

Minister for Education and Training and Minister for the Arts
The Honourable Rod Welford
05/08/2008

Queensland Training Awards finalists announced

Queensland's best employers, apprentices, trainees, vocational students and training providers are a step closer to statewide success after being named as finalists in the 2008 Queensland Training Awards.

Education and Training Minister Rod Welford said 48 finalists were contesting 11 categories that recognise achievements in training and initiatives that are equipping Queensland's workforce with world-class skills.

"Queensland relies on the strength of our industries, not only for the services they offer, but for the central role they play in the future of our communities and our state," Mr Welford said.

"These awards showcase the great work that individuals and organisations are doing to keep Queenslanders skilled in a variety of jobs including hairdressing, hospitality, health care, agriculture, civil construction and fitness.

"In workplaces, schools, colleges and training institutions across the state training is enriching lives personally and professionally.

"Demand for skilled workers is at an all-time high and, with more Queenslanders taking up apprenticeships and traineeships than any other state of Australia, these awards showcase the cream of the crop of our top achievers."

Mr Welford said the finalists had already won at a regional level in the State Government's longest-running awards program, now in its 47th year.

The categories are:

- Apprentice of the Year, sponsored by Construction Skills Queensland
- Trainee of the Year, sponsored by BUSY AT WORK Apprenticeships Services
- Vocational Student of the Year, sponsored by Queensland Alumina Limited
- School-based Apprentice or Trainee of the Year, sponsored by BUSY AT WORK Apprenticeships Services
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student of the Year
- Small Employer of the Year, sponsored by Small Business Solutions
- Employer of the Year, sponsored by CareerOne - The Courier-Mail
- Public Training Provider of the Year
- Private Training Organisation of the Year, sponsored by the Australian Council for Private Education and Training
- Skilling for the Future Award, sponsored by the Australian Government Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations
- Premier's Innovation in Skilling Award, sponsored by Education City.

The state finals are at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre on 11 September 2008, and winners can enter the Australian Training Awards presented in the Northern Territory in November. A full list of finalists follows.

Media contact: Marnie Stitz or Emma Clarey on 3237 1000

2008 QUEENSLAND TRAINING AWARDS - STATE FINALISTS

Apprentice of the Year, sponsored by Construction Skills Queensland

Shona Daveson, Certificate IV in Aeroskills (Mechanical), Longreach Aircraft Maintenance, from Longreach

Timothy Dillon, Certificate III in Food Processing (Retail-Baking Combined), Creative Crusts Pty Ltd, from Deagon

Paul Matthews, Certificate III in Electrotechnology Systems Electrician, Electro Group Apprentices, from Banora Point

Rachel Niemann, Certificate III in Furniture Making (Cabinet Making), Wide Bay Group Training Scheme Limited, from Murgon

Michael Obah, Certificate III in Plumbing, Johnstone Shire Council, from South Johnstone

Peter O'Dea, Certificate III in Engineering (Fabrication Boilermaking), Golden West Employment Solutions, from Chinchilla

Trainee of the Year, sponsored by BUSY AT WORK Apprenticeships Services

Katie Frew, Certificate III in Business Administration, Department of Tourism, Regional Development and Industry, from Clear Island Waters

Matthew Graham, Certificate III in Civil Construction (Pipelaying), Southern Regional Water Pipeline Alliance, from Bundamba

Lisa Hanna, Certificate IV in Business, Queensland Transport, from Frenchville

Nicole Harb, Certificate III in Community Services Work, Career Employment Australia, from Hawthorne

Tyson Rimmington, Certificate II in Sport and Recreation, Rimmington Martial Arts and Fitness, from Gympie

Kellie Wenham, Certificate III in Business Administration, Thuringowa City Council, from Kirwan

Vocational Student of the Year, sponsored by Queensland Alumina Limited

Barbara Burstall, Diploma of Business Management, Wide Bay Institute of TAFE, from Bundaberg

Melanie Llewellyn, Certificate III in Children's Services, The Bremer Institute of TAFE, from Brassall

Bernard Pope, Diploma of Nursing, Tropical North Queensland Institute of TAFE, from Maryborough

Rebecca Rendalls, Diploma of Nursing (Pre-enrolment), Central Queensland Institute of TAFE, from North Rockhampton

Sonia Weatherley, Diploma of Fitness, Gold Coast Institute of TAFE, from Windaroo

Jeni Wycha, Certificate III and IV in Information Technology (Networking), Metropolitan South Institute of TAFE, from Greenbank

School-based Apprentice or Trainee of the Year, sponsored by BUSY AT WORK Apprenticeships Services

Stevie Adams, Certificate II in Hospitality (Operations), VIP Coffee Lounge, from Studio Village
Rohan Greer, Certificate III in Electrotechnology Systems Electrician, Downs Group Training, from Cambooya
Brandy Hall, Certificate III in Business Administration, Acclaim Apprentices and Trainees, from Aroona
Rebecca Sheahan, Certificate II in Agriculture (Beef Production), Rural Training and Extension Association Inc., from Woodstock
Brayden Smith, Certificate III in Engineering (Mechanical Trade), MRAEL Limited, from Moranbah
Jami-Lee Upkett, Certificate II in Business, Brisbane City Council, from Sunnybank Hills

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student of the Year

Peter Cruz, Certificate III in Information Technologies, Wide Bay Institute of TAFE, from Maryborough
Matthew Graham, Certificate III in Civil Construction (Pipelaying), Southern Regional Water Pipeline Alliance, from Bundamba
Anthony Jansen, Certificate IV in Youth Work, Central Queensland Institute of TAFE, from North Rockhampton
Bernard Pope, Diploma of Nursing, Tropical North Queensland Institute of TAFE, from Maryborough
Lisa Stutz, Certificate III in Business Administration, On-Q Human Resources Limited, from Ashmore
Jami-Lee Upkett, Certificate II in Business, Brisbane City Council, from Sunnybank Hills

Small Employer of the Year, sponsored by Small Business Solutions

SES Industrial Contractors, Toowoomba
Surrender Dorothy Hairdressing, Pomona
Trevor West Hair Works, Burleigh Heads

Employer of the Year, sponsored by CareerOne - The Courier-Mail

Hervey Bay RSL and Services Memorial Club Inc., Pialba
Queensland Alumina Limited, Gladstone
Stowe Australia, Eight Mile Plains.

Public Training Provider of the Year

Metropolitan South Institute of TAFE, Mount Gravatt
The Bremer Institute of TAFE, Bundamba
Tropical North Queensland Institute of TAFE, Manunda

Private Training Organisation of the Year, sponsored by the Australian Council for Private Education and Training (ACPET)

First Impressions Resources, Brisbane
Electro Group Training Queensland Ltd, Coopers Plains
Marc Ratcliffe Workplace Education and Development (MRWED), Elimbah

Skilling for the Future Award, sponsored by the Australian Government Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

All Saints Anglican School - *Certificate II and III Live Production Theatre and Events*, Merrimac

Glendyne Education and Training Centre - *Engineering Production Workshop*, Nikenbah

My Other Mum Childcare - *Working with Schools Initiative*, Woree

Premier's Innovation in Skilling Award, sponsored by Education City

Glendyne Education and Training Centre, Nikenbah

Metropolitan South Institute of TAFE, Mount Gravatt

Southern Regional Water Pipeline Alliance, Spring Hill