Media Release

David Tollner, Member for Fong Lim
Minister for Employment and Training

Record entries for NT Training Awards

11 July 2014

Thirty seven of the Northern Territory’s top apprentices, trainees, vocational students, trainers, employers and registered training organisations have been named as finalists in the NT Training Awards.

The Awards recognise and celebrate excellence and the outstanding achievements of Territorians involved in VET in 11 categories. The awards are the most prestigious event on the Northern Territory’s VET calendar.

The NT Training Awards have a long tradition of celebrating the sector’s best trainees, apprentices, trainers and employers since 1955.

Minister for Employment and Training, Dave Tollner, said the Awards are the Northern Territory Government’s premier event recognising training excellence and achievements of Territory businesses, training organisations and trainers, apprentices, trainees and students.

“The VET sector plays an integral role in the economic growth of the Territory, skilling and training our current and future workforce. The Northern Territory Government is committed to training and upskilling Territorians to equip them to make the most of future opportunities,” Mr Tollner said.

“This is our opportunity to recognise and celebrate the excellence in the local training sector.”

“A record total of 71 nominations across the 11 categories were received this year and I congratulate this year’s finalists and wish them well as judging progresses.”

Finalists include mature-age trainees and apprentices from remote and urban areas across the Territory, and from a myriad of industries including electro-technology, computer systems technology, conservation and land management, business, accounts, fitness, community services and education.

The winners will be announced at the annual Northern Territory Training Awards gala presentation dinner on 13 September 2014 at the Darwin Convention Centre, and tickets are on sale now.

The night will be hosted by media personality, corporate presenter and MC Lochie Daddo.
Most Territory winners will go on to represent the NT at the 2014 Australian Training Awards in Adelaide in November.

Finalists List

Individual category finalists

Trainee of the Year – sponsored by Group Training Association QLD & NT

- Bradley Malby – Certificate III in Business Administration
- Gerald Pasigna – Certificate IV in Computer Systems Technology
- Maria Giallouris – Certificate III in Accounts Administration
- Melanie Hogben – Certificate III in Business Administration

Austin Asche Apprentice of the Year – sponsored by Gil Court Memorial Fund

- Eric Klenke – Certificate III in Electrical Supply Industry - Distribution
- Shawn Du Venage - Certificate III in Electrotechnology Electrician
- Timothy Schmidt - Certificate III in Engineering - Mechanical Trade

Vocational Student of the Year – sponsored by Master Builders Association NT

- Aimee Williams – Certificate III in Fitness, Certificate IV in Fitness, Certificate IV in Massage Therapy Practice
- Leah Chandler – Certificate IV in Fitness
- Patrick Rivers – Certificate IV in Community Services Work
- Mitchell Hore - Certificate IV in Work Health and Safety

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student of the Year – sponsored by East Arnhem Regional Council

- Dawn Ivinson – Diploma of Child, Youth and Family Intervention
- Monica Robinson - Diploma of Education Support
- Yupunu Marika – Certificate II in Conservation and Land Management

VET in Schools Student of the Year – sponsored by Conoco Phillips

- Emily Hughes – Certificate I in Business
- Lachlan Synnott – Certificate II in Transport & Distribution (Coastal Maritime Operations - Coxswain)
- Samantha Jones – Certificate III in Media
- Tayla Benn – Certificate I in Business, Certificate I in Hospitality, Certificate II in Hospitality

**School-Based Apprentice or Trainee of the Year – sponsored by GTNT**
- Ellie Barnes - Certificate III in Engineering - Mechanical Trade
- Kane Andrews - Certificate III in Carpentry
- Liam May - Certificate III in Electrotechnology Electrician

**VET Teacher / Trainer of the Year – sponsored by Halikos Hospitality**
- Matt Deveraux – Taminmin College
- Nikki Higgins – Charles Darwin University
- Pilar Cubillo – Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education

**Organisational category finalists**

**Training Provider of the Year – sponsored by NEC**
- Charles Darwin University
- Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education (BIITE)
- BCA National Training Group
- Real Estate Institute of Northern Territory Inc.

**Training Initiative Award – sponsored by The Ichthys Project (INPEX)**
- Charles Darwin University in collaboration with GTNT
- Karen Sheldon Training and Development in collaboration with Darwin Turf Club
- Leighton Contractors in collaboration with Carey Training Pty Ltd

**Employer of the Year – sponsored by Southern Cross Television**
- Traditional Credit Union
- SKYCITY Darwin
- Hastings Deering (Aust) Ltd

**Small Employer of the Year – sponsored by NT News**
- Arafura Tree Services Pty Ltd
- Micks Ally Fab
The NT Training Awards are organised each year by the Department of Business.

The awards would not be possible without the support of sponsors: the Gil Court Memorial Fund, Master Builders Association NT, Group Training Association QLD and NT, Halikos Hospitality, East Arnhem Regional Council, GTNT, Conoco Philips, NEC, Southern Cross Television, NT News, The Ichthys Project, Quest Apartments Parap, and Sunbuild.

Tickets can be purchased from [www.trainingawards.nt.gov.au](http://www.trainingawards.nt.gov.au) or by calling 8935 7750.

For more information and details of the finalists, visit [www.trainingawards.nt.gov.au](http://www.trainingawards.nt.gov.au) and join the NT Training Awards on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/NTTrainingAwards](http://www.facebook.com/NTTrainingAwards).

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