

# 2016

## Philanthropy Awards

Celebrating and recognising  
extraordinary achievements  
in Australian philanthropy.

The logo for philanthropy australia, featuring the words "philanthropy" and "australia" in a white sans-serif font, stacked vertically, inside a blue square. The background of the entire page is red with a white halftone dot pattern that fades out towards the bottom right.

philanthropy  
australia

# Serving the philanthropic community to achieve more and better philanthropy.

[www.philanthropy.org.au](http://www.philanthropy.org.au)

## Message from Philanthropy Australia



We are proud to bring you the 2016 Philanthropy Awards, recognising and celebrating the great achievements of so many in our sector who are working to create lasting and positive change.

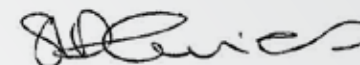
This is our second Philanthropy Awards, our first, held in 2014, celebrated Leading Philanthropist and Emerging Philanthropist of the year. In 2016 we have expanded the awards to five categories: Leading Philanthropist; Emerging Philanthropist; Best Large Grant; Best Small Grant, and; Gender-wise Philanthropy Award.

Our thanks go to NAB for their ongoing support of Philanthropy Australia, including as a generous host of the Philanthropy Awards and to the Gender-wise Award partner, FIIG Securities.

This booklet shares the winners, along with a select few nominees that we're highlighting as special mentions in the Best Large Grant category. Indeed, all nominees for this year's awards were outstanding, the judges had a very tough job – and our thanks go to them.

It is inspiring to see so many impressive examples of the ways more and better philanthropy have been created by individuals and organisations across Australia.

We congratulate all the nominees, finalists and winners for the 2016 Philanthropy Awards.



**Sarah Davies**

CEO – Philanthropy Australia  
19 April 2016

## Message from the Chair, Judging Panel



An experienced and qualified panel reviewed nominations for these awards, choosing the most appropriate finalists in each of the categories when weighed against the criteria. Judges on the panel are philanthropic leaders and also Full Members of Philanthropy Australia

Our panel came to the table to highlight achievements in contemporary philanthropy and to provide us with a snapshot of the breadth and diversity of efforts across Australia to create more and better philanthropy.

We found many examples of creative, technically strong and philosophically sound approaches to giving. We also found impressive examples of how people used philanthropic dollars to harness new opportunities, and address some of the 'wicked' social challenges that require urgent attention in Australia today. The diversity of issues, ideas, geographic locations, style and innovation were all most heartening.

Our task was not an easy one, with many 'winners' among the collection. We were mindful that there was no 'best', and that there is more than one way for people and ideas to be deemed successful in claims against the criteria. Such is the multi-faceted nature of philanthropy.

It was a privilege and a pleasure to deliberate on the range of nominations across all categories – over 50 in total. I am grateful to the judging panel for their astute and willing engagement in the process of selection, and also to the staff who were efficient and responsive in their support. We appreciate the time and effort that many people invested in lodging nominations, and are encouraged by the response from members who are embracing this initiative as an important way to strengthen our sector and promote effective giving.

There is much to learn from the work that is being celebrated through these awards. The stories captured are a rich harvest for professional development and thought leadership and appropriately challenge us to constantly seek improvement and reflection as custodians of social wealth.

**Genevieve Timmons**

Chair, Judging Panel  
Philanthropy Australia Council Member

## Judging Panel

Our thanks go to the panel of experienced and qualified philanthropic leaders who gave their time, knowledge and expertise to review and award the 2016 Philanthropy Award winners.

**Genevieve Timmons**  
Philanthropy Australia  
Council (Chair)

**Peter Winneke**  
Philanthropy Australia  
Council

**Sylvia Admans**  
RE Ross Trust

**Sean Barrett**  
Origin Foundation

**Emily Massy-Greene**  
New Generation of Giving  
Program

## Gender-wise Award Judging Panel

**Eve Mahlab AO**  
Australian Women  
Donors Network

**Genevieve Timmons**  
Philanthropy Australia  
Council

**Professor John Fitzgerald**  
Swinburne's Asia Pacific  
Centre for Social Investment  
and Philanthropy / Centre  
for Social Impact

**Lisa Annese**  
Diversity Council  
of Australia

**Victor Sojo**  
Centre for Ethical  
Leadership, Ormond  
College, University of  
Melbourne

## 2016 Leading Philanthropist Award



### Audette Exel AO

Founder and Chair of the Adara Group, NSW with international offices in USA, Nepal, Uganda and Bermuda

**Philanthropic innovator and pioneer in the 'business for purpose' field.**

In 1998 Audette Exel pioneered a global 'business for purpose'. The Adara Group's global development projects are run to improve the lives of people in poverty through a partnership that bridges the worlds of financial services and not-for-profits. 100% of core support costs are provided by the Adara business and other core support partners.

In 2015, Adara Partners was launched introducing the innovative ideas of pro bono and skills-based giving into their financial services work.

By the end of 2015, the Adara businesses had donated more than AU \$9.3 million to Adara Development projects. Since inception, the lives of more than 100,000 people living in poverty have been improved by Adara, with a reach of 50,000 people globally today.

Audette has been widely acknowledged for her achievements including: Telstra 2012 NSW Commonwealth Bank Business Owner Award, Telstra 2012 NSW Business Woman of the Year, Australian Financial Review's 100 Women of Influence in Australia in 2012, Economic Justice and Community Impact Award from the Young Presidents Organisation Social Enterprise Networks in 2010, and elected a Global Leader for Tomorrow by The World Economic Forum in 1995.

## 2016 Emerging Philanthropist Award



### Gemma Salteri

CAGES Foundation, NSW

**Next generation philanthropic leader and public voice for the democratisation of giving and impact investment.**

Gemma Salteri is an Executive Director of CAGES Foundation, a Family Foundation and Private Ancillary Fund focused on Indigenous children. Due to Gemma's leadership, CAGES is also a leading proponent of impact investment, with 20% of CAGES' corpus currently invested for impact.

Gemma is a board member of The Funding Network, and an active member of Philanthropy Australia's New Generation of Giving program.

Gemma is helping to re-define philanthropy as an inclusive democracy where people have a platform to speak about issues that affect society.



## 2016 Best Large Grant of the Year Award

**Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation, NSW**  
For CareerTrackers – creating career pathways for Indigenous Australian university students.



CareerTrackers is a unique, national not-for-profit organisation established to create professional private sector career pathways for Indigenous Australian university students.

In 2012 VFFF took an informed risk to back CareerTrackers during its proof of concept phase, with an initial grant of \$150,000 to support start-up costs, anticipating financial self-sustainability in three years.

VFFF and CareerTrackers worked closely to design a robust program which would support students from Indigenous communities by increasing their preparedness for private sector careers, creating an alumni of community and business role models and developing CareerTrackers' operational capacity and sustainability.

CareerTrackers today supports 1,138 students across 86 employers and has expanded to 37 universities across Australia. A highlight is the creation of a network of Indigenous professionals nationwide.

CareerTrackers reached self-sustainability and quickly outgrew the need for philanthropic support. It successfully established CareerTrackers 10x10 programs, an innovative model of 10-year partnerships with 10 major companies and 10 leading Universities. With 14 companies signed up, CareerTrackers has a guarantee of \$20 million in revenue and will create employment opportunities for 3,500 interns over a 10-year period.

The learnings of CareerTrackers have now inspired CareerSeekers – a new initiative that applies the CareerTrackers model to help create employment opportunities for Asylum Seekers and Refugees to Australia.

[www.careertrackers.org.au](http://www.careertrackers.org.au)

## 2016 Best Large Grant of the Year Award

**James & Diana Ramsay Foundation and The Wyatt Trust, SA**  
For working together to enhance school retention, education re-engagement and building resilience and wellbeing.



In 2011, following significant strategic planning work with Social Ventures Australia, The Wyatt Trust focused its grant funding strategy on enhancing school retention, education re-engagement and building resilience through partnership with 26 public high schools in low socio-economic regions in South Australia.

The strategy focused on creating student scholarships, managed by the partner schools, aimed at addressing barriers to education in areas of highest disadvantage, particularly Indigenous Australian students.

From 2011-2016 more than \$2 million in grant funds has helped support nearly 1,000 students per year to achieve the target outcomes of school retention to completion of Year 11 and/or transition to TAFE, which is tracking at 80%.

Students with a disadvantage at partner schools are now receiving specialist support through engagement in school-to-work transition partner programs that are integral to improving outcomes for at-risk students. Both the James & Diana Ramsay Foundation and The Wyatt Trust individually fund these programs.

Drawing on the growing evidence in the resilience, wellbeing and positive psychology fields, grant funds of \$1.1m over three years have been committed by the Foundation and Trust. Following this commitment they have embarked on the Resilient Futures SA project in partnership with the South Australian Government and the South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute which will assist 850 young people, particularly in the northern suburbs where the closure of the Holden manufacturing plant will have a significant impact on children and their families.

[www.wyatt.org.au](http://www.wyatt.org.au)

[www.jdrfoundation.com.au](http://www.jdrfoundation.com.au)

## 2016 Special Mention Large Grants

A number of Large Grants nominees presented compelling programs that have significant impact, we recognise them here.

### **Cybec Foundation, VIC**

#### **For Family Life's Community Bubs program**

An innovative early-intervention solution enabling at-risk babies to live safely in the care of their families with long term support from the community.

[www.cybec.com.au](http://www.cybec.com.au)

### **Tim Fairfax Family Foundation, QLD**

#### **For the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal's Tackling Tough Times Together program**

A tailored place-based grants program providing resources for rural communities to support one another through persistent drought conditions.

[www.frrr.org.au](http://www.frrr.org.au)

### **Multiple Partners:**

**The Snow Foundation, English Family Foundation, The Ian Potter Foundation, Nelson Meers Foundation, Mundango Charitable Trust, Sidney Myer-Fund, Maranatha Trust, and a private foundation.**

#### **For Good360 – funding for the Greater Good**

Multiple funders' vision to support an innovative not-for-profit and passionate social entrepreneur.

[www.good360.org.au](http://www.good360.org.au)

### **The Gwen & Edna Jones Foundation, Warrnambool, VIC** **For Peter's Project**

Inspiring partnership between philanthropy, the community and government to build a regional cancer care centre.

[www.jonesfoundation.com.au](http://www.jonesfoundation.com.au)

## 2016 Best Small Grant of the Year Award



### **Australian Communities Foundation**

#### **For its Refugee and Asylum Seeker Giving Circle, VIC**

Australian Communities Foundation (ACF) has supported organisations working with asylum seekers for more than 10 years, providing 99 grants totalling \$785,132.

A significant growth in funding in this area prompted ACF to launch the Refugee and Asylum Seeker Donors Circle in early 2014. The Circle enables ACF donors to participate in peer-to-peer sessions and explore with not-for-profits the role philanthropy can play in assisting refugees and asylum seekers.

The development of a community of givers by ACF has enabled the achievement of greater impact with small amounts of money, including a small but powerful and impactful grant of \$30,000 annually over three years to support the establishment of the Refugee Rights Unit at the Human Rights Law Centre (HRLC). This grant was made possible by the collective effort of four ACF sub funds in the circle including, The Espero Fund, Assia Altman sub Fund, The Fairness Fund and Beecher Family Charitable Fund.

Through support of this Unit the HRLC has built a prominent and credible voice on refugee and asylum seeker human rights including exposing the inhumane conditions in offshore detention centres, supporting the High Court case on offshore detention centres and undertaking case work for individuals.

The Unit's coherent and clear message focussing on moral issues has helped to change the tide in public attitudes toward offshore detention particularly for women and children.

[www.hrlc.org.au](http://www.hrlc.org.au)

[www.communityfoundation.org.au](http://www.communityfoundation.org.au)

## 2016 Gender-wise Philanthropy Award

**The Barr Family Foundation, VIC**  
For their support of McAuley Community Services for Women's pioneering Court Support 4 Kids program.

McAuley Community Service's Court Support 4 Kids program provides a trained worker to look after children while their mothers conduct vital Court business, seeking safety and justice.

The program, which commenced in 2014, was funded by the Barr Family Foundation for a trial period and further year, benefiting 553 children and 55 women to date.

This funding focuses recognition on the vital importance of unimpeded access to legal support services for the many women affected by family violence.

The Barr Family Foundation has a deep commitment to women's issues. They saw a need in an unglamorous and unobvious place and sought to fill it by placing trust in the knowledge and experience of McAuley Community Services for Women.

[www.mcauleycsw.org.au](http://www.mcauleycsw.org.au)

"I have glimpsed my happy, gregarious and infectious little girl. There are no words to describe the positive effect the program has had on her young life at a time when there isn't a lot that is stable and *safe*."

—Mother

## 2016 Gender-wise Philanthropy Award

**John Dyson and Rose Gilder**  
Trustees of the Dyson Bequest, VIC

**In recognition of their leadership in the area of gender equity initiatives for female scientists.**

Walter and Eliza Hall Institute (WEHI) recognises there is a gender imbalance at senior levels, despite its leading efforts to rectify the under-representation of women. This is representative of the medical research profession globally.



Access to convenient, quality childcare has been identified as a major barrier to the progress of women in medical research. The Dyson Bequest established a founding gift of \$1 million to support the construction of a childcare centre on WEHI's Parkville site, as well as a five-year Centenary Fellowship supporting a young female scientist. Their intention is to create positive social change by unleashing the potential of women in science.

The Dyson Bequest has shown leadership with these gifts, which have created momentum, retained talent, championed change, set an example and attracted further philanthropic and government funding.

[www.wehi.edu.au](http://www.wehi.edu.au)

**Acknowledgements**

Philanthropy Australia would like to thank our partners and supporters for helping to bring the Philanthropy Awards to you.

**Gender-wise Award Partner:****FIIG Securities**[www.fiig.com.au](http://www.fiig.com.au)

Philanthropy Australia would also like to thank the **Australian Women Donors Network** for their partnership on this award category.

[www.womendonors.org.au](http://www.womendonors.org.au)**Host Partner:****National Australia Bank**

Our thanks to NAB for their continued generous support of Philanthropy Australia, including as host of the 2016 Philanthropy Awards.

[www.nab.com.au](http://www.nab.com.au)**2017 Philanthropy Awards Partnerships**

If you would like to play a role in supporting us to celebrate and recognise the outstanding philanthropic achievements of individuals and organisations across Australia, please contact Sarah Davies, CEO, Philanthropy Australia: [sdavies@philanthropy.org.au](mailto:sdavies@philanthropy.org.au).



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For more about the 2016 Philanthropy Awards go to:  
**[www.australianphilanthropyawards.com.au](http://www.australianphilanthropyawards.com.au)**