

Saturday 16 October 2021



VICTORIAN TRAINING AWARDS



MINISTER'S MESSAGE



Welcome to the 2021 Victorian Training Awards.

The awards acknowledge the outstanding efforts of apprentices, students, teachers, trainers, training providers and employers.

The VTA's are now in their 67th year and continue to celebrate the provision of high-quality training, the achievements of the sector and its partnership with industry.

It is a testament to our world-class post-secondary education system and its ability to meet the needs of all Victorians.

There are six award categories for individuals, four for employers and four for training organisations as well as the Industry Collaboration Award and the Lynne Kosky Memorial Award for Lifetime Achievement.

The COVID-19 pandemic has posed challenges for all Victorians, including our TAFE and training sector.

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your efforts in keeping Victorians engaged in their learning – allowing them to fulfil their full potential.

I am so proud of the willingness of the sector to adapt to the extraordinary and ever-changing circumstances of the past 18 months.

I am also proud of the work being done to ensure Victorians continue getting the vital training opportunities that lead to good, secure jobs in high-demand areas. This is especially important as we look to the other side of the COVID-19 pandemic.

TAFE and training is at the heart of Victoria's economic and social recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. That is why we are ensuring the sector is better than ever before.

We continue to support Victorians by removing barriers to the workforce, including delivering foundation and employability skills and bridging the digital divide.

We are ensuring the system meets the changing needs of our economy and hardworking Victorians, by giving jobseekers direct pathways to the workforce including through our Free TAFE scheme.

Overall, we are making the system more connected, collaborative and data driven.

The TAFE and training sector is for every Victorian. It provides opportunities for lifelong learning for everyone — no matter their background or location.

Thank you for your contribution and congratulations to all the finalists in the 2021 Victorian Training Awards.

The Hon. Gayle Tierney MP
Minister for Training and Skills

Send your congratulatory tweets to the Victorian Training Awards using **#VTA2021**
www.vic.gov.au/victorian-training-awards

Follow the Victorian Training Awards on:

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Victorian Training Awards

Victorian Training Awards

VICTORIAN TRAINING AWARDS

ABOUT THE AWARDS

Now in their 67th year, the prestigious Victorian Training Awards foster connections and collaboration, bringing together students, teachers, training providers, employers and industry representatives, sharing in a high-quality training system that meets the needs of all Victorians.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to each of this year's winners and finalists. Thanks to everyone who nominated for this year's awards and thank you to the judges who dedicated their time and effort throughout the shortlisting process.

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS IN 2021

The Victorian Training Awards gratefully acknowledges the support of the Awards' Principal Partner 2019–2021, the **Apprenticeship Employment Network (AEN) and the Global Apprenticeship Network (GAN Australia)**. Both have had a long partnership with the Victorian Government and the Victorian Training Awards.

Over the past 30 years, members have employed and supported more than 180,000 apprentices and trainees in a wide range of industries across regional and metropolitan Victoria – outcomes that could not be achieved without a strong Vocational Education and Training (VET) system.

The Victorian Training Awards would also like to extend its sincerest thanks to each of the award sponsors listed below. Their support of the Awards ensure that it remains a highlight on the Victorian vocational education and training calendar.

MAJOR SPONSORS

Westvic Staffing Solutions

Proud Major Sponsor of the Apprentice of the Year Award

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Proud Major Sponsor of the Trainee of the Year Award

MEGT

Proud Major Sponsor of the School-based Apprentice / Trainee of the Year Award

TAFE Victoria

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Proud Major Sponsor of the Employer Award for Apprenticeship Development

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Proud Major Sponsor of the Large Training Provider of the Year Award

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Proud Major Sponsor of the Industry Collaboration Award

PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD SPONSORS

Apprenticeships Victoria

Proud People's Choice Award Sponsor of the Apprentice of the Year Award

MAS

Proud People's Choice Award Sponsor of the Trainee of the Year Award

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER VICTORIAN SKILLS AUTHORITY

CRAIG ROBERTSON

Craig Robertson commenced as CEO of the Victorian Skills Authority in August 2021. The authority is tasked by the Victorian Government to plan for post-school education and training to help the economy recover from the pandemic and build up industry skills and support more Victorians into mainstream participation in work, further education and enterprise.

Prior to this role Craig was the CEO of TAFE Directors Australia from April 2017. The organisation promotes nationally and internationally the critical role that TAFEs play in tertiary education in Australia. TAFEs are core providers of vocational training and further education as a pathway to higher level training and education, and partner with industry and business to develop their workforces and assist in implementing with new production processes and services.

The majority of Craig's career before this was in Government. He worked in the Victorian Government in 2015 and 2016 with responsibilities for the operation of vocational education and working with Victorian universities. Craig also worked for over 30 years in the Commonwealth Government with responsibilities in national policy and program delivery relating to employment services, funding for schools and most aspects of vocational education and training.

Craig holds an Executive Masters in Public Administration and Bachelor of Education (Primary).



MASTER OF CEREMONIES

SHELLEY WARE

Shelley Ware is a proud Yankunytjatjara and Wirangu woman and for the past decade or so, has worked in the media as a radio and television presenter on both local and national AFLM and AFLW football news shows. She is the host of the webshow 'The Colour Of Your Jumper' and 'Ware2Now?' and is also a member of the Outersanctum Podcast Show. She writes a fortnightly column for the Koori Mail about all things AFL.

Shelley has become one of the most respected and recognised female presenters of AFLM and AFLW football in the country. Recently announced as the Essendon Women's Network 'Football Woman of the Year.'

Shelley has co-written the national curriculum through Culture is Life and ABC Education for the Australian Dream and Archie Roach – Stolen Generation. For the second year in a row, she has written the national primary curriculum for NAIDOC week with SBS Learn and this year is writing both the primary and secondary NAIDOC week curriculums.

Shelley is a teacher who currently works at Parade College as an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education Officer. She is passionate about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history being embedded into our national curriculum.



LYNNE KOSKY MEMORIAL AWARD FOR LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT

The Lynne Kosky Memorial Award for Lifetime Achievement is named in honour of the former Victorian Education and Training Minister, Lynne Kosky, who was a driving force in the training and skills sector in Victoria.

Recipients for this prestigious award have reached a pinnacle of their profession or industry and have demonstrated more than 25 years of commitment to outstanding leadership and contribution to the vocational education and training (VET) sector. They have positively influenced policy or practice on a state, national or international level; earned recognition by industry, training, or employer groups; and the respect of professional peers for their advocacy, innovation, new knowledge, improving professional practice and training delivery, mentoring or committee participation.

The recipient of the 2021 Lynne Kosky Memorial Award for Lifetime Achievement will be announced at this evening's ceremony.



2020 WINNERS



1. Apprentice of the Year: Shona McGuigan
2. Trainee of the Year: Nicole Barrow
3. Vocational Student of the Year: Simon Watts
4. School-based Apprentice or Trainee of the Year: Van Sui Thawng
5. Koorie Student of the Year: Matthew Atkinson
6. Teacher/Trainer of the Year: Kevin Nunn
7. Medium Employer of the Year: Mambourin Enterprises
8. Large Employer of the Year: Swan Plumbing Supplies
9. Industry Collaboration Award: Sunraysia Institute of TAFE & Chaffey Aged Care
10. Community Training Provider of the Year: The Centre for Continuing Education
11. Inclusive Training Provider of the Year: GOTAFE
12. Small Training Provider of the Year: Builders Academy Australia
13. Large Training Provider of the Year: South West TAFE
14. People's Choice Award Apprentice of the Year: Nellie Baker
15. 2020 Lynne Kosky Recipients: Geraldine Atkinson and Lionel Bamblett

LYNNE KOSKY MEMORIAL AWARD FOR LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT



CATHERINE SCARTH

Chief Executive Officer
AMES Australia

Catherine Scarth's career has focussed on the design and implementation of innovative social, education, employment programs and enterprises in Australia and the United Kingdom. She has achieved this through the creation of partnerships with government, employers and the community sector to deliver programs designed to increase the economic and social participation for newly arrived migrants and refugees.

Ms Scarth is the Chief Executive Officer of AMES Australia, an organisation providing a wide range of interconnected settlement, education, vocational training and employment services in Victoria, South Australia, New South Wales and Tasmania.

Ms Scarth is a Board Member of Thrive Refugee Enterprises and Migration Council Australia.



Skills for Business. Jobs for Youth.

Proud Principal Partner of this Year's Awards



Congratulations to all the 2021 Finalists!

Kick-start a rewarding career and **earn while you learn** with an Apprenticeship or Traineeship

aen.org.au
gan-australia.org



Australian Government

AUSTRALIAN
TRAINING
AWARDS
2021

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNERS!

Winners of the Victorian Training Awards, in aligned categories, may have the opportunity to represent their state at the Australian Training Awards on 18 November 2021 and become a member of the Australian VET Alumni. Just like Kevin.

“The best part about the VET sector is that you can customise it to suit yourself, everything you do can lead into further education.”

Kevin Nunn,
2020 Australian VET Teacher/Trainer of the Year

To find out more about the Australian Training Awards and the Australian VET Alumni, visit

www.australiantrainingawards.gov.au

Share your achievements with #ATA2021



Nominate for the 2022 Awards

Nominations are set to open in early 2022

www.vic.gov.au/Victorian-training-awards



Victorian Training Awards



@VicTrainAwards



Victorian Training Awards

APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR

The Apprentice of the Year Award is presented to a Victorian apprentice who has displayed outstanding achievement in all aspects of their trade. The winner of this Award receives \$5,000 in prize money and a 2021 Victorian Training Awards trophy.

The winner of this award may represent Victoria at the Australian Training Awards.

Proudly presented by
Westvic Staffing Solutions



STEPHANIE PEMBERTON

Certificate III Parks and Gardens
South West TAFE

Stephanie was originally inspired in the vocational education sector by her love of hairdressing, until her world was turned upside down by realising that she had an allergy to hair-colouring products and had to make a career change. She fell into a contract position on the Parks and Garden team at her local Corangamite Shire Council, where she became enthralled by working outdoors in nature. Knowing she loved to learn and to teach others, she sought a TAFE qualification to learn from the best teachers in the industry and set herself up for the long-term.



ANDREW JAN

Certificate III in Plumbing
Bendigo TAFE

Andrew has had wide-ranging life experience prior to becoming a mature-aged apprentice in his 30s. He had an extensive career in the thoroughbred industry and, after 18 years as a volunteer firefighter, he has risen to the highest rank of Group Officer of the Coliban Group of the Country Fire Authority. In choosing to study a Certificate III in Plumbing at Bendigo TAFE, Andrew was motivated to find a career that provided both stability and an environment that challenged his innate curiosity and problem-solving skills.



FELICITY BARNETT

Certificate III in Commercial Cookery
The Gordon TAFE

Felicity always loved cooking for her family and friends when she was growing up and is still thrilled when she sees people's faces beam after they taste the food that she has designed and made. A Geelong native, she loves working in the city's burgeoning restaurant, bar and cafe scene.



Congratulations TO ALL THE 2021 FINALISTS

**JOBS
STAFF
TRAINING
WE CAN HELP.**



www.westvic.org.au



Jobs Victoria supports people looking for work and connects employers with the staff they need.

We provide information, advice and support in person, online, and on the phone.



Jobs Victoria Advocates work in local communities, supporting people looking for work by connecting them with the information, support and training that's right for them.



Jobs Victoria Mentors help people to become work-ready, find a job, and support them in their role for the first six months. **Jobs Victoria Partners** work with local employers to identify their business needs, and Mentors connect employers to candidates with the right skills and potential.



Jobs Victoria Career Counsellors provide career guidance to people who are looking for work or seeking a career change.



The **Jobs Victoria Fund** provides wage subsidies of up to \$20,000 to help businesses employ new eligible staff, with a focus on people who have been most affected by the economic impacts of the pandemic.



The **Jobs Victoria online hub** is a free service that matches employers with skilled, local candidates.



The **Jobs Victoria hotline** on 1300 208 575 provides information, advice and connections to local Jobs Victoria services.



jobs.vic.gov.au



1300 208 575



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Authorised by the Victorian Government, Melbourne.

JOBS VICTORIA

TRAINEE OF THE YEAR

The Trainee of the Year Award is presented to a Victorian individual who is undertaking a traineeship and has been outstanding in all aspects of their training. The winner of this Award receives \$5,000 in prize money and a 2021 Victorian Training Awards trophy.

The winner of this award will represent Victoria at the Australian Training Awards.

Proudly presented by
Jobs Victoria



SAMANTHA BROWN

Diploma of Nursing
Federation University TAFE

Always intrigued by nursing, Samantha realised when she finished high school that she wasn't ready to make a career choice. She sought work experience, working for several years as a conveyancer and then in a fast-paced role managing a top hotel in Ballarat. With her interest in nursing never waning, she tested the waters through the Traineeship model, first enrolling in a Certificate III of Individual and Ageing Support. This course convinced Samantha that she wanted to pursue a vocational training pathway, and she then enrolled in a Diploma of Nursing.



EMMA DREVERMAN

Certificate III in Business
Squad

Emma was drawn to a career path that combined theoretical and practical skills which brought together the worlds of business and renewable energy. She is motivated by sustainability in business practice, seeing it as essential to any organisation's future. Training through Squad, a not-for-profit employment and training organisation, has also allowed her to develop her communication and organisational skills, ultimately helping her to perform a managerial role within her workplace.



JAKE SEUREN

Certificate IV in Agriculture
TAFE Gippsland (Warragul Campus)

Jake liked and excelled in school and, after his final VCE exams, he considered what many thought to be the natural next step – a university degree. However, Jake realised that his love has always been to work on a farm like the one he grew up on in Gippsland. He says that he "loves working with animals, open spaces, machinery and the satisfaction of nurturing and growing the land." Jake chose vocational education to gain the required skills and knowledge to manage all aspects of his dairy farm operation.

SCHOOL-BASED APPRENTICE OR TRAINEE OF THE YEAR

The School-based Apprentice or Trainee of the Year Award is presented to a student who is undertaking a Certificate II or above qualification as a part-time Victorian School-based Apprentice or Trainee. The award recognises the student's commitment to their formal studies at school, and in the workplace.

The winner of this Award receives \$5,000 in prize money and a 2021 Victorian Training Awards trophy. The winner of this award will represent Victoria at the Australian Training Awards.

Proudly presented by MEGT



MASSIMO ZURZOLO

Certificate III in Light Vehicle Mechanical Technology
Kangan Institute of TAFE - ACE / Montague Continuing Education Centre

Massimo Zurzolo's passion is to learn about all aspects of cars – their mechanics, their designs, and their engineering. This is an impressive goal in itself – made all the more so by the fact that Massimo has overcome deafness to pursue it. He is incredibly ambitious, balancing part-time work at Melbourne BMW as part of his school-based automotive apprenticeship, studying Year 12, completing coursework at the Kangan Institute as part of the Certificate III in Light Vehicle Mechanical Technology, and studying Auslan at night. Massimo wants to use the practical skills from his work at Melbourne BMW as a springboard to a career in the industry, with the aim of specialising in new and emerging technologies and leading innovation in the electric motor vehicles sector.



STEVEN HULL

Certificate III in Agriculture
Murray Mallee Group Training / Castlemaine Secondary College

For as long as he can remember, Steven Hull wanted to have a career in agriculture. He began by marking sheep at the age of five on a family friend's sheep farm. After developing connections with the Sutton Grange and Myrtle Creek Fire Brigade, a casual conversation one day with one of the Brigade's members led to him being offered weekend work at one of the larger sheep stations in the area. This turned into formal work experience and then a school-based traineeship program through Castlemaine Secondary College and Murray Mallee Training Group.



LAURA DAVIDSON

Certificate III in Hairdressing
Sunraysia Institute of TAFE / Mildura Senior College

Laura Davidson has had a passion for hairdressing since she was nine years old, when she told the owner of her local salon that she wanted to work there one day. She taught herself braiding and other techniques by watching YouTube videos and practising on herself and her friends. In Year 9, she commenced a Certificate II in Salon Assistance, before beginning casual work at a boutique hair salon in Mildura. Laura lives in the south-west NSW town of Gol Gol and travels to Mildura for her schoolwork at Mildura Senior College, her training at Sunraysia Institute of TAFE Mildura and her practical work at the salon.



MEGT is a not-for-profit organisation which has supported employers, apprentices, trainees, job seekers and students since 1982.

We have staff operating in every Australian state, providing you with local experts who are dedicated to meeting the needs of the communities in which they live.

MEGT helps businesses, apprentices and trainees get the most from the Australian Apprenticeships program.

Our focus is on delivering the highest standards of service in every aspect of our business. We are also committed to quality and ongoing improvement, reflected by our world-standard qualifications in areas such as data protection, quality management and cyber security.

Let MEGT help you grow your business today!

Call 13 6963



Congratulations to all the 2021 finalists

Get the skills you need to land a job that's in demand.

 freetafe.vic.gov.au



VOCATIONAL STUDENT OF THE YEAR

The Vocational Student of the Year Award is presented to a student whose outstanding achievement in a course of study led to a nationally recognised qualification. The winner of this Award receives \$5,000 in prize money and a 2021 Victorian Training Awards trophy.

The winner of this award will represent Victoria at the Australian Training Awards.



JOSH ALLISON

Diploma of Sport Development
Box Hill Institute

Following a distinguished career as a professional athlete in which he represented Australia in wheelchair basketball in the World Championship winning team in 2014 and then again at the 2016 Rio Paralympics, Josh transitioned into coaching in the sport in 2018. This move made him want to learn more about the logistics and administration in professional sport. He enrolled in the Diploma of Sport Development at Box Hill Institute and completed that degree in 2020, becoming the first graduate from the diploma to transfer straight into teaching at the Box Hill Institute. At the same time, he has continued to volunteer in coaching for all abilities of basketball.



SAMANTHA DALY

Certificate IV in Mental Health
Swinburne University of Technology

Department of Education and Training inspired her to find a silver lining after losing her job at the onset of the global pandemic, Samantha applied to study the dual Certificate IV in Mental Health and Mental Health Peer Work. Samantha spent the seven years prior rebuilding her life and recovering from a major brain injury. Inspired by her personal connections to mental health and using her unique lived experience of recovery, Samantha overcame initial fears and doubts about returning to study as a mature-aged student. She feels strongly about developing her theoretical knowledge and gaining practical expertise so that she can offer genuine help and meaningful support to others.



MARIA KELLY

Advanced Diploma of Graphic Design
Gordon Institute of TAFE

After a career in journalism and teaching in the Philippines, Maria taught herself graphic design well enough that she built a sustainable career as a part-time freelance graphic designer. Wanting to advance her career in the field and seek the perspectives of experts and peers, she ventured to enrol in an Advanced Diploma of Graphic Design. Maria is motivated by a desire to communicate through visual and other non-verbal messages. Having experience in cross-cultural teaching, she continues to value the teaching and communication potential that graphic design can achieve.

Proudly presented by
TAFE Victoria



KOORIE STUDENT OF THE YEAR

The Koorie Student of the Year Award recognises the achievement of a Koorie student who demonstrates the relevance of lifelong learning for themselves and their community.

The winner of this Award receives \$5,000 in prize money and a 2021 Victorian Training Awards trophy. The winner of this award will represent Victoria at the Australian Training Awards.

Proudly presented by
Crown College



STEPHEN CRANAGE

Certificate IV in Cyber Security
GOTAFE

Stephen is a proud descendant of the Yorta Yorta and Wiradjuri peoples who, when growing up in the 1980s, begged his mum for a Commodore 64 computer. Soon after, he went from simple gaming to reverse coding, and a love affair with computing was born. This fascination simmered until Stephen noticed that his local GOTAFE campus in Shepparton offered a free Certificate IV in Cyber Security, and he returned to study as a mature age student in his 40s.



LUCAS PRICE

Certificate IV in Community Services
Victorian Aboriginal Community Services
Association Limited

Lucas is a proud Gunditjmarra man from the Framlingham mission in Victoria's Western Districts with a deep connection to his community. Lucas was motivated to be in a position where he could use his lived experience to provide direct support to those in the community who are overrepresented in the justice system and who suffer from drug and alcohol addictions and intergenerational trauma.



SHAIKHANI FEWINGS

Certificate III in Commercial Cookery
Crown College

Shaikhani grew up in a home where her grandparents' homemade cooking was at the centre of family and community gatherings. For Shaikhani, "food is life" and she couldn't imagine doing anything else. She has always been engaged with her local community, taking part in a traditional dancing group run by her Aunty and volunteering for NAIDOC week and school workshops. Shaikhani hopes to use her inherited love of community engagement to bring together different groups and create stronger student and employment outcomes.



Congratulations to all the 2021 winners and finalists

Crown College is celebrating 25 years as a Registered Training Organisation and understands that lasting success relies on the passion, skill and dedication of its students.

That's why we have invested \$10 million in Crown College, a state-of-the-art learning and development facility, awarding approximately 11,200 people with nationally-accredited qualifications since opening.

As a sponsor, supporter and winner of the Victoria Training Awards, we wish all the winners and finalists good luck.



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VET PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

The VDC Professional Learning Program provides an extensive range of continuing professional learning for the VET workforce through highly engaging and interactive webinars, half and full day workshops and special events. Our newly fitted training facilities are also available for hire.

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 VET Development Centre
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TEACHER/ TRAINER OF THE YEAR

The Teacher/Trainer of the Year Award recognises innovation and excellence by a teacher/trainer providing nationally recognised training to students in the Victorian TAFE and training sector.

The winner of this Award receives \$5,000 in prize money and a 2021 Victorian Training Awards trophy. The winner of this award will represent Victoria at the Australian Training Awards.



SCOTT HOPKINS, SUNITAFE

Certificate IV in Leadership and Management
Certificate IV in Training and Assessment
Certificate II in Retail
First Aid Training

Scott has developed a long and successful career in the retail industry, including managing all three of Mildura's McDonald's stores over the last 15 years. He is driven to adapt his teaching to suit the distinct needs of local service providers and students. Scott recently designed and taught a leadership program for aged care staff to help them manage a rapidly expanding workforce. He is also passionate about using storytelling as a way of teaching students with only basic levels of English literacy.



MICHELLE MCNAB, GOTAFE

Certificate III in Information, Digital Media and Technology
Certificate IV in Cyber Security

After twelve years working in IT Support and management roles, Michelle transitioned into similar support roles at GOTAFE. The TAFE's Business Manager quickly noticed Michelle's gift for teaching other staff, particularly her patience and ability to communicate complex concepts in approachable terms. Michelle was encouraged to become a teacher at GOTAFE, which she has now done for four years. She has rekindled a love of teaching she remembers from her first instances of coaching basketball when she was 14. Michelle says: "I didn't realise it at the time but looking back I was destined to teach."



JULIE KRAMER, BENDIGO TAFE

Certificate III in Individual Support (Ageing and Community Care)

Julie tested the waters of teaching in 2011 by providing classroom support to students in a Certificate III for Aged Care qualification. After receiving brilliant feedback from the trainers in that course, Julie pursued a Certificate IV in Training and Assessment and pursued an ongoing role as a teacher and trainer. Julie has a passion for learning styles and developing distinct teaching approaches for the different needs of the many students in her courses.

SMALL EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR

The Small Employer of the Year Award recognises a small enterprise which has achieved excellence in the provision of 'nationally recognised training' to its employees.

The winner of this Award receives \$5,000 in prize money and a 2021 Victorian Training Awards trophy. The winner of this award will be nominated to represent Victoria at the Australian Training Awards.



SWELL CONSTRUCTIONS

Mornington

Swell Constructions is a Melbourne-based construction company, passionate about blending modern design carpentry works with environmental sustainability. Through investment in quality training of its staff, Swell Constructions have built a flourishing work culture of care and precision, as well as making custom-built sustainable building more affordable. The company is serious about its own environmental responsibility, partnering with a leading environmental not-for-profit organisation, Greenfleet, to explore carbon offsets and other ways to reduce the environmental impact of its work.



MANSFIELD ARMCHAIR CINEMA

Mansfield

The Mansfield Armchair Cinema opened in response to the closure of the community's cherished Star Cinema in 2006. The founders of Mansfield Armchair Cinema, James and Catriona, were motivated to somehow provide a new cinema to the community so that it could function as the social hub like it always had. Developing a sustainable business plan, they teamed up with Mansfield Secondary College to provide students with the opportunity to learn how to run a dynamic business. Training is offered in the areas of customer service, business, hospitality and marketing, with a Certificate III in Business Management or a Certificate III in Hospitality available upon completion of apprenticeship training, as well as 10 per cent worth of credits towards students' VCE results.

Proudly presented by
the Victorian Skills Authority



BELLARINE BAKEHOUSE

Newcomb

Starting as one small bakery and café site seven years ago, Bellarine Bakehouse has now expanded to operate contracts for several of Geelong's largest and most important venues, including the Botanical Gardens Tea House. Business owner Paul Field is a qualified, experienced baker and a former Bakery and Patisserie TAFE Trainer who values investing in the training and upskilling of his staff. The business is passionate about employing people with disabilities. It initially offered focussed training through the National Disability Insurance Scheme and now uses its own resources to continue to prioritise employing people with disabilities. Bellarine Bakehouse also uses innovative training techniques tailor-made for the region, including running Certificate III in-house workshops in baking for Registered Training Organisations.

MEDIUM EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR

The Medium Employer of the Year Award recognises a medium enterprise which has achieved excellence in the provision of 'nationally recognised training' to its employees.

The winner of this Award receives \$5,000 in prize money and a 2021 Victorian Training Awards trophy. The winner of this award will be nominated to represent Victoria at the Australian Training Awards.

Proudly presented by
Victorian Skills Authority



CPE CONSTRUCTION

Cobram

CPE Construction has used training as a central pillar of its growth from a company that built farm-style sheds to one that works on multi-million-dollar construction projects across Victoria. The company recognised the COVID-19 pandemic as an obstacle to some work but relished the opportunity to train staff, with 20 per cent of its staff currently enrolled in accredited training. This includes seven apprentices who are studying a Certificate III in either Plumbing or Steel Fabrication, and one HR Manager who is completing the double Advanced Diploma of Leadership and Management and HR.



It means
so much to
me to know
that I have
support all
around me.

– Diane



Setting you on the pathway to success

Whether you're a job seeker needing support to secure an apprenticeship or traineeship, a growing company that could utilise workforce development advice, an organisation or individual that would benefit from mentoring, or a community member that needs a helping hand, Mas has you covered!



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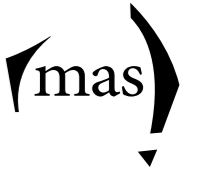
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LARGE EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR

The Large Employer of the Year Award recognises a large enterprise which has achieved excellence in the provision of 'nationally recognised training' to its employees.

The winner of this Award receives \$5,000 in prize money and a 2021 Victorian Training Awards trophy. The winner of this award will be nominated to represent Victoria at the Australian Training Awards.

Proudly presented by Mas



MCDONALD'S

McDonald's employs over 27,000 staff in Victoria. As a large employer of Victoria's youth, McDonald's seeks to develop a culture of positivity and growth so that its trainees can develop in the retail and customer service industries – whether within McDonald's or outside of the company. It currently has 890 trainees and facilitates training in Food Safety Supervision, Certificate II in Retail Services and Certificate III in Retail, as well as offering on-the-job management training pathways to suit trainees of varying needs.



METRO TRAINS

Metro Trains Melbourne (MTM) is the franchise operator that runs and maintains Melbourne's world-class metropolitan rail network. It has over 6,400 employees and partners with the state government to deliver some of the key infrastructure projects currently being built in Melbourne, including the Metro Tunnel project. MTM works closely with Victoria's TAFE and training sector to recruit and train people in these skills shortage areas, ensuring that trainees are ready for specific roles at the completion of their training.



SWAN PLUMBING SUPPLIES

Swan Plumbing has grown from a three-person business operating out of a single shopfront 67 years ago to a nation-wide company with 35 branches and 200 staff members. Swan sees training as a key investment in creating a dynamic culture to succeed in an ever challenging but rewarding industry. It maintains links with key industry group the Plumbing Merchants Association and its Women in Plumbing group. Swan is committed to improving female participation in plumbing and is proud to have women comprise a quarter of its current 200-staff workforce.

EMPLOYER AWARD FOR APPRENTICESHIP DEVELOPMENT

The Employer Award for Apprenticeship Development recognises those employers who have made innovative improvements in training which provide beneficial outcomes for their apprentices and/or trainees in Victoria and to their local community.

The winner of this Award receives \$5,000 in prize money and a 2021 Victorian Training Awards trophy. This is a Victorian-only award and does not articulate to the Australian Training Awards.



TERRA FIRMA LABORATORIES

Pakenham

Terra Firma Laboratories conducts both field and laboratory analysis of geosynthetics, soil and rock materials for civil engineering and construction projects. It invests in training as a way of ensuring that staff can build a sustainable career in the construction materials testing industry, including being equipped with transferable skills in a rapidly changing sector. Terra Firma combines a theoretical training program with practical, on-the-job training, and facilitates its new trainees to gain a nationally recognised MSL40118 Certificate IV in Laboratory Techniques.



MERCURY MARINE

Dandenong

Mercury Marine is a global marine engine manufacturer that provides product sales, technical support and training for employees in its dealer network. For the last few years, it has worked hard with its dealers in Australia and New Zealand as well as industry groups to identify a skills shortage for qualified Marine Technicians. Partnering with its Victorian dealer base and using its innovative "Mercury Academy", a career pathway was developed for Head Start School-based Apprentices to sign up and qualify for a Certificate III in Marine Mechanical Technology, barriers to achieve their life aims.



GFORCE & BARWON WATER

Geelong

Gforce is a Group Training Organisation operating in Geelong and Barwon Water is Victoria's largest regional urban water provider. Gforce is passionate about giving employment opportunities to the region's disadvantaged youth and others through apprenticeships and traineeships. Gforce and Barwon Water have partnered to deliver a traineeship program with a common goal of creating employment opportunities in the region. The traineeship program, now in its sixth year, provides early career pathways through on-the-job work experience, education and a nationally recognised accreditation. The program is building a more diverse and inclusive organisation, and supports the shared vision for an economically, socially and environmentally prosperous region.

Connecting people and places for a growing Melbourne



We seek to be the best we can be and transform our network.

Our Registered Training Organisation, Metro Academy, is committed to developing rail safety workers to safely and competently perform their role on the metropolitan rail network.

www.metrotrains.com.au



Skills for study, work and life

The Adult, Community and Further Education Board is proud to support the Victorian Community Training Provider of the Year Award.

Congratulations to all 2021 finalists!

The Learn Local sector helps adult learners develop core skills for study, work and life. Learn Local courses are inclusive, flexible, tailored to local needs and government subsidised (via the Adult, Community and Further Education Board).

These short courses range from literacy and numeracy to job related and digital skills and are delivered by experienced and dedicated trainers.

Learn Local providers work with TAFEs, businesses and communities to identify and respond to local training needs and opportunities.

Nearly 30,000 Victorians a year undertake Learn Local courses with a registered Learn Local provider in their community, and many go on to further training or a job.



With over 240 Learn Locals across Victoria, learners can access training in their community, close to where they live or work.

www.learnlocal.org.au

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COMMUNITY TRAINING PROVIDER OF THE YEAR

The Community Training Provider of the Year Award recognises innovation and excellence by an organisation involved in improving skills in the local community or workplace.

The winner of this Award receives \$5,000 in prize money and a 2021 Victorian Training Awards trophy. This is a Victorian-only award and does not articulate to the Australian Training Awards.



WELLSPRINGS FOR WOMEN

Dandenong

Wellsprings for Women offers more than 50 programs for over 350 women per week in one of Victoria's most diverse communities in the Dandenong area. The organisation builds and maintains social connections in this community of women, which allows it to anticipate future areas of need for services. Its services cover education, employment, health and wellbeing, case management and support aimed at enabling women and their children to live safe lives free from violence.



CIRE SERVICES INC

Lilydale

Cire Services is one of the largest not-for-profits in the Yarra Valley region and has historically provided education and training in a range of areas such as financial literacy, social media, personal resilience, business resilience, and alternative learning programs for school-aged children. In 2020 and 2021, it responded to the needs of local residents and business by smoothly transitioning to online learning. It also maintained its long history of grassroots community actions by taking the initiative to loan to its students laptops, monitors, chairs and desks. In 2020 it also expanded its programs targeted at women, including a mentoring program and a domestic violence support program.

Proudly presented by
the Adult, Community and Further Education Board



WILLIAMSTOWN COMMUNITY AND EDUCATION CENTRE

Williamstown

Williamstown Community and Education Centre runs community education and employment programs across five sites in Melbourne's western suburbs. The organisation prides itself on having increased the number and range of services on offer to the diverse community within the area in recent years. It provides traditional services such as digital literacy training and English Language programs for culturally and linguistically diverse learners, while also recently introducing innovative classes in yoga, meditation, acting and music.

INCLUSIVE TRAINING PROVIDER OF THE YEAR

The Inclusive Training Provider of the Year Award recognises exceptional training providers within the Victorian Government vocational education and training sector that have demonstrated outstanding improvements with regard to the achievement, engagement and well-being of students with disability.

This organisation will have demonstrated excellence in implementing innovation and change for students with disability or additional needs; created an impact throughout their organisation, system and community; and increased employment for people with disability in their community, as well as in their organisation.

The winner of this Award receives \$5,000 in prize money and a 2021 Victorian Training Awards trophy. This is a Victorian-only award and does not articulate to the Australian Training Awards.

Proudly presented by
Victorian Skills Authority



BOX HILL INSTITUTE

Box Hill Institute has focused on three main areas in seeking to become an inclusive training provider: partnerships with Disability Service Providers; applied research into universal design in vocational education; and ensuring that supports are in place for all students whether or not they disclose a disability.



VICTORIA UNIVERSITY

Victoria University (VU) is one of only six dual sector universities in Australia to offer both TAFE qualifications and university degrees, with easy transition between courses at all levels. VU is located in the western region of Melbourne where its roots stem back to 1916 as a technical college. It has a moral purpose to transform the lives of students from diverse countries, cultures, socioeconomic and educational backgrounds as well as the communities it serves. VU provides high quality, engaging career-based tertiary education at all levels of vocational and higher education with flexible entry and exit points, appropriate pathways, student support, and contemporary curriculum and delivery.



BENDIGO KANGAN INSTITUTE

As a large training provider to more than 22,000 students, Bendigo Kangan Institute has focused on meeting the needs of students of different gender, sexuality, cultural background, age and ability through developing innovative structures, practices and staff training. In addition to being the right thing to do, the organisation believes that inclusivity and diversity strengthens the Kangan Institute and Bendigo TAFE by fostering dialogue between its students, staff and other stakeholders, and making for a more comfortable, open learning environment.

SMALL TRAINING PROVIDER OF THE YEAR

The Small Training Provider of the Year Award recognises a training provider that offers a specific range of training products and services while also demonstrating excellence and high-level performance in all aspects of the TAFE and training sector.

The winner of this Award receives \$5,000 in prize money and a 2021 Victorian Training Awards trophy. The winner of this award will be nominated to represent Victoria at the Australian Training Awards.

Proudly presented by
Victorian Skills Authority



NECA EDUCATION AND CAREERS

NECA Education and Careers is the training arm of the National Electrical and Communications Association, the peak industry body for electricians. It delivers pre-apprenticeship, apprenticeship and post-trade training, and currently partners with 308 electrical employers. The organisation used the COVID-19 pandemic as a chance to invest in online learning infrastructure, staff development, and industry-wide consultation of skill shortages and training needs.



BUILDERS ACADEMY AUSTRALIA

Builders Academy Australia delivers accredited training for the building and construction industry, from vocational and educational training in high schools through to the Advanced Diploma level. Its training model places industry experience at the forefront of teaching, with a belief that builders make the best building teachers – much like the master and apprentice model. But it is committed to incorporating modern and varied styles of learning, including innovative virtual simulation of worksites, which became important when the COVID-19 pandemic prevented in-person learning.



MASTER BUILDERS ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA

The Master Builders Association of Victoria (MBV) is a peak industry body that provides training and advocacy services for the state's construction industry. MBV undertakes thorough pre-training reviews, language literacy and numeracy (LLN) assessments and offers specialised learning support through the entire student learning journey. MBV has invested heavily in its remote training delivery infrastructure, including methods like gamification and e-learning. It has also pioneered the use of immersive learning on simulated construction environments in its training and assessment delivery.

LARGE TRAINING PROVIDER OF THE YEAR

The Large Training Provider of the Year Award recognises a training provider that offers a broad range of training products and services and demonstrates excellence and high-level performance in all aspects of the TAFE and training sector.

The winner of this Award receives \$5,000 in prize money and a 2021 Victorian Training Awards trophy. The winner of this award will be nominated to represent Victoria at the Australian Training Awards.

Proudly presented by
ReadyTech



WILLIAM ANGLISS INSTITUTE

William Angliss Institute is Australia's largest specialist centre for foods, tourism, hospitality and events education and training. The Institute operates locally and internationally, delivering short courses and vocational training in schools through to certificate, diploma, degree and master's programs across its campuses and workplaces in Melbourne, Sydney, Singapore and offshore. Recognising the impacts of COVID-19 in Asia early on during the global pandemic, the Institute was well prepared with its experience in Singapore and China to transition quickly in Australia to remote learning. Maintaining excellence for students included having its cookery teachers running practical demonstrations from their own home kitchens and welcoming over 100 guest lecturers from the industry.



CHISHOLM INSTITUTE

Chisholm Institute is one of the largest training providers in Victoria and offers a wide range of qualifications, from VCE/VCAL, certificates, diplomas, degrees and postgraduate courses. It also offers a variety of short courses and skill sets to enable quick upskilling in areas of skill shortages. The organisation quickly pivoted in 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. It ensured that it had the technology to transition to online and hybrid models of quality teaching and learning, and offered students increased counselling and support services. It invested in IT infrastructure and organisational governance and gave teachers ongoing training to ensure that they felt confident in the new method of virtual teaching.



BOX HILL INSTITUTE

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Box Hill Institute immediately focused on three pillars of resilience: mental health, physical safety and educational continuity. This strategy helped not only its students and trainees but also its teachers and other staff. It scaled up digital literacy training for staff to ensure that they felt empowered to use virtual teaching technologies. During Victoria's state-wide lockdowns, teachers kept 2000 apprentices engaged and on track. Further, for those who had lost their work because of the pandemic, Box Hill Institute helped them to find other temporary employment and assisted them to return to work once state-wide lockdowns had lifted.



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Visit readytech.io/education.



PROUDLY REPRESENTING



The Victorian TAFE Association is proud to be a major sponsor of the Victorian Training Awards and we wish all the finalists good luck.

For further information please visit www.vta.vic.edu.au

INDUSTRY COLLABORATION AWARD

The Industry Collaboration Award recognises an exemplary skills development collaboration between at least one employer and/or industry body and at least one organisation delivering nationally recognised training.

The winner of this award will receive \$5,000 in prize money, a 2021 Victorian Training Awards trophy and will be nominated to represent Victoria at the Australian Training Awards.

Proudly presented by
Victorian TAFE Association



VICTORIA POLICE DIVERSITY RECRUITMENT PROGRAM

The Victoria Police Diversity Recruitment Program is a national-first program that aims to improve employment outcomes for African Australians within the Victorian police force. The program seeks to increase the representation of African Australians in Victoria Police, contributing to a police force that is reflective of the community it services while building trust and understanding with African Australian communities. The program is a collaboration between Victoria Police, Victoria University, Jesuit Social Services Limited, Africause, Adult Multicultural Education Services (AMES), Matchworks and Maurice Blackburn. Participants are supported to overcome barriers in language, literacy, numeracy, legal and cultural understandings, fitness and swimming ability.



WODONGA TAFE, TRANSPORT WOMEN AUSTRALIA LIMITED AND VOLVO AUSTRALIA

The Women Driving Transport Careers program aims to diversify the transport industry workforce to solve employee and skills shortages. For such a large industry in Victoria, only 4 per cent of transport drivers are women. The program seeks to engage with industry to get a better understanding of the job-ready skills required for entry level driving positions, advocates for industry to adjust recruitment and diversity strategy, and provides extensive training to participants to reduce barriers for employment in the industry.



CYP DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION / HOLMESGLEN INSTITUTE COLLABORATION

Recognising that Victoria is experiencing one of the greatest infrastructure booms in the nation's history, three construction companies (Lendlease, John Holland and Bouygues) have partnered with Holmesglen to upskill Victorians to meet the needs of one of the major infrastructure projects in Victoria's Big Build program, the Metro Tunnel Project. Its twin strategies are MetroHub, a project-specific jobs and training centre, and the Victorian Tunnelling Centre, a national-first tunnelling training centre that combines real-life machine training and simulated tunnelling training environments. Both strategies aim to make training more accessible to all people, including priority job seekers from disadvantaged backgrounds.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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The Hon Gayle Tierney MP, Minister for Training and Skills and Minister for Higher Education and the Department of Education and Training acknowledge and appreciate the generous contributions made by students, institutions and organisations towards the success of the 2021 Victorian Training Awards.

The continued support and commitment towards improving and recognising excellence in vocational education and training by the 2021 sponsors is greatly appreciated.

PRINCIPAL PARTNER



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PEOPLE'S CHOICE



DANCE PERFORMANCE

"You Should Be Dancing" is a collaborative immersive performance brought to you by Hara Papoulias and edited by Sean Higgins (photography). This dynamic duo has been able to adapt to the limitations of restrictions and create this special piece in celebration for the Victorian Training Awards.

There's no denying that 2021 has brought very little performance opportunity to our arts industry, so they are very humbled and proud to be included in this event and to offer work to these performers. The incredibly diverse cast has also trained at multiple Victorian institutes such as Australian Style Institute, Kangan Institute, LaTrobe University, Melbourne University, Ministry of Dance, NMIT, Ripponlea, RMIT, SSNT, Swinburne University & VCA University of Melbourne. Everyone has persevered but it's now time to bring out the dancing shoes. Thank you and enjoy!

Vanessa Pearl

Vanessa Pearl has designed a brooch that symbolises the sense of empowerment, freedom, and love of learning that came from her time studying both Nursing and Jewellery and Object Design in the Victorian TAFE system. Due to lockdown restrictions, Vanessa has been unable to access her regular workshop at Melbourne Polytechnic, Fairfield to make the brooch, but we look forward to seeing the Hon Gayle Tierney wearing it at other events celebrating the vocational and adult education sectors.

A BIG THANK YOU TO:

- Encore Event Technologies
- Beckon Media
- Arch Creative
- Transcend Media
- Studio Binocular
- Students of Cert III in Floristry at Holmesglen Institute
- Kate Hudson, Certificate IV in Patisserie (2019) at William Angliss Institute

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