



New South Wales honours its champions of small business

13 October 2007: Small businesses in New South Wales were celebrated at the Australian Small Business Champion Awards ceremony on Saturday 13 September at The Westin, Sydney.

The national awards program, proudly supported by Commonwealth Bank Local Business Banking, the Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources and managed by Precedent Productions, is designed to support and recognise the most outstanding small businesses in each state and territory and their contribution to the local community.

New South Wales businesses delivered a variety of high quality entries, with winners across a broad range of industry categories from professional services and information technology, to fashion and tourism.

Fran Bailey, Minister for Small Business and Tourism, said, "The Australian Small Business Champion Awards celebrate the achievements of our 1.88 million small businesses. Small business drives innovation, exports and jobs growth. Since June 2003, the number of employing small businesses has increased by 31 per cent. Small businesses provide employment for almost 3.7 million people, accounting for almost half of private sector employment".

"I congratulate not only the winners and finalists, but all small businesses in New South Wales which display passion, innovation and entrepreneurial spirit," said Minister Bailey.

Arnie Selvarajah, General Manager, Local Business Banking, Mid Eastern Australia, said, "Tonight we have seen an outstanding showcase from some of Australia's best small businesses. New South Wales has a thriving small business sector, and it's fantastic to have the opportunity to recognise and reward them for all their hard work."

"The Commonwealth Bank is dedicated to supporting Australian business and recognises the vital role small business owners play in the country's economy," said Mr Selvarajah.

Winner of the 'Children's Services' award and prestigious 'Small Business Champion Entrepreneur' award was businesswoman Dannielle Miller, founder and co-director of Enlighten Education. Enlighten Education in Kellyville aims to deliver innovative half and full day workshops aimed at empowering and inspiring teenage girls. Programs are targeted at Years 5 through to 12, and focus on helping young women develop self-esteem and confidence.

Other awards presented on the night included the 'Agribusiness Award', which went to The Green Horticultural Group. Located at Round Corner, Dural, the family owned business has been providing total sports field and landscape management solutions for 20 years. Services offered include irrigation and water management, turf renovation, envirospraying and site rejuvenation.

Taking out the 'Jewellery Store Award' was Mosman based Dracakis Jewellers. Founded by Paul and Helen Dracakis in 1980, the business has been creating uniquely designed and stunning jewellery for over 25 years. Paul and Helen's three sons and daughter are also involved in the business, each bringing their own distinctive artistic flair and continuing in the family tradition of excellence in design and quality.



The 'Health & Fitness Centre' award went to Ignite Health, a boutique exercise and nutrition studio located in Surry Hills. Ignite Health encourages clients to achieve their health and fitness goals through both studio training and personal training sessions. A four week nutrition program is also available to help clients take control of their food, including weekly consultations with an "Energy Coach".

Precedent Productions Managing Director, Steve Loe, said, "The small business community in NSW has displayed an impressive showcase of winners this evening. This concludes the final state awards night and we have some great companies now vying for the overall Australian titles, to be announced at the national ceremony in November."

For further information about the Australian Small Business Champion Awards visit www.businesschampions.com.au or call the Local Business Banking team on 13 26 07, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Winners of the New South Wales Small Business Champion Awards

CATEGORY	WINNER
Agribusiness	The Green Horticultural Group (Round Corner)
Automotive Services	Auto Advantage (Wickham)
Bakery/Cake Store	Quinty Cake and Bakehouse (Uranquinty)
Beauty Services	Chic Skincare Clinic (Fairfield)
Business Services	Wisdom Learning (Fairbairn)
Café	Gecko Espresso (Cobar)
Children's Services	Enlighten Education (Kellyville)
Fashion	Angelo's Shoes (Manuka)
Florist	Floriart (Lugarno)
Fresh Food	The Brothers Fish Market (Seven Hills)
Gift Services	Wrapt (Castle Hill)
Gourmet Food/Takeaway Store	Fully Tabooly Kebab Stop (Pemulwuy)
Hairdressing	Just Liberated (Adamstown Heights)
Health & Fitness Centre	Ignite Health (Surry Hills)
Home & Garden Improvement	Splendour Interiors (Camden)
Hotel/Bottle Shop/Bar	Northies Cronulla Hotel (Cronulla)
Information Technology	AXXIS Technology (Dubbo)
Jewellery Store	Dracakis Jewellers (Mosman)

Media Release

Commonwealth Bank

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Manufacturing	The Purist Company (Lane Cove)
New Business	Dream Alliances Media (Surry Hills)
Pharmacy/Natural Health	Mega Save Chemist (Westfield Parramatta)
Professional Services	Point Project Management (Braddon)
Real Estate Agency	Ray White (Fairfield)
Restaurant	Garfish (Manly)
Services	Nepean Regional Security (Emu Plains)
Specialised Retail Small Business	Richmond Records (Richmond)
Specialised Small Business	Nothin But Shorts (Thornleigh)
Tourism	Harvey World Travel (Nowra)
Trade Services	LACHAM (North Rocks)
Wedding Services	Roslyn Gardens Function Centre (Peakhurst)
Wholesale	Bee Dee Bags Australia (Wagga Wagga)
Young Small Business Champion Entrepreneur	Dave Cupples – ApeShop (Georges Hall)
Small Business Champion Entrepreneur	Dannielle Miller – Enlighten Education (Kellyville)

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About the Commonwealth Bank

With a market capitalisation in excess of \$AUD 70 billion, the Commonwealth Bank (Group) is Australia's largest financial institution, providing the most convenient and accessible banking and financial services for all Australians.

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