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## **NATION'S MOST EFFECTIVE GIVERS RECOGNISED AT 2018 PHILANTHROPY AWARDS**

*Sydney:* Australia's marriage equality campaign, an innovative Indigenous program, an initiative to support victims of domestic violence and one of the country's most philanthropic couples have been honoured at the 2018 Australian Philanthropy Awards presented at the Sydney Opera House tonight.

The achievements of seven of Australia's most strategic philanthropic funders and their non-profit partners were recognised at a reception attended by 200 people, hosted by peak body Philanthropy Australia. Now in their fourth year, the Australian Philanthropy Awards celebrate the impact and innovation of transformative philanthropy across seven categories.

Sarah Davies, CEO of Philanthropy Australia said the bold and visionary leadership demonstrated by this year's awardees reflects the best of contemporary philanthropic practice.

"The recipients of the 2018 Awards truly showcase the capacity of philanthropy to contribute to meaningful social change," Davies said.

"Some of the projects recognised at these Awards have changed our national landscape forever.

"They demonstrate that philanthropy today is not just about the money - it's about a vision of what can be better and how philanthropy can help turn this vision into reality through analysis, insight, strategy, partnership, collaboration and risk-taking."

Receiving the night's top honour, the Philanthropy Leader Award, **Nicola and Andrew Forrest** reflected on their giving journey and emphasised the potential of philanthropy to catalyse long-term change.

"For 17 years we have been working to create healthier and more educated citizens, boost training and employment and enable communities to thrive, all over the world," said Andrew Forrest AO. "We aren't afraid to take on tough problems, and look to create long-term solutions, not short-term fixes."

"There is no limit to what we can achieve if we continue to apply knowledge, think strategically and approach problems with flexibility," Nicola Forrest said. "By making our giving public, we hope to encourage others to do what they can to address social challenges."

Brooke Horne from the **Tom Snow & Brooke Horne Family Trust** dedicated the Award for Best Large Grant to the thousands of Australians who supported the **Equality Campaign**.

"This award is a huge honour that we share with every single person who donated money or time to achieve marriage equality," Mr Horne said.

"The Equality Campaign was the result of significant philanthropic leadership that gave strength to the thousands of everyday Australians who were willing to stand up and push for fairness and equality."

Award nominations are independently assessed by an expert judging panel with selection criteria encompassing transformation, innovation, commitment, courage and entrepreneurship.

Genevieve Timmons, Chair of the 2018 Judging Panel, praised the far-reaching impact of this year's Award recipients.

"The Awards recognise the contributions not only of philanthropic funders, but also of the non-profit and community partners that have brought the work to life," Ms Timmons said.

"As we've seen with this year's awardees, you can't achieve lasting impact or systems-change without innovative and effective partnerships."

### **2018 AUSTRALIAN PHILANTHROPY AWARD RECIPIENTS**

#### **Philanthropy Leader**

Nicola and Andrew Forrest

#### **Best Large Grant**

The Tom Snow and Brooke Horne Family Trust and the Equality Campaign for the *Marriage Equality Campaign*

#### **Best Small Grant**

The Snow Foundation and Women's Centre for Health Matters for the *Assistance Beyond Crisis Credit Loans Initiative*

#### **Gender-wise Philanthropy Award**

The WeirAnderson Foundation and International Women's Development Agency (IWDA) for the *IWDA Communications Strategy*

#### **Indigenous Philanthropy Award**

Australian Communities Foundation and Woor-Dungin for the *Criminal Record Discrimination Project*

#### **International Philanthropy Award**

Wheeldon Philanthropy and Bali Children Foundation

#### **Environmental Philanthropy Award**

Purves Environmental Fund and WWF Australia for the *Ending Excessive Tree Clearing Campaign Strategy*

For additional details about the Award recipients visit the [Australian Philanthropy Awards website](#).

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#### **AWARDS PARTNERS**

[Ninti One](#): Indigenous Philanthropy Award Partner

[Australian Environmental Grantmakers Network](#): Environmental Philanthropy Award Partner

[Netwealth](#): Gender-wise Philanthropy Award Partner

[Australian Women Donors Network](#): Gender-wise Philanthropy Award Presenting Partner

[Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade](#): International Philanthropy Award Partner

[Sydney Opera House](#): Event Partner

**About Philanthropy Australia:** *As the peak body for giving, Philanthropy Australia uses the collective voice of the hundreds of funders, social investors, for-purpose organisations and change agents that comprise its membership community to advocate for policy and regulatory environments that enable more philanthropy with impact in Australia.*

**Media contact:** Chriss Mannix 0418 408 035 [chriss@sodacommunications.com.au](mailto:chriss@sodacommunications.com.au)