

Media Release



Monday 28 October 2019

Nominate a local hero for an Australia Day Award

Do you know a local citizen or group who has made an outstanding contribution to the community in 2019? Nominate them for an Australia Day Award!

The annual awards recognise the outstanding efforts of residents who dedicate themselves to making a positive difference in our community. Applications are now open for 2020 for the following five categories:

- **Camden Citizen of the Year**, which is for residents who have made noteworthy contributions during the year and/or given outstanding service to the community in a non-work-related capacity over a number of years;
- **Young Citizen of the Year**, which is for residents who have given outstanding service and made a positive impact on the community in 2019 or longer;
- **Sports Achievement Award**, which recognises a committed sportsperson, sporting team, coach, volunteer or official, whose actions inspire and encourage others whilst enriching the Camden community through sport, healthy living or physical activity;
- **Community Group Award**, which recognises groups whose tireless work and close contact with the community encourages diversity, inclusivity and continues to make Camden a great place to live; and
- **Arts and Cultural Award**, which will go to a person or group who have made an influential or valuable contribution to the city through any art form, including drama, visual art, music, verse, dance, cultural heritage, expression, literature, film and multimedia.

Long-time Camden resident, Sana Al-Ahmar, was awarded the first-ever Arts and Cultural Award in 2019, for her strong commitment to, and key role in, promoting and advocating for cultural diversity.

“I was surprised to be nominated – I had never thought about awards and was very happy doing the work I do,” Ms Al-Ahmar said.

“To be nominated made all that hard work worth it. I was happy, thankful and encouraged to continue what I do with even more passion.

“There are so many people that are doing so much in the Camden area and their work needs to be recognised. I would encourage everyone to nominate people who are making a difference to the people around them as they’re the ones who will help our community, new and existing, to continue to develop.”

Mayor of Camden, Cr Theresa Fedeli, said nominations would close on Friday 13 December.

“This is such a terrific chance to pay tribute to those in our community who contribute to the lives of others,” Cr Fedeli said.

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“These people are often too humble to nominate themselves, so it’s a chance for families, friends, parents, teachers and mentors to say, not only ‘thank you’, but also ‘keep up the amazing work’.”

The winners will be announced on Australia Day, Sunday 26 January 2020, at a public ceremony at the Camden Civic Centre.

For more information, including eligibility, and to nominate your local hero, visit bit.ly/AusDay2020Nomination

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