

# 2016 Victorian Learn Local Awards

Thursday 8 September 2016  
Collingwood Town Hall



# 2016 Victorian Learn Local Awards

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## Chair of the Adult, Community and Further Education Board

It is my pleasure to welcome you all to the 2016 Victorian Learn Local Awards.

In my first year as Chair of the Adult, Community and Further Education (ACFE) Board, I have found that one of the most enjoyable aspects of my role is visiting and meeting with Learn Local organisations and seeing first-hand the amazing impact that Learn Local training has on individual Victorians and their communities. Once you walk into a Learn Local, you can immediately see how this sector is changing lives, providing skills for people to get a job, pursue further education and become more involved in their community.

These Awards are an opportunity for the ACFE Board to showcase the remarkable achievements of the Learn Local sector and pay tribute to the inspirational efforts of learners, practitioners and organisations from across the state.

Congratulations to all this year's finalists for your dedication, hard work and daily perseverance to improve your own life and the lives of those around you. You are all fantastic examples of what Learn Local training is all about and I commend you on your efforts.

Learn Local organisations have a significant role in developing local individuals, local businesses and local communities throughout Victoria. Pre-accredited training underpins the inclusiveness of Victorian communities. Working in partnership, the ACFE Board and the Learn Local sector improve outcomes for adults with a particular emphasis on key cohorts of need including women, those experiencing disadvantage, those from low socio-economic status localities, early school leavers, low skilled and vulnerable workers, Indigenous people, unemployed people and people with a disability. This will continue to be a strong focus of the Board as it sets to implement its recently developed Strategy for the next three years.

The ACFE Board is proud to support Learn Local organisations to deliver such valuable training and skills for thousands of Victorians each year. We hope to continue to see the number of individuals helped to success, in learning and life by this sector, grow well into the future.

Tonight is a celebration of the well-deserved finalists and also an acknowledgment of the amazing and irreplaceable work Learn Local organisations do to assist and support the most vulnerable people in our society.

Thank you all for your support of Learn Local.

Sue Christophers PSM  
Chair, Adult, Community and Further Education Board



## Minister for Training and Skills

As Minister for Training and Skills, I am delighted to be here tonight to support the Victorian Learn Local Awards.

We are celebrating achievements from across Victoria's 300 plus Learn Local organisations; wonderful stories of training success, of people lifting themselves up through training, of commitment by teachers and wonderful programs that transform lives.

You come from across the state, from all walks of life and life experiences, and I congratulate you all.

Your achievements will encourage others to follow in your footsteps, to embark on training to acquire the skills they need, and that industry wants, so we can build a healthy, productive and prosperous Victoria.

This Government is committed to building a strong and stable training system and to ensuring that all Victorians – regardless of age, postcode or background – have access to high quality training.

We believe that pre-accredited training plays a critical role in this.

The Government also understands the cost of delivering quality training. In January 2016 the subsidy rate for pre-accredited training increased for the first time in six years.

Recently we launched our new approach to training and TAFE in Victoria, *Skills First*.

As part of this, we are expanding the Reconnect Program, with an additional \$20 million in 2017. This program, which we launched earlier this year, provides wrap around support for the most disadvantaged as they enter training. There's help with accommodation and health issues, and then with getting work experience to help students find a job. Learn Locals have been a major partner in this program and I thank you all for your support. Together we are making an impact.

In addition, \$1.5 million has also been made available to establish Learn Local Quality Partnerships, which will assist with administration and free up Learn Locals so they can do what they do best – teach.

I am proud of what this Government is doing for training and for every Victorian.

You too should be very proud of your achievements celebrated here tonight.

Hon Steve Herbert MP  
Minister for Training and Skills

Learn Local organisations are the cornerstone of adult education in the community. They join people with their communities and provide a forum for the sharing of information, experience and knowledge. Learn Local organisations link to early childhood services, schools and other vocational and higher education providers. They work with local councils, support services and job agencies, and create an environment that is welcoming to all. These three Learn Local programs are being celebrated for the pathways they have created for learners. Through these programs, learners have moved on to further education and training or into employment (either in paid or volunteer roles). The programs have helped learners to connect with their communities, with business and with other organisations. These three programs demonstrate that the strategies and approaches used to develop and run the program generate pathways for learners to explore further education and training or move into employment.



### Speaking Out Port Melbourne Neighbourhood Centre

The Voices of the South Side (VoSS) program targets people who experience significant disadvantage, such as homelessness, drug abuse or physical/mental illness, and who live in social and public housing in the City of Port Phillip.

At the core of VoSS is the Speaking Out course run by Port Melbourne Neighbourhood Centre; a 10-week course teaching people public speaking, advocacy, communication and teamwork skills. Through one-on-one pathways mentoring, participants learn how to gain confidence in their own abilities and to make new connections within the community. Students are also referred to counselling services to help deal with mental health issues and lifestyle. This practical support, in combination with a nurturing learning environment, provides the foundation to begin the long journey of change.

Out of the 20 participants that have completed the course, four have been able to obtain part-time employment and eight have obtained casual positions.



### Making Alternatives Possible Inner Melbourne VET cluster

The Making Alternatives Possible (MAP) program run at Inner Melbourne VET Cluster seeks to provide young adults with an alternative learning environment to mainstream schooling. MAP combines pre-accredited vocational education with social welfare, transition and pathway support, to deliver an innovative and flexible community education program for young people aged 15 to 18 years who have fully disengaged from school.

The program is delivered in the inner Melbourne region, and aims to inspire students to explore their future goals, acquire essential life skills, and improve literacy and numeracy, in preparation for further education, training or employment.

By actively engaging with industry, participants experience first-hand the impact of being an active community member and the importance of employment, leading to fantastic outcomes. In 2015, 86% of learners transitioned to VCAL/VCE or TAFE/University, 100% of students participated in work placements and 7% secured employment at the completion of their placements.



### Pathways to Work in Action Carringbush Adult Education

The Pathways to Work in Action program run by Carringbush Adult Education includes an employment preparation course designed to support migrants and refugees to develop preliminary skills to gain employment, through participation in an event-based project.

Providing learners with a hands-on, work-like experience, the course guides them through a professional application process, building a resume and developing interview skills. Subsequently, the learners are given the responsibility of designing and implementing an event, such as a fundraising sausage sizzle. All learners are concurrently studying English, typically at a Certificate I or II level and most have been long-term unemployed with little to no experience working in Australia.

On completion, students will have acquired a resume, interview skills, professional references, work experience and are often referred to work opportunities with other organisations through work partnerships.

Since the program started, 17 learners have participated in the program, 5 of whom have secured employment and 11 have obtained volunteer positions.

## Learn Local Legends

One of the most remarkable aspects of this sector is the diversity of the organisations that are Learn Locals. While all Learn Local organisations are passionate about their commitment to adult learning, the eight ACFE Regional Councils have each selected an organisation within their area as a Learn Local Legend. Learn Local Legends are considered to have provided an exceptional contribution this past year to their staff, clients and to the broader community. These eight organisations are this year's Learn Local Legends.

### Nominated by ACFE Barwon South Western Regional Council

#### Bellarine Living and Learning Centre



Bellarine Living and Learning Centre aims to enhance life and work opportunities for adult learners of all ages, including youth and refugees newly settled in the Whittington and Bellarine areas.

The Centre supports new communities of learners, is actively involved in the Whittington works project and was instrumental in the establishment of the Leopold Community & Learning Centre.

Aimed at the local youth community, the centre offers pre-accredited courses in computers, literacy and numeracy, and also caters to the South Sudanese Nuer residents offering courses in English language. It also works closely with local residents, providing individual support for a range of issues and is engaged in programs and services delivered by other agencies including the provision of a Foodbank.

### Nominated by ACFE Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council

#### Vermont South Community House



Vermont South Community House is a Learn Local organisation offering a variety of pre-accredited and accredited courses and activities in a friendly, supportive environment to meet the needs of the local community.

In 2014, Vermont South Community House set about repositioning its training options to reflect the changed demographics of the local community. This involved a focus on upskilling its workforce and promoting its organisation to the broader cohorts in the area. It also established a commercial kitchen and cafe which has furthered community links and engagement with the organisation. The café provides training including food and drink service, barista training and food handling. In October 2015, 10 students completed Certificate II in Workplace Training Strategies. As a result of changing their value proposition, Vermont South Community House has tripled its pre-accredited provision in three years. Services include a wide range of vocational, Information Technology and English as an Additional Language pre-accredited training.

## Nominated by ACFE Gippsland Regional Council

### Gippsland Employment Skills Training



Gippsland Employment Skills Training (GEST) is a registered training organisation (RTO) based in the Latrobe Valley and delivering training in Moe and Morwell. Recognised for delivering quality training for highly disadvantaged learners, GEST has demonstrated collaboration with relevant community organisations to build wraparound support for participants enrolled in training. Innovative program design has been a feature of ACFE funded delivery with recent examples focusing on employment skills and links with accredited training. The RRR program has engaged learners in refurbishment of second hand furniture and another program has included koori learners refurbishing a marine vessel destined for tourism on the Gippsland Lakes. GEST has provided barista training through Café Zest and contributed employment pathways for many learners into the hospitality industry.

## Nominated by ACFE Grampians Regional Council

### Nhill Learning Centre



The Nhill Learning Centre delivers pre-accredited programs to the general community with a strong focus on CALD residents predominantly from the Karen community. Its programs focus on engaging CALD learners while providing essential life and communication skills and knowledge of Australian culture.

The centre has been successful in CAIF projects that target CALD learners and is recognised widely for the innovation involved in its partnership with the Luv-A-Duck Industry, local government and other agencies in the settlement of Karen families in Nhill.

The Nhill Learning Centre's commitment to developing these programs for its local community has recently been recognised when they received the Victorian Community Trainer Provider of the Year Award at the 2015 Victorian Training Awards, as well as the AMES Australia Diversity Award at the 2015 Victorian Learn Local Awards.

## Nominated by ACFE Southern Metropolitan Regional Council

### Glen Eira Adult Learning Centre



The Glen Eira Adult Learning Centre (GEALC) consistently provides high quality delivery to CALD learners, with a culture encouraging, innovation and skill development driving high performance amongst tutors.

The Centre has developed excellent promotion and marketing materials to invigorate the brand, creating a relaxed learning environment that contributes to strong engagement by participants and large attendances at cultural events and celebrations that recognise student achievements.

GEALC are leaders in the way they provide strong community support and engagement. Partnerships with local businesses have supported the sales and distribution of student recipes in a high quality cook book. In addition, partnerships with a disability agency have secured maintenance of the centre gardens and the Success 4U program has been implemented to support transitions to accredited training.

GEALC are active participants in professional development and strive to stay up-to-date and improve their delivery of pre-accredited programs.

## Nominated by ACFE Loddon Mallee Regional Council

### Macedon Ranges Further Education Centre



Macedon Ranges Further Education Centre (MRFEC) is a neighbourhood house and learning centre offering adult education and vocational classes in the Macedon Ranges. MRFEC delivers over 8,000 pre-accredited hours in Macedon Ranges and Sunbury and offers an increasing number of programs including art, computers, health and recreation, language and literacy, training for jobs, threads and textiles, animal husbandry (sheep and poultry keeping), sculpture and beauty.

Pathway and taster programs for hospitality and multimedia industries are offered, along with numerous Capacity and Innovation Fund projects; which include Round 5 – The Virtual Classroom and Partnerships For Access – Learn Local Four Training.

MRFEC is also involved in joint strategic planning with other Learn Locals in the Macedon Ranges Shire including Macedon Ranges Education, Employment and Training Network, Macedon Ranges Shire Council and Central Ranges LLEN.

## Nominated by ACFE North Western Metropolitan Regional Council

### Djerriwarrh Community and Education Services



Djerriwarrh Community and Education Services is a community – based organisation working closely with individuals, families and communities providing education, training, employment and youth support services.

As the Work for the Dole coordinator in the Western Melbourne region, Djerriwarrh delivers the Skills for Education and Employment program and the L2P program (in partnership with Melton City Council and Moorabool Shire Council); with 41 volunteers assisting young people to gain their probationary driver's licence.

Industry partnerships include the Djerriwarrh Health Services, strong links with Learn Local organisations in Western Metropolitan Melbourne and Bacchus Marsh and strong partnerships with Melton City Council and Melton South Community Centre.

Djerriwarrh continues to expand its delivery of accredited programs, engaging a large number of youth and a growing number of people from a CALD background.

## Nominated by ACFE Hume Regional Council

### Myrtleford Neighbourhood Centre



Myrtleford Neighbourhood Centre (MNC) is located in Myrtleford, the largest town in the Alpine Shire. In 2015, a comprehensive training needs analysis was conducted across the Alpine Shire which highlighted many training provision issues across the region, including thin markets, closure of service providers, low socio-economic populations, generational learning engagement issues, isolation and lack of transport. To assist in addressing engagement and access the Centre has developed close collaboration with P-12 Schools, the Chamber of Commerce, major employers, local government and Job Active providers to ensure the best outcomes for learners in the area. MNC collaborates with Mount Beauty Neighbourhood Centre and the Thathangathay Foundation for the provision of the Ngala Program in Bright for Indigenous youth. The Centre also initiated a project with Wodonga TAFE to broaden accredited training options in Myrtleford to increase access and pathways for learners.

The impact of Learn Local practitioners is often much greater than their role as administrator, teacher or trainer might indicate. To so many of their learners they become a mentor, an inspiration or a friend. Aside from the knowledge and skills Learn Local practitioners impart to learners, it is the guidance and affirmation they give that resonates long after classes end. This year's Outstanding Practitioner finalists are modest about their achievements – they might even have you believe they are 'just doing their job'. Not so. These people, through their passion and dedication, have made exceptional contributions, not only to learners in their centres but to the Learn Local sector more broadly. They have developed skills that engage learners to achieve and even exceed their education, employment and personal goals. In addition, they have contributed professionally through their innovation, leadership and collaboration with other Learn Local practitioners.



**Josie Rose**  
CAE / GELLA (Gippsland East Learn Local Alliance)

With a career spanning 25 years, Josie Rose has made an outstanding contribution to the Learn Local sector. During her time at CAE, Josie's sound educational and business management skills were essential in developing eLearning innovations through the CAE's Delivery Innovation Unit.

Now based in Gippsland, Josie continues to work with CAE to improve digital literacy practice in adult learning. This includes coordinating the Intel for CALD Community of Practice as one of eight contracted senior trainers delivering the Intel Learn Easy Steps program to Learn Local practitioners across Victoria.

Since 2013, Josie has been involved in various Gippsland projects and has been instrumental in the design and delivery of Technology Enabled Learning (TELC) in the area.

In her current role of Business Development Manager at GELLA (Gippsland East Learn Local Alliance) Josie has been responsible for establishing this alliance of five community-based Learn Local providers in the Educational Hub in Bairnsdale.

## Outstanding Practitioner



**Dr Sharon Smart**  
Vermont South Community House

Over the past four years, Dr Sharon Smart has been recognised as an innovative, creative and compassionate manager of the Vermont South Community House (VSCH). With exceptional management skills, Sharon has not only led a dynamic and community-focused centre, she has also guided and developed a sustainable future for the house.

Sharon works hard to access funds, through grant applications and community links, and to attract additional clients through the promotion of successful VSCH activities.

Creating learning programs which meet the needs of all sections of the community, particularly those with the greatest need, Sharon is inspiring all involved with VSCH. Outstanding programs, such as the social enterprise 'Café House', a venture allowing participants to develop skills and abilities in an authentic café operation, are enjoyed by the local community.

Sharon strives to make VSCH a positive and rewarding workplace, successfully combining personal and professional support with career and learning opportunities.



**Marj Sjoström**  
Keysborough Learning Centre

Over 30 years, Marj Sjoström has been teaching at Keysborough Learning Centre, dedicated to the delivery of education in a community setting and to the building of strong quality frameworks that empower students through learning.

Marj has developed considerable eLearning skills which she uses as a tool in the classroom with great success. Her dedication and student support is evidenced in the respect and affection her students have for her – many from limited educational backgrounds, including people facing barriers due to disability and personal circumstances.

Marj actively encourages students by developing classes that meet their specific needs and has implemented classes to develop interview skills, preparing them to enter the workforce.

Additionally, Marj played a key role in establishing a unique partnership program with the local primary school, working with parents to improve their literacy, numeracy and computer skills and also their involvement in the school's programs. This pre-accredited program is currently being delivered in three primary schools.

## The Rowena Allen Award – Recognising Pre-accredited Learner Excellence

This Award celebrates a significant personal achievement made by a pre-accredited learner. It acknowledges a person who, through taking part in Learn Local pre-accredited training, has made a significant improvement in their life, their career or study prospects. For each pre-accredited learner, there is much to discover about the personal journey on which they have embarked. Not all learners are entirely clear on what they hope to achieve and often what they learn along the way is what helps them decide where they want to take their further study. For each of the finalists in this award category, the Learn Local experience has been significant and life changing.



**Anita Hohenhaus**  
Paynesville Neighbourhood Centre

It's never too late to embark on a journey towards a new career. Anita is proof of this, finding new direction and purpose after participating in the Your Next Step Biggest Morning Tea 2015 course at Paynesville Neighbourhood Centre.

Prior to the course, Anita's personal circumstances saw her confidence dwindle and, socially, she was very isolated.

But thanks to the course, and the interactions at the Centre, Anita has grown from shy and unsure of herself to taking on leadership roles. With a new-found confidence and passion for sharing her skills, Anita has mentored students participating in the Your Next Step Biggest Morning Tea 2016 course and volunteers with the Your Next Step Adult Learners' Week class. She is also the Treasurer for the Centre's Committee of Management.

Anita is now enrolled at Federation Training undertaking further studies and has gained part-time employment, at a holistic therapy centre, in pursuit of her dream of becoming a tutor in Art Therapy.



**Matthew Agostinelli**  
Diamond Valley Learning Centre

For the past four years, Matt, 20, has been a student at Diamond Valley Learning Centre (DVLC) in Greensborough.

Despite battling every day with very high levels of anxiety, Eltham man Matt has turned his life around and is now a student mentor and valued volunteer, helping VCAL students reengage with education and assisting intellectually disabled adults in courses at DVLC.

At the start, it was hard for Matt simply to be at school. But through hard work, persistence and courage, Matt has progressively won his battle to manage his anxiety, has completed a number of pre-accredited programs, his senior VCAL certificate and has commenced a Certificate II in Community Services.

He now plans to undertake a Teacher's Aide Certificate III and is interested in a career supporting students with disabilities to fully engage with all aspects of education and community life.



**Naryphol Thach**  
Dandenong Neighbourhood House

A former Cambodian refugee, Nary Thach has developed a life of great purpose by undertaking courses to build her language, technology and life skills – and then passing her knowledge on to a group of local Buddhist monks.

She came to Australia in 1990 and settled in Dandenong. With no English and her mother to care for, Nary experienced many difficulties and years of isolation and low self-esteem.

But from her first efforts to learn English at Dandenong AMES Australia, Nary has steadily pursued education and knowledge for the past 26 years.

At Dandenong Neighbourhood House, Nary has undertaken English as an Additional Language (EAL) Level 2, participated in the Intermediate EAL and Advanced Literacy classes and undertaken a women's leadership program.

She now teaches English three days a week to a group of Cambodian monks, with up to 15 monks in each group.



## AMES Australia Diversity Innovation Award

This award recognises the commitment of a Learn Local organisation to providing culturally inclusive training opportunities for learners from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) backgrounds.

It highlights a pre-accredited or foundation program that provides an appropriate framework for CALD learners to achieve their learning goals such as further education and training, employment or increased engagement with their community. The winning program is one that has been developed either solely by the Learn Local organisation, or in partnership with other relevant community organisations. This program/project enables learning for its participants in a supportive setting and demonstrates how Learn Local organisations provide flexible, quality and tailored training that meets the needs of CALD learners.

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### Community Learning Champion Program North Melbourne Language and Learning

The Community Learning Champions Program run by North Melbourne Language and Learning significantly increases the local CALD communities' involvement in the design and delivery of courses in their local settings.

CALD members are recruited and trained to consult their communities about learning needs, influence partner organisations program development, support their communities to engage in local learning, increase participation and help address barriers to participation in further education and employment.

To date, 32 Community Learning Champions (CLCs) have been involved, representing the diversity of the CALD community living in local public housing estates and engaging with 320 residents through discussions about learning, training and employment opportunities.

Through the program, anecdotal evidence shows that CLCs have developed confidence; having gained extensive knowledge of local learning and training opportunities and developed skills through community engagement activities.



### Safe Driving Program Diversitat

The Diversitat Safe Driving Program aims to provide refugees with the skills, knowledge and resources required to become safe, competent drivers and successfully gain their Victorian Probationary Driver's Licence.

Driver licence acquisition and education have been identified as critical aspects of successful settlement of refugees; this is particularly pertinent in Geelong where public transport is limited. By engaging refugees with driver education and simultaneous participation in vocational English language classes, the program has reduced barriers to social inclusion, enhanced self-confidence and self-reliance and increased employment and further training opportunities, in addition to the development of English language skills.

Combining over 30 hours of classroom and on-road driving, participants receive essential information regarding legal driving responsibilities and laws in a culturally inclusive and supportive environment.



### CALD Education and Employment Pathways Ballarat Neighbourhood Centre

Ballarat Neighbourhood Centre's CALD Education and Employment Pathways Program (CEEP) aims to enhance social inclusion, employment and educational pathways. Over 106 diverse learners from over 26 countries have been involved with the project.

Supporting learners to understand their own strengths and weaknesses, setting goals and empowering independence is essential for the success of the program. Activities and resources are developed with a clear linkage to the overall purpose of the program: to increase employability of participants.

Core programs include Living and Working in Australia and Make It Work, a program based around acquiring the basic skills for job seeking.

The program continues to enable participants to better navigate Australian life, increase their participation in the community and build their capacity as individuals and members of the wider society.

The ability to identify and respond to a particular education or training need within a community is a distinctive characteristic and strength of the Learn Local sector. This award category recognises the key role of Learn Local programs in creating 'local solutions' through strong partnerships with other community service providers, businesses and industries. Each of the finalists has demonstrated how collaborative partnerships can deliver flexible, quality and tailored training opportunities that address both community and learners' needs.



**BA@Wyndham**  
Wyndham Community and Education Centre

The first of its kind, the BA@Wyndham program provides a safe and supportive environment for people who have previously disengaged from mainstream schooling, to access higher education at a Learn Local organisation.

Launched 2015, the program is an educational and community partnership between Federation University and Wyndham Community and Education Centre. It aims to address a trend that more than one in five young people leave school early in Wyndham and Hobsons Bay with Year 12 completion rates almost 2% lower than the state average.

The program provides university pathways through the Bachelor of Arts, despite the financial, social and educational barriers these students have faced. All 30 students who have entered the program so far were significantly disengaged from education before enrolling and are now the first in their family to undertake higher education.

In 2015, two students received a Dean's commendation and one student was accepted into a Bachelor of International Studies at Monash University on the strength of her first year in the BA@Wyndham.

**Excellence in Creating Local Solutions**



**Pathway to Racing**  
Kyneton Community & Learning Centre

The equine sector is a major economic generator within the Macedon Ranges Shire, employing around 8% of the total workforce.

Kyneton Community & Learning Centre (KCLC), in consultation with industry, identified that people wishing to gain employment as a stable hand were often inexperienced and unaware of relevant issues including OH&S, Racing Victoria regulatory requirements, animal welfare, industry integrity and career pathway options.

The Pathway to Racing course was subsequently developed by KCLC as the first entry point for those seeking employment within the racing industry in a 'ground work' capacity. A combined delivery methodology of online, classroom and workplace observation provides students with an excellent overall view of the industry.

Since the program commenced in August 2015, 3 students have gained employment as a direct result of their participation in the program with one of them now undertaking Certificate II in Racing. The program will be implemented in other locations across Victoria in the near future.



**Ajani Community Hub Partnership Project**  
Living and Learning @ Ajani

The Ajani Community Hub Partnership Project was established to address the growing needs of the local community which shows significant levels of social and economic disadvantage. The Community Hub provides a 'one stop shop' for residents to participate in education and training and obtain services provided by local community partners. A partnership between Living and Learning @ Ajani and the Onemda Leap program, which provides living skills and pre-employment support for young adults with disabilities (mainly autism), has led to the development of the Community Hub Café. Aimed to draw the community to support the Hub, the Café provides hospitality and employment skills training, as well as an opportunity for parents of Onemda Leap program participants to see the difference it makes to the participants.

During 2015, a group of 11 learners participated in the cafe work skills and hospitality programs, with two securing employment as a result of their participation; one in a local cafe, and the other as a kitchen hand with Collingwood Football Club.

## 2015 Victorian Learn Local Award Winners

### **Outstanding Pathways Program**

Creating Pathways into the Community,  
Shepparton Access

### **Outstanding Practitioner**

Karen Fleischer,  
Paynesville Neighbourhood Centre

### **Excellence in Creating Local Solutions**

BizE Centre,  
YouthNow

### **AMES Australia Diversity Innovation**

Job Ready, Lifestyle and Karen Language programs,  
Nhill Learning Centre

### **Outstanding Pre-Accredited Learner**

Karen Hokai,  
East End Community House

### **Learn Local for Business**

Barker Trailers and Kyneton Community and Learning Centre

## 2015 Learn Local Legends

### **Nominated by Barwon South West ACFE Regional Council**

Portland Workskills

### **Nominated by Eastern Metropolitan ACFE Regional Council**

Pines Learning

### **Nominated by Gippsland ACFE Regional Council**

Buchan Neighbourhood House

### **Nominated by Grampians ACFE Regional Council**

Meredith Community Centre

### **Nominated by Hume ACFE Regional Council**

Pangerang Community House

### **Nominated by Loddon Mallee ACFE Regional Council**

Kyneton Community and Learning Centre

### **Nominated by North Western Metropolitan ACFE Regional Council**

Wyndham Community and Education Centre

### **Nominated by Southern Metropolitan ACFE Regional Council**

Port Melbourne Neighbourhood Centre

**Winners from previous years can be viewed online:**

[www.education.vic.gov.au/learnlocalawards](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/learnlocalawards)

## Acknowledgements

### Freestyle Academy

Freestyle Academy is the brainchild of three of Australia's most formidable street dance and freestyle artists – Nish Mathur, Sid Mathur and Efren Pamilacan Jr. Together the three of them will stop at nothing to see Australian students get the freestyle education they deserve. Their mission statement is to educate, inspire and empower students in Australia to realise their full potential. They offer workshops in Hip Hop Dance, Music Production, Emceeing and Street Art. For more information, visit [www.freestyleacademy.com.au](http://www.freestyleacademy.com.au)

### Catering and hospitality

#### The Mission Caters

The Mission Caters, an initiative of Prahran Mission, believes that every person has the right to a decent life and it provides an open door of opportunity to many.

Through its supportive mentoring and training, this catering team inspires and encourages trainees to continue a career within hospitality. The Mission Caters team is passionate about delivering high quality, gourmet catering experiences. It believes fresh is best and pledges to champion local, seasonal and sustainable ingredients wherever possible.

### Table Centrepieces

#### Williamstown Community and Education Centre

Table centerpieces have been designed and produced by students undertaking the Grow, Cook, Create and Tell Project at the Williamstown Community Education Centre. WCEC provides family support, skill development and social activities, delivering quality adult education programs which reflect the interests and needs of all sectors of the community. The centre has a strong commitment to the use of new learning technologies to improve learning outcomes for the community and aims to supply affordable quality programs in a supportive comfortable environment.



