

The Hon Gayle Tierney MLC Minister for Training and Skills Minister for Higher Education



Tuesday, 25 August 2020

## FINALISTS ANNOUNCED FOR 66<sup>TH</sup> VICTORIAN TRAINING AWARDS

The Victorian Training Awards 2020 finalists highlight the incredible talent in the state's vocational training sector.

Minister for Training and Skills and Higher Education Gayle Tierney today announced the 35 finalists for the awards, now in their 66th year.

Finalists have been named across 13 award categories, which include awards for individuals, employers, industry collaboration and training providers.

The awards recognise and honour the outstanding achievements of individuals and organisations in the Victorian TAFE and training sector.

Among the finalists is Kangan Institute fashion design student Bethany Peele, whose innovative designs have been a part of the Melbourne Fashion Week. She has also designed eyewear for SpecSavers.

Box Hill Institute is a finalist in three categories including Inclusive Training Provider of the Year, School-based Apprentice, and Trainee of the Year.

Bendigo TAFE has finalists in the Apprentice of the Year and Teacher/Trainer of the Year categories.

Other finalists include GOTAFE, South West TAFE, SuniTAFE and IBM.

Finalists come from across Melbourne, as well as regional locations such as Bendigo, Colac, Wodonga, Mildura, and Shepparton.

Due to coronavirus restrictions, this year winners will be announced as part of a new, virtual format.

Some winners will also have the opportunity to represent Victoria at the Australian Training Awards in November.

Winners in each category will receive \$5000 in prize money.

For the full list of finalists visit education.vic.gov.au/about/awards

## Quotes attributable to Minister for Training and Skills and Higher Education Gayle Tierney

"Despite a challenging year, these Awards continue to highlight the strength of Victoria's vocational education and training sector and we look forward to sharing these successes over the coming weeks and months."

"The Victorian Training Awards bring together students, teachers, training providers, employers and industry representatives, sharing in a training system that meets the needs of all Victorians."