

# Media Release

**The Hon Gayle Tierney MLC**

Deputy Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council

Minister for Training and Skills

Minister for Higher Education



Sunday, 17 October 2021

## VICTORIAN TRAINING AWARDS 2021 WINNERS ANNOUNCED

The winners of the 67<sup>th</sup> Victorian Training Awards have been announced, recognising the state's best apprentices, students, teachers, trainers and employers.

Winners have been named across six award categories for individuals, four for employers and four for training organisations as well as the Industry Collaboration Award.

AMES Australia Chief Executive Catherine Scarth has been awarded the Lynne Kosky Memorial Award for Lifetime Achievement for her work providing world-class programs that help newly arrived refugees, asylum seekers and migrants start a happy and healthy life in Australia.

The winners represent all parts of metropolitan and regional Victoria, including Bendigo, Mildura and Cobram.

Institutions and businesses have also been recognised, including Terra Firma Laboratories, CYP Design and Construction and Swell Constructions.

This year's awards received the highest number of nominations in more than a decade, with individual award categories proving most popular among nominees.

Award recipients have received \$5,000 prize money and a selection of award recipients will have the opportunity to represent Victoria at the Australian Training Awards in November.

The event is supported by principal partner Apprenticeship Employment Network (AEN) and the Global Apprenticeship Network (GAN Australia).

The Government has made a record \$3.2 billion investment to rebuild TAFE and support universities and higher education to ensure Victorians have access to high quality education and rewarding career pathways.

The *Victorian Budget 2021/22* includes a \$383.8 million investment in the sector to ensure more Victorians get the training they need for in-demand jobs. Find out more at [education.vic.gov.au/vta](https://www.education.vic.gov.au/vta).

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

*"Congratulations to the winners of this year's Victorian Training Awards – their contribution to our community is incredible, whether they are a student or an industry leader."*

*"The Victorian skills and training sector has shown great strength through the challenges of the pandemic – and the Victorian Training Awards is a great acknowledgment of our world-class industry."*

## Victorian Training Awards 2021 winners:

- **Apprentice of the Year** – Andrew Jan, Bendigo TAFE, Certificate III in Plumbing
- **Trainee of the Year** – Samantha Brown, Federation University TAFE, Diploma of Nursing
- **Vocational Student of the Year** – Samantha Daly, Swinburne University of Technology, Certificate IV in Mental Health
- **School-based Apprentice of the Year** – Laura Davidson, Sunraysia Institute of TAFE and Mildura Senior College, Certificate III in Hairdressing
- **Koorie Student of the Year** – Lucas Price, Victorian Aboriginal Community Services Association Limited, Certificate IV in Community Services
- **Teacher/Trainer of the Year** – Julie Kramer, Bendigo TAFE
- **Small Employer of the Year** – Swell Constructions, Mornington
- **Medium Employer of the Year** – CPE Construction, Cobram
- **Large Employer of the Year** – Metro Trains
- **Employer Award for Apprenticeship Development** – Terra Firma Laboratories, Pakenham
- **Community Training Provider of the Year** – Williamstown Community and Education Centre, Williamstown
- **Inclusive Training Provider of the Year** – Box Hill Institute
- **Small Training Provider of the Year** – Builders Academy Australia
- **Large Training Provider of the Year** – William Angliss Institute
- **Industry Collaboration Award** – CYP Design & Construction / Holmesglen Institute Collaboration
- **Lynne Kosky Memorial Award for Lifetime Achievement** – Catherine Scarth, CEO, AMES Australia