

Coffs Coast Youth Awards 2020

GUIDELINES

Summary:

The Coffs Coast Youth Awards 2020 is an initiative of Blue Sky Community Services, Groundworks Youth Centre. This is an exciting opportunity for young people to be publicly acknowledged for the many positive contributions they make to our community. The Awards will also enable young people to recognise and publicly thank youth workers, coaches, teachers or any other professionals who have supported or inspired them to make a positive difference in their lives.

The Awards aim to:

- inspire, promote and recognise the efforts and achievements of young people
- enhance the public's perception of young people
- celebrate the diversity of young people
- identify the different types of support available to young people
- recognise and reward the work of professionals who work with young people.

Award Categories and Prizes:

Award	Sponsored By	Prize
Young Person of the Year	Coffs Harbour City Council and Blue Sky Community Services Groundworks Youth Centre	\$500 voucher
Resilient Young Person of the Year	headspace Coffs Harbour	\$200 voucher
Creative Young Person of the Year	Enterprise and Training Company (ETC)	\$200 voucher
Community Minded Young Person of the Year	Galambila Aboriginal Health Service	\$200 voucher
Youth Worker of the Year – Young Person's Choice	Service for the Treatment and Rehabilitation of Torture and Trauma Survivors (STARTTS)	\$200 voucher
Youth Worker of the Year – Peer's Choice	Uniting Coffs Harbour	\$200 voucher

Judging:

- All nominations need to be completed and returned by **5pm on Friday, 26th June 2020** – see below for more details.
- A carefully selected panel will judge each nomination based on the information provided in the nomination form.
- The finalists will be contacted on **Friday, July 3rd 2020**.
- The winners will be announced and prizes awarded via a live Zoom meeting **2:00pm to 3:00pm on Thursday, 9th July 2020**.

Criteria:

- All people nominating someone for an award, and the person they are nominating, must be living, studying or working in the Coffs Coast area (Coffs Harbour, Red Rock to Bonville and west to Nana Glen/Lowanna, Dorrigo, Bellingen, Nambucca Valley)
- **Young Person of the Year Awards:**
 - People of any age can nominate a young person for one of these awards. The young person must be aged 12 to 25 (inclusive).
- **Youth Worker Awards**
 - Young Person's Choice - Only a young person aged 12 to 25 (inclusive) can nominate someone for this award. The youth worker/youth professional for this award can be any age.
 - Peer's Choice - 'Peers' and nominees can include community service workers, teachers, coaches, mentors or anyone working with young people. The youth worker/youth professional for this award can be any age.
- Signed consent to share information contained in the application must be obtained from all nominees. If the nominee is under 18 years of age, a parent or guardian must also sign.
- All fields in the application form need to be completed (including the consent of the nominee). A video (maximum 4 minutes) can also be included to support the application.

How to enter:

- 1) Read the criteria and guidelines for each category carefully. Contact Zena (see below) if you require more information.
- 2) Complete the nomination form.
- 3) Email, post or drop the nomination form to Zena Keidge by **5pm on Friday, 26th June 2020**.

Zena Keidge | Program Officer | Groundworks Youth Centre
2/222 Harbour Drive | PO Box 799 | Coffs Harbour
E: zenakeidge@bluesky.org.au | (02) 5632 4020 | 0437 509 989

AWARD CATEGORIES

YOUNG PERSON OF THE YEAR

Sponsored by Blue Sky Community Services, Groundworks Youth Centre & Coffs Harbour City Council

This award is for a young person who excels in multiple categories and inspires others with their actions.

This category recognises a young person who is outstanding and exceptional in our community.

This could be a person who demonstrates any of the following:

- Significant contribution to the community
- An inspirational role model for the community
- A person who has excelled in school, sport or in a professional manner
- A person that can always be relied on to support people in need
- A person who has overcome personal challenges and obstacles in their lives while maintaining a positive attitude.

RESILIENT YOUNG PERSON OF THE YEAR

Sponsored by headspace Coffs Harbour

This award is for a young person who has achieved success and personal growth through adversity.

This category recognises the strength that it takes for young people to persevere despite personal challenges and inspire us all to do the same.

This could be a young person who may have demonstrated any of the following:

- Persevering with applications and other actions despite many knockbacks and challenges to secure housing or employment or other life changing events
- Maintaining a positive attitude or bouncing back despite 'bad things' happening in their lives
- Showing empathy, fairness and respect for others who may need support despite being in a 'not too good' situation themselves
- Managing or overcoming a personal challenge e.g. an addiction, being in an unsafe environment, or a mental health condition.

CREATIVE YOUNG PERSON OF THE YEAR:

Sponsored by Enterprise and Training Company (ETC)

This award is for a young person who shows exceptional achievement in art, music, literacy, video or dance.

This category recognises a young person who has demonstrated initiative, innovation and made a positive community contribution through drama, visual arts, performing arts, technical support, debating, literacy pursuits or music.

This may have been demonstrated through any of the following:

- Being supportive and actively involved in the visual arts or performing arts industry
- Making a particular effort to mentor or teach others in their chosen activity
- Using their talent to volunteer or make a contribution to the community.

COMMUNITY-MINDED YOUNG PERSON OF THE YEAR:

Sponsored by Galambila Aboriginal Health Service

This award is for a young person who has made a positive impact in their community by volunteering their time and/or resources to promote and improve their community.

This category recognises a young person who has shown outstanding dedication through their involvement or participation in the community and has made a significant difference.

This could be a person who demonstrates any of the following:

- A person committed to the improvement of the wellbeing of others, e.g. helping others in a time of need, working with a community group, a church group, school group or charity organisation that creates a stronger caring community
- Someone who inspires and/or empowers others to add value or participate voluntarily in the community with a positive, caring attitude
- A young person involved in animal welfare, social or environmental projects.

YOUTH WORKER OF THE YEAR – YOUNG PERSON’S CHOICE

Sponsored by Service for the Treatment and Rehabilitation of Torture and Trauma Survivors (STARTTS)

This award is for a youth-related professional or community worker who has made a valuable and positive contribution to the lives of young people in our community.

This category is for young people to nominate a person who is an inspiring influence and role model for young people.

This could be a person who demonstrates any of the following:

- Provides a fresh and inspirational approach to working with young people
- Can always be relied on to support young people and be a great role model
- Is always working to improve the support, programs and opportunities for young people in the area
- Supports young people to achieve their goals, to access services or to change their life around
- Inspires, mentors or coaches young people.

A Youth Worker can include:

- Youth or community service workers
- Teachers
- Coaches
- Mentors
- Program organisers
- Community members

YOUTH WORKER OF THE YEAR – PEER’S CHOICE

Sponsored by Uniting Coffs Harbour

This award is also for a youth-related professional or community worker who has made a valuable and positive contribution to the lives of young people in our community.

This category is to provide peers and work colleagues the opportunity to nominate a person they recognise as having a positive influence on young people, and who is a leading advocate for young people in our area.

This could be a person who demonstrates any of the following:

- Provides a fresh approach to working with young people
- Improves the support and programs for young people in the area
- Supports young people to achieve their goals, to access services or to change their life around
- Inspires, mentors or coaches young people.

A Youth Worker can include:

- Youth or community service workers
- Teachers
- Coaches
- Mentors
- Program organisers
- Community members