# AUSTRALIAN PHILANTHROPY AWARDS 2020

Recognising and celebrating the positive impact of philanthropy Australian Philanthropy Awards 2020 | 17 November - Online

philanthropy australia

# AUSTRALIAN PHILANTHROPY AWARDS 2020





Better Philanthropy Award



Bolder Philanthropy Award



Best Grant Program Award



Community Philanthropy Award



Environmental Philanthropy Award



Gender-wise Philanthropy Award



Indigenous Philanthropy Award



International Philanthropy Award

# **PROGRAM CONTENTS**

Message from the CEO 6 **Leading Philanthropist Better Philanthropy Bolder Philanthropy** 12 **Best Grant Program** 16 Community 18 **Environmental Gender-wise** Indigenous 24 International 26 **Selection panels** 

> 27 Award partners

AUSTRALIAN PHILANTHROPY AWARDS 2020



# MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

In a year punctuated by upheaval and adaptation it seems more fitting than ever to be taking the time out to recognise and celebrate the extraordinary achievements of Australia's remarkable philanthropic community.

Over the past six years, the Australian Philanthropy Awards have showcased best practise philanthropy, highlighting the unique power of the philanthropic dollar as social risk capital that can change our approach to addressing some of the most pressing issues in our society. The roll call of Australian Philanthropy Award recipients is a world-class showcase of the impact philanthropy is having in Australia, and I am delighted to be adding the 2020 recipients to this list.

This year, we received a record number of nominations across nine categories, including for four new awards: the Better Philanthropy Award, Bolder Philanthropy Award, Best Grant Program Award and the Community Philanthropy Award.

I would like to give a comprehensive and sincere thanks to all our award partners for their support and collaboration: thank you to Macquarie Group, our Better Philanthropy Award partner; Grant Toolbox, our Bolder Philanthropy Award partner; Australian Communities Foundation, Australian Community Philanthropy, the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal and Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation, our Community Philanthropy Award partners; the Australian Environmental Grantmakers Network, our Environmental Philanthropy Award partner; the Australian Women Donors Network, our Gender-wise Philanthropy Award partner; Ninti One, our Indigenous Philanthropy Award partner; and our International Philanthropy Award Partners the Australian International Development Network and the Australian Council for International Development.

I would like to thank the Chair of the Australian Philanthropy Awards, Jenny Wheatley, along with the selection panel members, Amanda Miller, Kirsty Allen, Simon Lewis, Vedran Drakulic, Wanhee Lee and also sincerely thank the selection panels for each of the cause-related awards. The depth and strength of this year's nominations required a meticulous selection process and I thank each member of the selection panels for the diligent application of their expertise to that process.

I now invite you to join me in celebrating the recipients of the 2020 Australian Philanthropy Awards.

Sarah Davies AM

CEO, Philanthropy Australia





Be part of history in the making as we build the momentum of environmental giving. In 2017 we set a goal to increase environmental philanthropy by \$50 million in five years. Three years later, we have more than doubled our goal.





Harness the power of philanthropy to protect our environment and build a sustainable future.

pledge.aegn.org.au



2020 has kept us apart. Community philanthropy keeps us connected and supported.

Community Foundations. Better together.

**Proud partners of the Community Philanthropy Award** 











# NINTI INNOVATION FOR REMOTE AUSTRALIA

# CONGRATULATES ALL 2020 PHILANTHROPY AWARD NOMINEES

Ninti is proud to partner with Philanthropy Australia on the 2020 Indigenous Philanthropy Award.

Ninti is an Indigenous organisation undertaking community development, research and engagement.

We have the knowledge, expertise and networks to connect you with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people across Australia.

Contact us to learn how we can work together.

www.nintione.com.au

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# LEADING PHILANTHROPIST



The Leading Philanthropist award is Australian philanthropy's highest honour and it is awarded to an individual philanthropist whose work is visionary, high impact and transformative.

The Leading Philanthropist for 2020 has spent her life focused on strengthening gender equality, creativity, sustainability and social justice within Australian society.

With a keen skill for identifying innovative solutions for change, teamed with a focus on collaboration and bringing philanthropists together, this year's recipient embodies the vision of building a more giving Australia.

The selection panel reviewed nominees for their:

- Outstanding achievements over the past five years
- Clear vision for change and ability to impact change
- Demonstrated leadership and courage to engineer giving with impact
- Scale of financial contribution and the approach to generating additional funds.

#### **Selection Panel**

# Jenny Wheatley

Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation

#### **Amanda Miller**

Impact Generation
Partners

### Kirsty Allen

The Myer Foundation

# Simon Lewis

GoodWolf

#### Vedran Drakulic OAM

Gandel Philanthropy

#### Wanhee Lee

Evans and Partners

# Carol Schwartz AO

Leading Philanthropist 2020

Carol Schwartz AO is one of Australia's most dynamic business and community leaders with a diverse career across property, the arts, finance, investment, entrepreneurship, government and health.

Carol has been recognised for her leadership via a range of honours including her 2019 appointment as an Officer of the Order of Australia, an Honorary Doctorate from Monash University, induction into the Australia Property Hall of Fame, and a Centenary Medal. Carol has chaired and participated in numerous listed and private company boards, and current board roles include the Reserve Bank of Australia, EQT Holdings Limited, Qualitas Property Partners and Skalata Ventures.

Throughout her career Carol has been a passionate advocate for gender equality and women in leadership, and as Chair of the Trawalla Foundation and the Women's Leadership Institute Australia, she has catalysed a range of initiatives to grow the critical mass of women in politics, business and the media.

While her formal roles are well known, much generosity also happens quietly behind the scenes – as Carol is well known for providing advice and guidance, connecting people and organisations, unlocking the potential of others, and advocating for change.





# BETTER PHILANTHROPY AWARD



The Better Philanthropy Award is a new category in the Australian Philanthropy Awards Program. It recognises innovation and/or initiatives that have enhanced or extended current philanthropic practice, contributing to 'better' philanthropy.

The selection panel reviewed nominees for:

- How the grant-maker or initiative has contributed to better philanthropy through enhancing or extending current philanthropic practice
- The problem that it sought to address or solve
- The unique approach or way of working developed by this grant-maker.

# MACQUARIE

This award is presented in partnership with Macquarie Group

# **Selection Panel**

# Jenny Wheatley

Vincent Fairfax Family
Foundation

# Amanda Miller

Impact Generation
Partners

# Kirsty Allen

The Myer Foundation

# Simon Lewis

GoodWolf

# Vedran Drakulic OAM

Gandel Philanthropy

## Wanhee Lee

Evans and Partners



# Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation and Housing Choices Australia Better Philanthropy Award inaugural recipients

To begin the turnaround to address the lack of affordable housing problem in Melbourne, Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation (LMCF) kicked off the Affordable Housing Challenge back in 2017. Their theory of change was that the Foundation could use a philanthropic grant of \$1 million to leverage a well-located site at no cost from local government, and then enable a partnership between a community housing provider and local government. The goal was to engage local government and help unlock more affordable housing at scale.

If local government could 'donate' a well-located site to a collaborative affordable housing project via a transfer or a long-term lease to a community housing developer, then the financing of the housing could become viable using an innovative combination of philanthropic support, debt financing and government funding. LMCF has worked in homelessness prevention for 10 years and in increasing the supply of affordable housing for six years. The Foundation has developed knowledge and networks in this area which it was able to bring to the Affordable Housing Challenge.

The Affordable Housing Challenge has resulted in a new partnership between Housing Choices Australia, the community housing developer, and the City of Darebin (site owner, providing a 49-year lease of the site for the purposes of affordable housing) which will result in 40 affordable housing units, located close to services, transport and amenities, for individuals and families facing significant financial disadvantage. Residents will include people very low, low and moderate income. A stable home provides the basis for better mental and physical health and provides a platform for accessing education and employment. The Foundation has since committed funding for another 70-unit site in the City of Melbourne and is now working on the Affordable Housing Challenge 2, which is leveraging under utilised land owned by large not for profits or faith-based organisations.



# BOLDER PHILANTHROPY AWARD



The Bolder Philanthropy Award is a new category in the Australian Philanthropy Awards Program. It recognises the unique 'risk capital' role that philanthropy plays in investing in start-ups and giving early-stage support to design and test solutions which can be scaled, replicated and evolved over time to support continued positive change.

The selection panel reviewed nominees for:

- How this grant-maker used philanthropy as social risk capital to initiate or test a new proposition, or how it provided early-stage support for a project that was then taken to scale, replicated or mainstreamed
- How the intervention, initiative or solution has since been scaled, replicated or evolved
- The additional non-financial role of the grant-maker to contribute to this initiative's success.

## **Selection Panel**

# Jenny Wheatley

Vincent Fairfax Family
Foundation

#### **Amanda Miller**

Impact Generation
Partners

#### Kirsty Allen

The Myer Foundation

# Simon Lewis

GoodWolf

# Wanhee Lee

Evans and Partners



This award is presented in partnership with Grant Toolbox



# **Gandel Philanthropy and Australian Foundation for Yad Vashem**Bolder Philanthropy Award inaugural recipients

Gandel Philanthropy, and the Gandel family, have been long-standing supporters of programs and activities that preserve and enhance the memory of the Holocaust.

In order to make the lessons of the Holocaust resonate with young people, to help them understand and tackle racism and prejudice, Gandel Philanthropy knew it had to penetrate the education system. To address this challenge Gandel Philanthropy partnered with a fledgling scholarship program, but one that had some core elements right, especially Yad Vashem professional delivery.

The Gandel team invested years to reform and restructure the program, adding key elements such as pre-seminar work and school-project delivery, investment to grow the numbers of teachers, continual evaluation and improvement and national expansion to help reach hundreds of thousands of students.

A critical part of this work is ensuring teachers are trained and equipped to teach about the Holocaust appropriately, with relevant resources and tools, to deliver Holocaust education through 'safely-in, safely-out' pedagogical methodology.

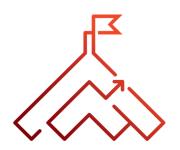
Gandel Philanthropy saw great potential in a small, limited-reach program and gradually developed it into a comprehensive program that has an alumni of 350 teachers that reach thousands of students right across Australia every year - exemplifying the spirit of the Bolder Philanthropy Award.

Ultimately, it used this progress with this program as a springboard to successfully advocate for mandatory Holocaust education in Victorian public schools.





# BEST GRANT PROGRAM AWARD



The Best Grant Program Award is a new category in the Australian Philanthropy Awards Program. It recognises the value of considered, effective and targeted philanthropic grant programs which support positive social, cultural or environmental change. This award showcases the work of program managers and gives people running private ancillary funds an opportunity to share the thinking behind their grantmaking.

The selection panel reviewed nominees for:

- The issue or need that the grants program aims to address or support
- The evidence that has been used to inform the specific granting approach
- How the grants program contributes to more and better philanthropy
- Specific example, within the program, that exemplifies the qualities of the grants program.

# **Selection Panel**

# Jenny Wheatley

Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation

#### **Amanda Miller**

Impact Generation
Partners

#### Kirsty Allen

The Myer Foundation

# Simon Lewis

GoodWolf

# Vedran Drakulic OAM

Gandel Philanthropy

## Wanhee Lee

Evans and Partners



# Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal

Best Grant Program Award inaugural recipient

Established in 2014 in partnership with the Tim Fairfax Family Foundation, the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal (FRRR) developed the Tackling Tough Times Together (TTTT) program to support drought affected communities, helping them



access resources to support one another through the ongoing drought, during recovery and to build resilience.

In communities that are normally quite self-sufficient, the prolonged drought means there is little discretionary spend and even basic things that would normally be addressed through community fundraising cannot be supported. Further, the reality of drought means farmers isolate, people leave town and often services are withdrawn as populations decline. This means communities need help to be able to come together and support one another.

FRRR believes local people are best placed to know what support is needed and how to best deliver that support. For this reason, the Foundation designs flexible grant programs that enable local community groups to access the funding that is needed to help local leaders do what is most appropriate to meet these local needs.

The TTTT program's early success encouraged additional philanthropic, business and Government support, enabling the program's expansion and continuation. This means small, often very isolated communities are able to access philanthropic support, often for the first time, to support them through the drought, recovery and also focus on building community resilience.

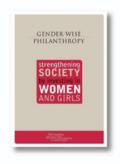
To date, 245 grants have been distributed valued at over \$2.8 million. While the funding is significant in itself, FRRR has found that simply awarding an organisation a grant and showing that someone cares can be just as important to these communities.





# IS YOUR GIVING GENDER-WISE?

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Register for our virtual Annual Gender-wise Event

You are invited to our very special virtual annual Genderwise Event

# **EVOLUTION**

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Investing in women and girls has never been more important. #genderwise #philanthropy #genderlens #buildbackbetter







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# **COMMUNITY PHILANTHROPY AWARD**



# **Selection Panel**

#### **Dylan Smith**

Australian Community Philanthropy

# Dr Catherine Brown

Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation

#### John Carey

Red Earth Community
Foundation

# Lola Cowle

Tasmanian Community
Fund

# **Natalie Egleton**

Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal

#### Vedran Drakulic OAM

Hobsons Bay Community Fund

# Hayden Raysmith AM

Australian Communities
Foundation

#### **Gerlinde Scholz**

Australian Community Philanthropy The Community Philanthropy Award is a new category in the Australian Philanthropy Awards Program, and it recognises impact achieved through place-based, community-led philanthropy. This Award is for philanthropic initiatives that address a local community's current or emerging priority issue to create positive change and community empowerment.

The selection panel reviewed nominees for:

- How place-based challenges are addressed to achieve great outcomes for that place
- The ability to leverage and unlock community assets
- Demonstrated value-adding through convening power
- Collaboration and cross-sector partnership.

This award is presented in partnership with Australian Communities Foundation, Australian Community Philanthropy, the Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal and Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation











# Give Where You Live Foundation, Geelong Community Foundation & Kids Thrive

Community Philanthropy Award inaugural recipients

The Geelong Give Where You Live Foundation (GWYL) aims to address one of the most complex, entrenched social issues in their community - disadvantage.

GWYL Foundation partnered with the Geelong Community Foundation to support Geelong Kids as Catalyst (GKiC), a place-based program developed by Kids Thrive - Victoria's leading arts and community development organisation - to equip children aged 8-12 with skills to identify and address real-world problems facing their community, through creative, collaborative projects with local community partners.

GKiC leverages community partnerships, grows networks, unlocks new assets through student participation in community change and increases social capital – delivering outcomes that extend well beyond the funding benefits. The theory of change supports driving community change from the ground up by building children's personal resilience, educational engagement and capacity to address key issues that impact the community.

The program is now in its third year at four primary campuses in Geelong, in the low socio-economic areas of Corio/Norlane. Each year it has delivered exceptional personal, educational and community impact outcomes, demonstrating that children can be a powerful influence for positive change in communities with entrenched social, health and economic disadvantages. GKiC is designed and delivered in collaboration with numerous cross-sectoral partners, including local community groups, school campuses, parents, community foundations, local council, Victoria police, local agencies and businesses.





# ENVIRONMENTAL PHILANTHROPY AWARD

The Environmental Philanthropy Award is for current achievements from funding projects or organisations that specifically support the environment, or - where a project or organisation's main focus is in another issue area - there is a significant co-benefit to the environment.



The selection panel reviewed nominees for:

- How they improved the conservation and function of Australia's environment
- Demonstration of a significant and immediate impact
- Alignment with one or more of the following:
  - Using communication tools to bring new and different voices or influence public sentiment
  - Advocacy that influences key decision-makers and/or changes public policy
  - Supports collaboration and coordination
  - Takes solutions up to scale.



This award is presented in partnership with the Australian Environmental Grantmakers Network

# **Selection Panel**

# Debbie Dadon

Besen Family Foundation

#### Malinda Wink

The Caledonia Foundation

# **Robin Craig**

The Jaramas Foundation

# **David Rickards**

Carrawa Foundation

## **Bruce McGregor**

Melliodora Fund - ACF subfund

# **Amanda Martin**

AEGN



# The Pace Foundation, six other funders and Beyond Zero Emissions Environmental Philanthropy Award recipients

Climate change presents existential risks to Australia's environment. From increasing heat waves which dry out the landscape, to extreme fires, floods and storms which threaten plant and animal life, the risks of climate change are increasing. In the Northern Territory (NT), extreme heat fueled by climate change is creating unlivable conditions.

Developed in partnership with the Environment Centre Northern Territory, the 10 Gigawatt Vision is a comprehensive plan to use abundant sunshine and low-cost solar energy to revolutionise the NT's economy. The report shows that by 2030, the NT government could drive investment in 10 gigawatts of renewable energy - 20 times the current renewable energy target.

The 10 Gigawatt Vision put the Territory at the forefront of the global transition away from fossil fuels towards renewable energy. It described how implementation would attract private investment, be a catalyst for wider, long-lasting economic renewal, and provided recommendations for policy reform.

Subsequently, an oversubscribed investment round for one of the world's most ambitious projects, the world's largest solar farm (Sun Cable's Asia-Singapore Power Link) has ensured this \$20 billion project is on track to becoming a reality.

On the back of the Vision, Beyond Zero Emissions' Chair Eytan Lenko was appointed to the Territory Economic Reconstruction Commission, ensuring renewable energy would be at the heart of economic policy discussion.





# GENDER-WISE PHILANTHROPY AWARD

The Gender-wise Philanthropy Award is for current achievements from funding initiatives that advance gender equity through direct investment in projects or organisations that support women and girls, or the integration of the gender lens. The funder can be investing in women and girls either locally or internationally.



# **Selection Panel**

# Eve Mahlab AO

Australian Women Donors Network

#### **Dr Victor Soio**

University of Melbourne

#### **Krystian Seibert**

Swinburne University of Technology

# **Catherine Petterson**

Diversity Council of Australia

The selection panel reviewed nominees for:

- How they specifically support women and girls, either directly or through gender lens considerations and addresses gender inequality
- Demonstration of commitment to advancing women and girls through one or more of the following:
  - Leadership, impact, advocacy, example, strategic giving, best practice grant making or donating
- Demonstration of a genuine partnership approach in the design and delivery of the initiative
- The impacts being publicised or shared to encourage other funders to apply a gender lens to their activity.



This award is presented in partnership with the Australian Women Donors Network





# The Brian & Virginia McNamee Foundation & WIRE

Gender-wise Philanthropy Award recipients

The McNamee Foundation is passionate about bringing about positive change in the lives of women through considered grant making in the areas of family violence, homelessness and in the criminal justice system.

WIRE's vision is a just and inclusive society where all people can thrive. Their mission is to work with women, non-binary and gender diverse people to address the issues they identify, assist them to make informed choices in their lives and advocate for structural change to bring about gender equity and social justice.

The Purse Project was created and funded by the McNamee Foundation in 2015 and became one of the very few financial capability programs that had a financial capability lens, and a gender and trauma informed lens, and was written explicitly for victim-survivors of family violence. The training influenced The Victorian Royal Commission into family violence and enabled the creation of a scaled up financial capability training program for family violence victim survivors to be delivered across Victoria.

The recommendations of the Royal Commission corroborated the vision and mission of The Purse Project - that victim-survivors needed access to financial capability training that meets their specific needs, and to support victim-survivors and a wide cross-section of community and financial services agencies, as they play a vital role in improving women's financial security.



# INDIGENOUS PHILANTHROPY AWARD



# **Selection Panel**

**Tammy Abbott**Ninti One

**Dr Amanda Schiller**Ninti One

Rod Reeve Ninti One The Indigenous Philanthropy Award is for current achievements from funding initiatives that support, strengthen and sustain Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leaders, community and culture. This Award is for funding initiatives that demonstrate direct support of Indigenous-led or controlled and operated organisations.

The selection panel reviewed nominees for:

- Direct support of Indigenous-led or controlled and operated organisations
- How the funder has adapted the way it works to adopt and promote practices which support, strengthen and sustain Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leaders, community and culture
- How it fosters and facilitates reconciliation between the wider Australian community and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.



This award is presented in partnership with Ninti One



# The Balnaves Foundation and Guardian Australia

Indigenous Philanthropy Award recipients

The Balnaves Foundation wanted to see systemic change in Australia's treatment of, and public discourse surrounding Indigenous people. The Foundation supported Guardian Australia's hire of an Indigenous affairs specialist to meet that goal.

That funding allowed Guardian Australia to launch independent investigative reporting into Indigenous affairs that could really "shift the dial" on issues that none of the media were properly reporting on - and they couldn't have done without the help of The Balnaves Foundation.

The funding allowed investigations into issues that weren't being properly reported at the time. Not only has that success encouraged more mainstream Indigenous reporting but the work has created great impact in parliament and public discourse.

The discoveries made have been read by millions of mainstream readers, referenced by other mainstream media and politicians fighting for change in parliament, and by campaigners and advocates. They have also been used in teaching and curriculums, shining a light on areas of concern.

The work is Indigenous-led, centring Indigenous voices and cover the stories Indigenous people want reported - and have brought these issues to many millions of Australians.



# INTERNATIONAL PHILANTHROPY AWARD

The International Philanthropy Award recognises significant achievements in Australian international philanthropy. It is for grants allocated to domestically based organisations operating overseas that work towards achieving a better and more sustainable future for all through a global measurement framework e.g. the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



The selection panel reviewed nominees for:

- Catalytic use of philanthropic funds to achieve impact towards the SDGs internationally
- Partnership between the grant maker and recipient which is true to the mission and values of the recipient
- Leadership in contributing to more and/or better international philanthropy by Australians



This award is presented in partnership with the Australian International Development Network and the Australian Council for International Development

# **Selection Panel**

#### **Eve Omala**

PFE African Grassroots

# **Angus Grinham**

Ripple Foundation

#### **Anna Demant**

Planet Wheeler

# Sophie Seck

Australian Council for International Development



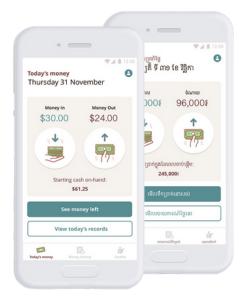
# Accenture Australia and Good Return

International Philanthropy Award recipients

Since 2015, Accenture's partnership with Good Return has enabled more than 7,500 people in Cambodia and Nepal to complete Good Return's financial capability training program. The program has demonstrated strong behaviour change outcomes, along with increases in the knowledge and awareness, confidence and financial well-being of participants, the vast majority of whom are women. This empowers them economically, creating resilient households and small businesses that support their journey out of poverty.

Accenture staff worked with Good Return to develop an eLearning platform for digital delivery of training, as well as building a digital app that allows low-income people to track their money and manage their household and small business finances.

Throughout this period, what has made Accenture's support for Good Return stand out is the intensive engagement of staff at all levels, from the managing director and Foundation Board members, to the executive team, and staff across the company- both in Australia and internationally.







# **AWARD SELECTION PANELS**

# Philanthropy Australia Awards

Jenny Wheatley, Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation Amanda Miller, Impact Generation Partners Kirsty Allen, The Myer Foundation Simon Lewis, GoodWolf Vedran Drakulic OAM, Gandel Philanthropy Wanhee Lee, Evans and Partners

# Community Philanthropy Award

Dylan Smith, Australian Community Philanthropy and Chair of Network Development Committee

Dr Catherine Brown OAM, Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation

John Carey, Red Earth Community Foundation

Lola Cowle, Tasmanian Community Fund

Natalie Egleton, Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal

Vedran Drakulic OAM, Hobsons Bay Community Fund and Gandel Philanthropy

Hayden Raysmith AM, Australian Communities Foundation, and Hobsons Bay Community Fund

Gerlinde Scholz, Australian Community Philanthropy

# **Environmental Philanthropy Award**

Debbie Dadon, Besen Family Foundation
Malinda Wink, The Caledonia Foundation
Robin Craig, The Jaramas Foundation
David Rickards, Carrawa Foundation
Bruce McGregor, Melliodora Fund - ACF subfund
Amanda Martin OAM, Australian Environmental Grantmakers Network

# **Gender-wise Philanthropy Award**

Eve Mahlab AO, Australian Women Donors Network Dr Victor Sojo, University of Melbourne Krystian Seibert, Swinburne University of Technology Catherine Petterson, Diversity Council of Australia

# **Indigenous Philanthropy Award**

Tammy Abbott, Ninti One Dr Amanda Schiller, Ninti One Rod Reeve, Ninti One

# International Philanthropy Award

Eve Omala, PFE African Grassroots Angus Grinham, Ripple Foundation Anna Demant, Planet Wheeler Sophie Seck, Australian Council For International Development



# **AWARD PARTNERS & SPONSORS**



Better Philanthropy Award Partner



Bolder Philanthropy Award Partner









Community Philanthropy Award Partners



Environmental Philanthropy Award Partner



Gender-wise Philanthropy Award Partner



ndigenous Philanthropy Award Partner





International Philanthropy Award Partners

