

Congratulations to our 2017 Award winners!



Ganbina's Annual Youth Achievement Awards Dinner was a very special event last month because it coincided with Ganbina's 20th Anniversary. The event was packed with young Indigenous people, together with their families and friends, to celebrate incredible achievements at school, at tertiary training institutions and at work in 2017. The Awards are open to all young Indigenous people in the Shepparton area.

Over 50 young people went up on stage to proudly receive their Awards from Tim Warwick, Ganbina's Board Secretary and Assistant Principal of the Gowrie Street Primary School; and Suzanna Sheed, Independent MP for the Shepparton District.

We were delighted to welcome Shepparton's newly appointed Mayor, Kim O'Keefe and many of Ganbina's long-term corporate and philanthropic partners. Our special thanks to SPC who generously sponsored the event.

Congratulations to all our Award winners and to Ganbina Year 11 Leadership Program participants - April Atkinson, Sara Collie, Chloe Jones, Shania Jones, Drue McEntee and Trinity Peachey – who did an outstanding job as our Masters of Ceremonies.

2017 Youth Achievement Awards



Year 7 Education Award winners



Year 8 Education Award winners



Year 9 Education Award winners



Training Award winners



Employment Award winners





Adrian Appo Youths of the Year

Jada Briggs and Carly Mohamed are joint winners of the Adrian Appo Youth of the Year Award this year.

Sixteen year old Jada finished Year 10 at Wanganui Park Secondary College this year. She has been involved with Ganbina since she was at primary school.

“Doing Year 10 this year was a big step up from previous years,” she said. “I had to put my all in for the whole year and it was so great that I got recognised for that by Ganbina.”

Jada works after school at Slater & King Lawyers and in her spare time, she enjoys basketball, tennis and spending time with her family and friends.

Carly, 24, is an Arts/Law degree student at Monash University. She also works part-time with PwC’s Indigenous Consulting (PIC). “I just love it, I’m learning so much, and I’m really happy that my work with PIC is improving people’s lives.”

Carly was a joint winner of the Award twice before, but said this year’s Award meant the most to her. “It’s been tough combining my studies with work, so it was great to be recognised for the effort and the positive contribution my work is making to the community.”

2017 Award winners

EDUCATION AWARDS

Year 7

Frances Atkinson
Kaleb Currie
Zach Dwyer
Rae-nee Roberts

Year 8

Ashton Hayman
Nerrissa Leitch
Talia Trimboli
Tamiaka Trimboli

Year 9

Ashlea Currie
Will Dwyer
Damien Turner

Year 10

Jada Briggs
Hannah Coote
Cody Mohamed
Liarna Trimboli

Year 11

Josh Doyle
Chloe Jones
Drue McEntee
Trinity Peachey

Year 12

Shaneka Dooly
Tyler McCormack

TRAINING AWARDS

(Certificate III & Higher)

Troy Firebrace
Carly Mohamed
Sam Muir
Christopher Walker

EMPLOYMENT AWARDS

Amee Henningsen
Clarissa Marsden
Tyson Marsden
Jemma Turner

ADRIAN APPO YOUTH OF THE YEAR AWARD

Jada Briggs
Carly Mohamed

2017 YEAR 12 GRADUATES

Ayse Benice
Shelby Buckley
Tristan Bulger
Kyle Clarke
Ryley Cowley
Kearla Dooly
Callum Saron
Shaneka Dooly
Jordan Howard
Kaiden James
Keely Johnston
Tamara Kelly
Talitha Macrae
Tyler McCormack
Simone Milson
Jessey Parente
Tannah Thorne
Daquonn Turner
Anthony Walker

Worktrainers celebrates 20 years with Ganbina

Jim O'Connor, the former CEO of Worktrainers in Shepparton, is a well-known guest at the annual Youth Achievement Awards Dinner.

Jim has been a firm believer in Ganbina from day one.

"Originally known as KEETA before it changed its name, Ganbina ran its very first program, called 'Ladders to Success,' from Worktrainers' offices," said Jim.

"Ladders to Success was a huge success, helping 30+ young Indigenous people to obtain careers which many of them are still in today.

"But Ganbina wanted to do more than just help unemployed Indigenous people. It wanted to **prevent** young Indigenous people from becoming unemployed in the first place.

"So under the guidance of Founding CEO, Adrian Appo OAM, Ganbina developed a new, early intervention program model which was independently funded from non-government sources. That program was the basis of Ganbina's JOBS4U2 program as we know it today. During that initial development phase, Worktrainers supported Ganbina financially by entering into a MOU to share profits from its Job Network contract with Ganbina and we also assisted with administration and finance management for its operations.

"Then when Ganbina expanded, it decided to outsource its professional services work (accounting, finance, payroll and IT) to Worktrainers on a formal basis. This decision meant that Ganbina could focus on empowering young Indigenous people to achieve their full potential, while at the same time, maintaining rigorous financial management and governance practices. It's a partnership which is still going strong today.

"I am very proud of everything Ganbina has achieved over the years," said Jim.

"Ganbina has proved, beyond a doubt, that early intervention is the key to helping young Indigenous people to stay at school, take up training or further education, and go on to develop fulfilling careers later in life."

Jim retired as CEO of Worktrainers in 2013. His successor, Craig Marshall, is also a committed, long-term supporter of Ganbina.

Jim is involved in many local community projects. He is also the Chair of Youth Haven (a safe space for children to go after school) and is on the Boards of Shepparton High School, Shepparton Food Share, and Shepparton Motor Museum and Collectibles. He also assists the Goulburn River Clans Men's Group.

On the radar

21 December 2017	Ganbina office closes
22 January 2018	Ganbina office opens
23 & 24 January	Year 11 Youth Leadership Program – Team Building
25 January	Year 12 Youth Leadership Program – Team Building
5 February	Primary School Scholarships applications open
12 February	Year 10 Youth Leadership Information Night
12 February	Year 10 Youth Leadership Program applications open
20 February	Year 12 Youth Leadership Program Goal Setting
23 February	Year 10 Leadership Program applications close
2 March	Primary School Scholarship applications close