Budding Business Talent

The Territory’s next generation of entrepreneurs have been recognised at the annual Youth Business Awards.

The Education Minister Paul Henderson and the Business Minister Chris Burns attended the awards today and congratulated the students who entered as part of their NT Certificate of Education and Training.

“These awards are a great recognition of the initiative and ingenuity of our students as we continue to build a Smart Territory,” Mr Henderson said.

“Giving students the chance to develop enterprise and business management skills is a great way to identify future small business managers and operators who will continue to grow our economic base.”

Dr Burns said the Territory’s future business prospects were bright.

“I’m pleased to say 25 high school teams entered the competition this year, establishing or producing business plans from dog walking to organising parties and running outdoor cinemas,” he said.

“Small business is an import part of the Territory and we are lucky to have so many budding entrepreneurs who have the potential to become successful in business.”

This year’s winners are:

**Youth Business Award:**

This category of the Youth Business Awards requires students to physically run a business for a short period of time and experience the day-to-day operations of business management.

Winners: Palmerston High School – Tara Staunton, Charmaine Davis and Jennifer Lenski set up a small dog-walking business known as Dog Walkers that operated in Palmerston.

**Youth Business Plan Award:**

This category recognises students who developed an outstanding business plan, but did not have the opportunity to trade.
Winner: Darwin High School – Anastasia Koulianos developed a business plan for her business Green Space Environmental Consultants. Anastasia planned to run a consultants firm that targets commercial property owners who want to convert their properties into green buildings

**Youth Business Innovation Award:**

This award recognises students who identified a need within a market and effectively exploited that opportunity in a creative or novel way.

Winners: Palmerston High School – Tara Staunton, Charmaine Davis and Jennifer Lenski with their business Dog Walkers

**Youth Business Encouragement Award:**

The Encouragement category acknowledges the hard work and dedication of students.

Winner: Taminmin High School – Ellouise Donaghy wrote a business plan for her company Starlight Rural Cinemas where she proposed to run an outdoor cinema in the Darwin rural area.

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