



2020 HART Awards Finalists Announced!

The VLGA and Reconciliation Victoria are thrilled to announce the finalists of the 2020 HART (Helping Achieve Reconciliation Together) Awards. With 16 finalists over three categories: Local Government, Schools and Early Years, and Community, the HART Awards recognise outstanding reconciliation initiatives undertaken in Local Government and in the Community. The nominations this year have been amazing, all furthering meaningful reconciliation. Nominees are to be commended for their achievements. The finalists are:

Local Government Category

City of Ballarat

January 26 - Survival Day Dawn Ceremony

City of Port Phillip

We-akon Dilinja 26 January 2020

Mildura Rural City Council

Mildura Corroboree

Mooney Valley City Council

A local Acknowledgement of Country for early years services

Mount Alexander Shire Council

Victory Park- Peace and Reconciliation Play Space

Schools or Early Years Category

Action on Aboriginal Perspectives in Early Childhood (AAPEC)

PossumSkin Pedagogy: A guide for Early Childhood Practitioners

Bakery Hill Kindergarten

Kunuwarra - Children vote for a Wadawurrung Name Change

Balnarring Pre School

Balnarring Pre-school Living and Learning with Country Pedagogy and Practice

Melbourne Grammar Grimwade House

Australian Indigenous Messengers Team (AIM)

Scoresby West Preschool

Embedding Culturally Inclusive Practice

St Leonard's College

The Warruwi Program



Community Category

Lord Somers Camp and Power House

Be Deadly @ Somers

Great Ocean Road Committee

Guided Surf Coast Walk

Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation

Ngangkari support Reconciliation through Traditional Healing for Victorian Communities affected by natural disasters

St John of God Hospital Bendigo

Weenthunga - St John of God collaboration

Bundjil Nest Project

Womindjeka Balnarring Ngargee (festival)

The HART Award Judges have identified three additional categories for this year:

Community Category: Acknowledgement of work driving systemic change

Local Government: Acknowledgment for Continued Leadership in Reconciliation

Schools & Early Years: Acknowledgment of Work Driving System Change in Education

The HART Awards are a partnership between the Victorian Local Governance Association (VLGA) and Reconciliation Victoria (RecVic) supported by Bank Australia and Local Government Victoria (LGV). The awards recognise local governments and community organisations that are Helping Achieve Reconciliation Together - Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people working together to build relationships, respect and understanding and demonstrate a commitment to Aboriginal self-determination.

The winners will be announced on 5 June during Reconciliation Week. Due to COVID-19 the Awards Ceremony will be deferred until later in the year.

To find out more please visit [VLGA](https://www.vlga.org.au) and [Reconciliation Victoria](https://www.reconciliation.vic.gov.au)

Additional content

These Awards recognise Victorian initiatives that contribute to local reconciliation outcomes. Finalists include initiatives that demonstrate Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people working together, and initiatives that have contributed to building relationships, respect and understanding.

Winners will each receive a prize. The community group winner and the schools and early years winner will also be awarded \$1000 to support their reconciliation initiatives.

The short-listed and winning initiatives will be profiled in a booklet and promoted on the websites of Reconciliation Victoria and the VLGA, to provide inspiration for other organisations and communities.



Ends:

Media Contact/s

Liddy Clark 0403 542 411

Diana David CEO

Reconciliation Victoria