



Australian
**Philanthropy
Awards**
2024

Welcome from the Chair of Judges, Ann Johnson

I am delighted to welcome you to the Awards Showcase event for the 2024 Australian Philanthropy Awards.

This year the judging panels considered nominations for awards across four categories of philanthropy: Leadership, Collaboration, Innovation and Inclusion. There were also five partnered awards: Eve Mahlab AO Gender-wise Philanthropy, First Nations Philanthropy, Community Philanthropy, International Philanthropy, and Environmental and Climate Philanthropy. A big thank you to all our Award partners.

A record number of nominations were submitted for the 2024 Awards – more than double compared to the previous Awards. This suggests a stronger focus in the for-purpose sector on 'better' philanthropy, which Philanthropy Australia has been championing for some years.

In each category, the breadth of nominations was interesting and varied. The quality of

the nominations made the task of agreeing on a shortlist for each category quite challenging for the judging panels. In many cases the challenge involved choosing among nominations for projects or initiatives that seemed to deliver equally strong outcomes and positive impact. Decisions in those cases led to some thoughtful discussions around the criteria for the Award in each category. Individual judges raised conflicts of interest when relevant.

My sincere thanks to all the judges for their time and effort. Please see the opposite page for the full list of judging panels. A record number of nominations meant a lot of work, but all agreed it was a happy and positive task.

Finally, to all the nominees, finalists and Award recipients: thank you for your hard work and dedication to more and better philanthropy. We found your stories inspiring and hope these Awards will inspire others.

Acknowledgment of Country

Philanthropy Australia acknowledges the Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the first inhabitants of the nation and the Traditional Custodians of the lands where we live, learn and work. We pay our respects to Elders past and present.



Thank you to the judging panels



Philanthropy Australia Award categories

Ann Johnson

Jon Cheung

Ian Hamm

Edgar Myer

John Palermo

Antonia Ruffell

Jenny Stephens



First Nations Philanthropy Award

Leah Armstrong

Ian Hamm

Associate Professor Rick Macourt



Community Philanthropy Award

Rikki Andrews

Camille Furtado

Kirra Hampson

Nancy Sposato



Environmental and Climate Philanthropy Award

Ella Colley

Sue McKinnon

Beth Mellick



The Eve Mahlab AO Gender-wise Philanthropy Award

Jill Reichstein OAM

Catherine Petterson

Dr Victor Sojo Monzon



International Philanthropy Award

Anna Demant

Dave Everett OAM

Linda Fox

Inclusion Award Finalists



The Damion Drapac Centre and Damion Drapac Scholarships for Vocational Doctors

Mr Michael Drapac's gift of \$6.3 million to Deakin University's School of Medicine to establish the Damion Drapac Centre and Damion Drapac Scholarship for Vocational Doctors is a powerful example of a transformational gift arising out of unthinkable tragedy. In 2019, just months after graduating from Deakin's medical school, Michael's son Damion was killed while riding his bike to a race. Michael is determined to honour Damion's life and potential through establishing a scholarship for others who, like Damion, faced obstacles in pursuing a calling to be a doctor. The Damion Drapac Centre supports the aspirations of First Nations people, people with diverse and regional backgrounds and those from underrepresented groups. The Centre is backed by a perpetual endowment to support medical students through their degree via Damion Drapac Scholarships.



OC Connections Enterprises Mobile Car Wash and Gandel Foundation

In 2019 Gandel Foundation connected with OC Connections (OCC) and started what was to become a close and productive relationship. OCC is an organisation that works with people with a disability and has a social enterprise arm which helps their clients engage in meaningful and productive employment opportunities. One of those programs is a mobile car washing service. A major multi-year grant from Gandel Foundation in 2019 has enabled OCC to scale up the program significantly. The grant enabled OCC to purchase the necessary cleaning equipment, a transport vehicle and deliver training to OCC employees.



NV Access

Despite technology being ingrained into almost every aspect of our lives, equal access to technology is still not a reality. In 2006, NV Access co-founder Michael Curran questioned why blind people, and people with vision impairment, should have to pay thousands for the same access to technology as their sighted peers. This led Michael and his friend James Teh to create the first ever completely free and open-source screen reader software NVDA, and to establish the not-for-profit NV Access which supports its ongoing development and distribution. NVDA has been translated into 55 languages in partnership with the NVDA Community, and it is now used by more than a quarter of a million people in 175 countries.

First Nations Philanthropy Award Finalists



Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Foundation Scholarship Program

Established in 2008, Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Foundation (QATSIF) is a charitable trust overseen by two First Nations Patrons – Aunty Ruth Hegarty and Professor Cindy Shannon AM – a largely First Nations Board and staffed by a small team. QATSIF is Australia's largest First Nations Scholarship organisation. Over the past 15 years QATSIF has supported more than 18,800 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students with the costs required to complete their senior studies and gain a brighter future. Over the past 15 years, 18,800 people (7% of all First Nations Queenslanders) have their senior school education supported by a QATSIF Scholarship.



Bibbulmun Fund and WA Relief and Recovery Fund (held with the Fremantle Foundation)

The Bibbulmun Fund (a sub-fund of the Fremantle Foundation) was founded 11 years ago by highly respected Noongar elder Kim Collard, founder of Kulbardi, Australia's largest Aboriginal-owned stationery supply company and Kooya Australia Fleet Solutions. The Bibbulmun Fund has collectively raised more than \$1.4 million and supported 19 First Nations charitable organisations across Australia. In 2023, Cyclone Ellie and the resulting Kimberley Fitzroy River floods devastated the region. Working with Kim, the Fund collectively raised \$500,000 and distributed \$365,000 to five Indigenous-led or operated not-for-profits in the Fitzroy River region.

Presented in partnership with:



Yuwaya Ngarra-li Partnership between Dharriwaa Elders Group and the University of NSW

Yuwaya Ngarra-li (YN), a long-term community-led partnership between the Dharriwaa Elders Group and UNSW, works to improve the wellbeing, environment and life pathways of Aboriginal people in Walgett, NSW. The partnership does so by collaborating on evidence-based initiatives, research and capacity-building. Flexible, long-term, holistic funding from the Paul Ramsay Foundation has enabled the Dharriwaa Elders Group to lead projects focused on reducing Aboriginal young people's contact with the criminal justice system, improving food and water security and care for Country, building Aboriginal community capabilities and control, developing new housing models and reducing fine debt. YN has collected evidence of more than 400 outcomes at individual, community, place and systems levels over its last grant period (2020 to mid-2023).

Collaboration Award

Finalists



Preventing mental health issues in young Australians: a social impact collaboration

In development since 2022, the Future Generation Global Impact Measurement Initiative involves 14 not-for-profit organisations, Future Generation Global (philanthropic funder), Social Outcomes (impact measurement specialists) and Seer Data and Analytics (data specialists). The FGG Impact Measurement Initiative is an ambitious collaboration to demonstrate the value of investing in wellbeing and the prevention of mental ill-health, as well as in the core operations and development of high potential not-for-profit organisations.



Voices for Impact

Established in 2017, the Australian Communities Foundation (ACF) Impact Fund harnesses the power of collective giving to address critical issues in Australia across the areas of inequality, democracy, environment and First Nations self-determination. The Impact Fund's 2023 program, Voices for Impact, concentrated efforts on supporting First Nations self-determination, particularly in the context of the 2023 Voice referendum, raising more than \$2.3 million and distributing more than 130 grants to 80+ organisations. The community not-for-profit partners were Australians for Indigenous Constitutional Recognition, GetUp and Australian Progress.



Canberra Foundations Collaborative

The seeds of the Canberra Foundations Collaborative were sown during the COVID crisis when Hands Across Canberra, The Snow Foundation, and John James Foundation united to launch a rapid response grant round for community organisations. Each year, the Collaborative pools at least \$1 million, reducing administrative burdens for community organisations, as one application is seen by multiple funders, increasing the likelihood of full project funding. The Collaborative has supported 191 projects worth \$3.4 million and provided capacity-building to more than 100 organisations.



Gender Compass

Gender Compass is first-of-its-kind research which segments the broader Australian public into six groups according to their beliefs, policy preferences and behaviours in relation to gender equality. Designed to enable more effective and targeted communications, it helps to shift social norms by empowering advocates to meet people where they are, not where we think they should be on the equality spectrum. More than 20 different organisations contributed to the success of the research project and roll-out. The Gender Compass partners are: Trawalla Foundation – leading co-funder and advisor; Minderoo Foundation – leading co-funder and advisor; Lord Mayor’s Charitable Foundation – leading co-funders and advisor; Plan International Australia – lead implementing program partner; and 89 Degrees East – lead research consultant partner.

Innovation Award

Finalists



Climate 200

Climate 200 tackles the root cause of Australia's inaction on climate, integrity, and gender equality – a broken democracy. Climate 200 fundraises for, and strategically regrants to communities, to raise awareness of and democratic participation. Their innovative approach to climate advocacy raised \$13.5 million from 11,200 donors and supported 23 independents in the 2022 election. They helped empower tens of thousands of people to put sustained climate and integrity focussed pressure on the political system. This helped independents David Pocock, Monique Ryan, and Allegra Spender get elected, who have helped pass major climate, integrity and gender equality reforms.



Future Generation Investment Companies

As Australia's first listed investment company to pursue both financial and social returns, Future Generation breaks down the traditional boundary between capitalism and philanthropy. Future Generation draws on the talents and generosity of Australia's financial community to drive capital into the hands of the not-for-profit sector. In just eight years, it has donated \$75.8 million to Australian not-for-profits.



Snow Centre for Immune Health

In 2023, Snow Medical Research Foundation (Snow Medical) announced a historic initial commitment of \$100 million to establish the Snow Centre for Immune Health at the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute for Medical Research (WEHI). This landmark commitment, one of the largest philanthropic commitments in Australia's history, is innovative in its approach to partnering, its approach to supporting medical science, and its approach to ensuring that the health outcomes are transformative. The collaboration is between Snow Medical, WEHI, the Royal Melbourne Hospital, and an impressive list of international collaborators.

Leadership Award

Finalists



Joseph Skrzynski AO

Joe has had a dual career in business and an extensive philanthropic career within the media, cultural and social justice sectors. His current positions include member of the Sydney Committee for The Australia Foundation in Support of Human Rights Watch and the global board of directors of Human Rights Watch Inc. He is the first Australian to hold such a global position. Of particular note is his longstanding support of The Observership Program, a national program to train future leaders for not-for-profit and government appointed boards.



Mannifera

Mannifera is a collective of 23 funders from across Australia. By working together to support civil society organisations striving to strengthen democracy and foster economic fairness, Mannifera's members showcase the power of collective action in driving meaningful change.

Since its establishment in 2019, Mannifera members have contributed to a pooled fund that has disbursed over \$3.5 million in grants to 46 civil society organisations, many of which have gone on to catalyse systemic-level reforms. Mannifera has also played a crucial role in fostering collaboration and shared learning between civil society leaders and funders.

Presented in partnership with:



Terry Snow AM and Ginette Snow

Terry Snow AM and Ginette Snow's dedication to philanthropy, formally starting 33 years ago through The Snow Foundation / Canberra region. They now give on a national scale addressing key social justice issues, backing social entrepreneurs and innovation and more recently breakthrough medical research. This is through both their foundations – The Snow Foundation, co-founded in 1991 by Terry with Ginette as Executive Director, and Snow Medical Research Foundation co-founded by Terry and Ginette, and family in 2019. Together, the foundations have distributed \$115 million to date (\$86 million Snow Foundation, \$29 million Snow Medical), with the majority of donations given in the last five years along with future commitments of an additional approximately \$200 million.



Tom Snow

Tom is outgoing Chair of Equality Australia, the national voice for LGBTIQ+ people, and founded the organisation in 2015 when the LGBTIQ+ community first faced the threat of a national plebiscite on the issue of same-sex marriage. As Co-Chair, he played a crucial role in establishing the organisation to become the vehicle for the YES campaign. History will show that in November 2017 Australians voted in favour of change with an overwhelming 62% YES vote.



We use all of our resources when it comes to making an **impact.**

At Macquarie Group, we know that making a difference is achieved by giving our time, money and skills. Since our inception in 1985, together with Macquarie staff, our Foundation has contributed over \$A570 million to thousands of non-profits around the world*. But we also give back by hands-on volunteering or putting our business skills to work for a non-profit organisation. We think it's this flexible approach that can best help the community organisations we support.

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Contribution figures comprise Macquarie employees' donations and fundraising; Foundation matching support for employees' donations and fundraising; Foundation donations to commemorate employees attaining 10-year and 25-year anniversaries at Macquarie; Foundation grants to non-profit organisations to recognise 12 months of board service by a Macquarie employee; and Macquarie and Foundation grants to community organisations (including COVID-19 donation fund and Macquarie 50th Anniversary Award) since inception in 1985.

Thank you

to the partners of the Community
Philanthropy Award for their support
and involvement



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COMMUNITIES
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FRRR
Foundation for Rural
Regional Renewal



LORD
MAYOR'S
CHARITABLE
FOUNDATION

Community Philanthropy Award Finalists



Amplify Pride Fund

The Amplify Pride Fund (APF) was established in 2022 by Aurora Group and GiveOUT, two LGBTIQ+ led community funders. LGBTIQ+ organisations receive just 5 cents out of every \$100 donated to Australian charities, and 80% have five or fewer paid staff due to this lack of funds. APF provides larger and more sustainable funding to the LGBTIQ+ community sector and understands that if we are to tackle the challenges and barriers still facing vulnerable members of the LGBTIQ+ community in Australia – poorer mental health, isolation, homelessness, and social and economic marginalisation – we must adequately resource and increase the capacity of the LGBTIQ+ organisations best placed to support them.



Give Where You Live, Pitch Up Geelong powered by The Funding Network

The Funding Network's (TFN's) partnership with Give Where You Live Foundation in Geelong has expanded TFN's innovative live crowdfunding event model to regional Victoria. Now in its 7th year, Pitch Up Geelong is the Foundation's annual event that uses the TFN event model to build the capacity of under-funded, place-based grassroots not-for-profit organisations across Australia. These organisations deeply understand the social fabric of the vulnerable communities they represent and the systemic forces at the root of social problems. Since the first event in 2018, Pitch Up Geelong has raised more than \$500,000 in funding for grassroots organisations operating locally.

Presented in partnership with:



The Lorena and Richard Uechtriz Foundation – Beacon Laundry

The Northern Rivers region of NSW grapples with significant disparities in health, education, employment, and housing, which have been exacerbated by the floods that devastated towns such as Lismore and Mullumbimby in 2022. Beacon Laundry started operating in January 2024 in Bangalow in Northern NSW to service, with high quality laundry products, the region's tourism industry. Beacon Laundry has already employed 55 staff, who represent the full spectrum of disadvantage in the region including rough sleepers, young people experiencing mental health issues, Indigenous people and single women with caring duties. Beacon Laundry has been supported by the Lorena and Richard Uechtriz Foundation from ideation to delivery.



Bibbulmun Fund and WA Relief and Recovery Fund (held with the Fremantle Foundation)

The Fremantle Foundation established the Western Australian Relief and Recovery Fund (WARRF) in 2020 to rapidly mobilise donations and provide support to those most affected by COVID-19, after facing a surge in funding requests of more than \$500,000 from local charities. Through an extensive fundraising campaign, the foundation raised more than \$300,000 in just eight weeks, garnering contributions from named fund donors, the public, and a significant gift from the Paul Ramsay Foundation. As a result, most funding requests from charities were fulfilled, with 11 grants dispersed across the state to assist Indigenous communities, individuals with disabilities, homeless people, mental health services, children's education, and women seeking employment opportunities after losing their jobs.

Environmental and Climate Philanthropy Award Finalists



Climate Action Network Australia Small Grants Program

Funded by the Robert Hicks Foundation at Equity Trustees, Climate Action Network Australia (CANA) is a network of more than 150 civil society organisations working together to protect people from climate change and its impacts, to safeguard our natural environment, and to build a fairer and healthier Australia for everyone. CANA's Small Grants Program was founded in 2017 to help address the needs of the grassroots climate movement and the broad movement's strategic priorities. The program provides grants of \$500 - \$10,000 and distributes around \$160,000 in total funding each year.



Climate 200

Climate 200 tackles the root cause of Australia's inaction on climate - a broken democracy. They help communities voice their concern for climate action in independent campaigns that make politicians act to neutralise this threat. C200 raised \$13.5 million from 11,200 donors for the 2022 federal election and supported 23 campaigns. 11 were elected, including David Pocock, Monique Ryan, and Allegra Spender. They have helped federal parliament pass major climate reforms, including increasing Australia's 2030 emissions reduction target from 26% to 43%. C200 continues to use its innovative approach to support emerging communities keen to catalyse climate action.

Presented in partnership with:



Climate Whistleblower Program

The ACME Foundation, along with some of its collaborators, provided seed funding to enable the Human Rights Law Centre (HRLC) to establish their Whistleblower Project (WP). A major focus of this project is climate change and environmental harm related whistleblowing. The WP was officially launched in August 2023 by the Honourable Tony Fitzgerald AC KC. In the six months since the WP launched, the Project has already been contacted by more than 130 whistleblowers. The WP fills a gap that no one else in the sector is filling, and helps environment and climate sector partner organisations be more impactful.



Goodman Wealth Foundation

Goodman Wealth Foundation's impact in environmental philanthropy is multifaceted and far reaching – including investment, advocacy and research. The family have personally invested in the sector, worked with The University of Queensland and other universities to directly fund critical research, initiated an award to put environmental philanthropists in the spotlight, and seed funded the Queensland Environment Fund, a perpetual fund to support any charity working to protect the environment in Queensland. In 2020 the Foundation seeded the establishment of The Moreton Bay Foundation (TMBF) with a gift of \$750,000. TMBF's mission is to drive an environmentally sustainable future for the Bay through collaboration, influence, and targeted research.

The Eve Mahlab AO Gender-wise Philanthropy Award

Finalists



100 Women

100 Women is a philanthropic giving circle which invests in and empowers women and girls. Founded in 2013 by Alicia Curtis and Megan Anderson in Western Australia, they quickly gathered a passionate group of volunteers to find its first 100 women to join as members and create a grant making program. After 10 years, 100 Women has grown its membership to 350 women and men across Australia. Together, they leverage their donations and expertise to provide grants to empower women and girls in areas such as education, health, economic opportunities, and safety. With more than \$1.2 million in member donations, 100 Women has funded 39 grants for sustainable initiatives, benefiting 37,100 women and girls both locally and globally.



MECCA M-POWER

M-POWER is MECCA's social change initiative focused on advancing gender equality. MECCA supports a collective of 20+ NFPs working to educate girls, advance opportunities for women at work, improve women's health and enhance the representation of women by elevating their voices and the issues that matter to them. MECCA offers multi-year, untied, funding, equality campaigns, a tech recruitment pipeline for girls from disadvantaged backgrounds, as well as a range of strategic supports including a skilled volunteering program and a leadership and capability development program for NFP CEOs. MECCA has pledged to invest \$25 million through M-POWER over five years (2022-2027) in organisations and programs which address gender inequality, while simultaneously educating staff and customers on the benefits for everyone in a more gender equal world.

Presented in partnership with:



Susan Alberti AC – Susan Alberti Medical Research Foundation

Women and girls face significant underrepresentation in sports, both as participants and leaders. This disparity not only impacts their social, mental, and physical well-being but also constrains their career prospects due to limited leadership opportunities. Susan Alberti AC, via the Susan Alberti Medical Foundation, drives research and leadership initiatives which are vital components of Victoria University's women in sport program.

Through strategic philanthropic support of women's sports she has sparked a national dialogue on gender stereotypes and opportunities for women in professional sports and leadership roles. She's played a pivotal role in the establishment of AFLW and has funded research and pathways that have facilitated increased engagement in women's sports. These efforts have significantly reshaped the narrative around gender equality in Australia, emphasising the importance of inclusivity and the strengths women bring to sport.



The Australian Environmental Grantmakers Network is Australia's peak membership organisation for environment and climate philanthropy.

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We congratulate all of the nominees, finalists and the 2024 recipient of the **Australian Philanthropy Awards' Eve Mahlab AO Gender-wise Philanthropy Award** presented by Australians Investing In Women for exemplary commitment to creating a better, more gender-equal world through philanthropic investment in women and girls.

For Gender-wise research, tools & resources
visit aiiw.org.au

International Philanthropy Award Finalists



KJC Farm and Outgrower Program

In rural Siem Reap, Cambodia, Australian not-for-profit Dana Asia Ltd works with local implementing partner KJC Farm to deliver a project that combats poverty and food insecurity. It does this by challenging traditional poultry farming practices to turn backyard chicken raising into viable and sustainable business opportunities for rural poor farmers. As a result of the project, income levels have risen, and marginalised communities have new options for sustainable income generation to combat poverty. The Outgrower Program provides training in best-practice poultry raising and social investment for impoverished rural farmers to launch their own smallholder chicken farming businesses for sustainable income to support their families.



Cambodian Children's Fund – Neeson Cripps Academy

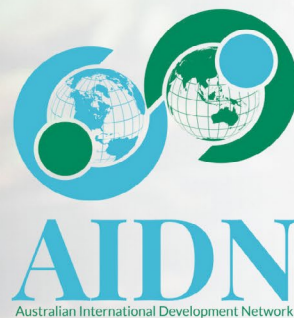
Opened in February 2017, the Neeson Cripps Academy (NCA) is a gift from The Cripps Foundation and was designed pro-bono by world-class architects, COOKFOX. The school is named after Cambodian Children's Foundation founder Scott Neeson and former Velcro Companies Chairman Robert Cripps. The NCA is a state-of-the-art STEM school learning centre that provides high quality education to some of Cambodia's most disadvantaged children. The NCA prepares students for life beyond the classroom and helps to address the technology and science industries skills shortage in Cambodia. The first group of students began their studies in 2017 and graduated in 2022 with a 100% pass rate and transition to university.

Presented in partnership with:



The Intrepid Foundation: Morocco Earthquake Appeal

The Intrepid Foundation is the not-for-profit arm of the world's largest adventure travel company, Australia-founded Intrepid Travel. The Intrepid Foundation's Morocco Earthquake appeal followed the devastating earthquake of September 2023. The appeal was catalytic in activating urgent and immediate support, in genuine partnership between The Intrepid Foundation and long-term NGO partners Education for All and High Atlas Foundation. The appeal catalysed \$100,000 in matched funding from The Intrepid Foundation to raise a further \$550,000 in new donations. Many of the donors to the Morocco appeal cited their trip with Intrepid as inspiration, dating back to as early as 2008.



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