



HART Awards 2021 Call for Nominations

The HART Awards, unique in the Victorian landscape, recognise local Victorian initiatives and champions that make a real difference in their community and that contribute to local reconciliation outcomes.

Nominations are sought for initiatives that demonstrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and non-Aboriginal people working together and programs that have contributed to relationships, respect and understanding and demonstrate a commitment to Aboriginal self-determination.

Winners each receive a handcrafted HART Award. The winners of the Community Category and the Schools/Early Years Category will also receive \$1000 each to support their future reconciliation work.

The shortlisted and winning initiatives will be profiled in a booklet and promoted by the VLGA, Reconciliation Victoria, Maggolee and Bank Australia to provide inspiration for other organisations and communities.

The 2021 HART Awards winners will be announced on Friday 4 June 2021.

Nominations close at 4 pm Sunday 21 March 2021.

2021 HART Awards Categories

- Local Government
- Community Organisation/Group
- Schools and Early Years Centres

Background

The HART Awards are a partnership between the Victorian Local Governance Association (VLGA) and Reconciliation Victoria supported by Bank Australia and Local Government Victoria (LGV). The Awards recognise local governments, community organisations and schools/early years centres that are **Helping Achieve Reconciliation Together** - Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people working together contributing to building and strengthening ongoing relationships, respect and understanding between each other, particularly those initiatives that contribute to ongoing local reconciliation outcomes that deserve to be celebrated.

Quotes for attribution:

Aislinn Martin, Reconciliation Victoria Co-Chair

Following on from the success of the 2020 HART Awards, which we were able to deliver online during COVID to an audience of over 1500 people, we are thrilled to be able to open nominations for the 2021 HART Awards. Although this past year has been a challenging time for all, communities have found strength in working together and we look forward to seeing

reconciliation



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and celebrating some of the innovative work that these communities have been doing to advance meaningful reconciliation in Victoria.

Cr Lambros Tapinos, VLGA President

The HART Awards are the highlight of our calendar. The excitement from the sector and the community is palpable as they prepare their nominations from the outstanding partnerships that have been are being created in the name of Reconciliation. Councils across Victoria have made their commitment to Reconciliation a part of their Councillor Induction Program - something that all councils take seriously. I look forward to the nominations coming in and then the celebration in June.

ENDS:

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