

## State winners celebrated

Congratulations to the [14 winners named at the 2022 Queensland Training Awards state final](#) and well done to the other 71 finalists.

More than 760 guests took up the chance to celebrate the very best of Queensland's vocational education and training sector, enjoying a great night with entertainment from Casey Barnes, Hype and the Aboriginal Centre for the Performing Arts hosted by Master of Ceremonies Sofie Formica.

It was a privilege to have finalists, sponsors, supporters and other guests all in the same room again — to feel the energy building up and the positivity shared between all in attendance.

Each year the Queensland Training Awards aim to highlight exceptional people, businesses and projects and 2022 has done it again. You can look back through our [Skills for Queensland Facebook posts](#) or check out a [short highlights video](#). Remember you can find and purchase images from Your Photographer's gallery page with the code #QTA2022.



*Michael Kinnane from sponsor Construction Skills Queensland, Harry Hauenschild Apprentice of the Year Jenna Halley and Catriona Hauenschild; Bob Marshman Trainee of the Year Tony Karamatic with Minister Di Farmer, Cassandra Horan from sponsor BUSY at Work with Nicole Marshman-Geyl and Kellie Ryan.*

## Individual winners

Staying cool, planning ahead and monitoring vital signs are all part of a day's work for the three major individual category award winners.

Congratulations to Harry Hauenschild Apprentice of the Year Jenna Halley (Certificate III in Air Conditioning and Refrigeration with TAFE Queensland and employed by Messina Air Conditioning and Refrigeration), Bob Marshman Trainee of the Year Tony Karamatic

(Diploma of Project Management with Civil Contractors Federation and employed by Albem Constructions) and Vocational Student of the Year Courtney Evans (Diploma of Nursing with TAFE Queensland).

School-based Apprentice or Trainee of the Year Matthew Siver is another pursuing a career in health after being recognised for his achievements studying a Certificate III in Health Services Assistance with SWC Training and employer Metro North Health.

VET Teacher of Trainer of the Year Ronelle Sheehan, was recognised for her work delivering Infection Control Skills Set training in response to COVID-19 for TAFE Queensland, in addition to training in health and aged care.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student of the Year Atahnee Simpson is a single mum who was driven to provide for her young family and gain a qualification, completing a Certificate III in Business Administration with RTO Work Skills and GTO Indigenous Apprenticeship and Traineeship Network, while employed with the Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning.

Equity VET Student of the Year Shona Laverty also overcame challenges to complete a Certificate III in Business with Look Now Training and is now furthering her career with host employer Five Bridges.



*Vocational Student of the Year Courtney Evans, School-based Apprentice or Trainee of the Year Matthew Siver, Equity VET Student of the Year Shona Laverty and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student of the Year Atahnee Simpson.*



*VET Teacher or Trainer of the Year Ronelle Sheehan, Premier's Industry Collaboration Award winners Queensland Future Skills Partnership with Donna Bonney from sponsor Jobs Queensland, Michael O'Reilly from Small Training Provider of the Year Harness Energy, Large Training Provider of the Year TAFE Queensland Chair Jane Seawright.*

## Employer, training provider and project winners

[Seven organisations and projects](#) from Cairns to the Southern Gold Coast have been recognised for their contributions to vocational education and training.

Clarke Diesel and CaPTA Group, both in Cairns, were named Small and Large Employer of the Year respectively. While the Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary took out the Medium Employer of the Year award.

The Darling Downs and South West region had a strong showing as well, with Dalby Welcoming Community's Building Connections to Employment through Dalby's Delicious and DeLIGHTful Festival winning Community Training Initiative of the Year. Also in the winners circle was Small Training Provider of the Year Harness Energy which has offices in Toowoomba and Chinchilla as well as Brisbane.

TAFE Queensland won Large Training Provider of the Year and was also part of the Premier's Industry Collaboration Award winner. That went to the Queensland Future Skills Partnership, which has BHP Mitsubishi Alliance, CQUniversity Australia and TAFE Queensland working together to fast-track the development and delivery of automated technology training pathways for the open-cut mining industry.

Congratulations to each of the winners and all of the finalists in these categories. It is great to have employers big and small, along with training providers, community projects and major industry collaborations continuing to lead the way.



*Representatives from Small Employer of the Year Clarke Diesel, Medium Employer of the Year Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary, Large Employer of the Year CaPTA Group and Community Training Initiative of the Year Dalby Welcoming Community.*



*MC Sofie Formica, venue (the Royal International Convention Centre), Aboriginal Centre for the Performing Arts, Casey Barnes and Hype.*

## Thank you all

Pulling together the Queensland Training Awards relies on the commitment of so many people and organisations.

Thank you to all of our finalists, from state and regional levels, and also to everyone who submitted or supported a nomination this year. Through each step of the process the bar gets raised higher and higher, and it is wonderful to see so many people excited to share how training has helped individuals, employers, communities, training providers and projects.

Thank you to all of our judges for sharing your expertise and time to help identify the exceptional examples from the 11 award categories contested at our seven regional finals as well as the three state-only awards.

Thanks to each of our sponsors for supporting the awards as we welcomed back in-person events, which are highlights for anyone interested in the training space. Without the support of [Program Partner The BUSY Group and the 17 other state level sponsors](#), along with each of our [regional event sponsors](#), these events wouldn't be the celebrations our finalists and winners deserve.

Thank you to our state and regional Queensland Training Award coordinators. Managing this process and organising eight events statewide is no small feat. With the 61<sup>st</sup> Queensland Training Awards now complete, they'll no doubt be looking to make next year's awards bigger and better too!



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## Save the date

The 2022 Australian Training Awards will be held in Adelaide on 18 November 2022. While we are awaiting final judging and confirmation of Queensland's full team, we are looking forward to cheering on another strong contingent of finalists to fly the flag for our state.

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