to continue achieving great things for our wonderful State. Given the difficult year many have had, it is particularly uplifting to hear about the selfless, hardworking and dedicated people right here in Western Australia, and I look forward to hearing their stories told in 2021," said Mr Anghie.

The simple online nominations process only takes between 5-10 minutes to complete and can be filled in at [www.waday.com](http://www.waday.com). Participants are required to select the relevant Award category, identify the individuals' achievements and why they deserve to be crowned Western Australian of the Year. To be considered for the esteemed acknowledgment the entrant must have either been born in Western Australia, or now call the State their home.

Western Australians can either self-nominate or complete the online form on behalf of an Aboriginal person they have witnessed carrying out astonishing work in their elected field of expertise or acting as an inspirational role model to others.

Major Supporters

**BHP**



**lotterywest**

Award Partners

**Alcoa**



The seven Award categories include:

- **Aboriginal** Award
- **Arts & Culture** Award
- **Business** Award
- **Community** Award
- **Professions** Award
- **Sport** Award
- **Youth** Award

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

The finalists for the seven categories will be revealed on 17 April, and winners will be announced on the evening of Friday 4 June 2021 at a Gala Dinner to mark the beginning of the WA Day Weekend. The overall winner will then be presented as the 2021 Western Australian of the Year.

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

If you have any questions about the Awards or the nomination process, please contact Celebrate WA on 08 9324 5000 or [celebratewa@celebratewa.com.au](mailto:celebratewa@celebratewa.com.au).

ENDS

**Interviews with Celebrate WA Board members available upon request**

#### **Media contacts**

Asha Coppolina

Clarity Communications

P: 0409 519 554

E: [alsha.coppolina@claritycommunications.com.au](mailto:alsha.coppolina@claritycommunications.com.au)

Julia Watts

Clarity Communications

P: 0407 646 178

E: [julia.watts@claritycommunications.com.au](mailto:julia.watts@claritycommunications.com.au)

#### **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.

Major Supporters

**BHP**



lotterywest

Award Partners

**Alcoa**

