

MEDIA RELEASE

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MULTICULTURAL AWARDS: NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN

Nominations for Victoria's Multicultural Awards for Excellence are now open.

Presented by the Victorian Multicultural Commission (VMC), the awards honour Victorians who have made outstanding contributions to strengthen our multicultural community – the most diverse in the world.

VMC Chairperson Helen Kapalos said the awards aim to recognise and celebrate Victoria's everyday diversity heroes.

"These awards shine a light on the extraordinary achievements of many people and organisations across Victoria who are doing fantastic work to support and promote cultural diversity."

"As the voice of our multicultural communities, the Victorian Multicultural Commission is extremely proud to be running these awards for the 16th year. For us, this is the perfect opportunity to say thank you to those Victorians who are leading the way in strengthening social cohesion," said Ms Kapalos.

Nominations are invited in 10 award categories spanning a range of sectors including business, government, education, media, volunteering, youth and policing.

The majority of categories are open to anyone who has strengthened multiculturalism in Victoria, regardless of their cultural background.

Last year's winners include Hazara refugee Nazer Nazir, who co-founded the Afghan Australia Initiative to tackle potential radicalisation, and strengthen the Afghan community in Australia.

Another 2016 award recipient was SBS journalist Luke Waters, who received the Media Award for his reporting on issues affecting the South Sudanese community, along with his mentorship of young, aspiring South Sudanese journalists.

Nominations close midnight, Monday 21 August. Recipients will be honoured at a special ceremony at Government House later in 2017.

For more information and to submit a nomination, visit
www.multicultural.vic.gov.au/projects-and-initiatives/multicultural-awards

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