

Civic Awards 2005

Congratulations to all nominees for the City of Port Phillip Civic Awards 2005. These Awards are made annually to individuals and organisations within Port Phillip that have made a significant contribution to our community. They recognise and acknowledge active citizenship and highlight the great works that take place. At a bubbly event in the South Melbourne Town Hall the 2005 Awards were presented on Tuesday 6 December to:

Citizen of the Year 2005

- Heather Wale

Young Citizen of the Year 2005 – Joint Award

- Cecielia Gregory
- Lisa DiPaolo

Civic Project of the Year – Community Organisation Category – Joint Award

- A Collaborative project undertaken by St Kilda Youth Services, Blue SKYS Media, Inner Eastern Local Learning and Employment Network, Theatreworks for Armed & Dangerous
- Our Rainbow Place – C/O Inner South Community Health Service for Monday BBQ

Civic Project of the Year – Government School Category

- Port Melbourne Primary School for Fruit & Vegetable Project



Pictured above: representatives from a number of nominated organisations with the Mayor, Cr Darren Ray (front row)



Civic Awards 2005

Civic Project of the Year – Community Organisation Category Nominees

Galiamble (Ngwala – Willumbong Co-operative)

Men's Alcohol & Drug Rehabilitation Program – This program has allowed participants to learn about themselves, their culture and spirituality, build their self esteem through art expression and community participation in re-link and access health programs by providing support services to fast track housing and medical and dental requirements.

Life Activities Club Port Phillip

Community Involvement for those over 45 – Life Activities is for people over 45 years of age enabling activities that will encourage physical and mental activities into the future. Life Activities brings diverse members of the Port Phillip community together, encouraging disabled persons to participate with help from more able members.

Port Melbourne Uniting Kindergarten

Extension to Early Intervention Program premises – Recent extensions to the Port Melbourne Uniting Church Kindergarten have allowed for the continued provision and expansion of its unique pre-school program that integrates additional needs pre-school children with mainstream pre-school children. The philosophy and approach of this organisation is to provide preschool services to the entire community so their program promotes open access to all children in the community and assists struggling families with financial difficulties.

Ada Mary A'Beckett Children's Centre

Playground Redevelopment – The Committee of Management and parents of this Children's Centre decided to upgrade their playground and worked together to achieve their aim that benefits existing and future families of Port Phillip. The project was funded by the centre with parents fundraising a proportion of the costs.



Civic Awards 2005

Joint nomination: St Kilda Youth Services, Blue SKYS Media, Inner Eastern Local Learning and Employment Network, Theatreworks

Armed & Dangerous (Youth component of the St Kilda Short Film Festival) – At the heart of this project was the notion of inclusiveness and citizenship. The St Kilda Film Festival previously has been closed to young people under 18 so designing a concept that allowed access and participation from this demographic and stimulated involvement from marginalised groups was its primary aim. The project brought together young people from a wide variety of backgrounds with an interest in filmmaking and allowed them to view or showcase their work. A collaborative effort that benefits the whole community.

Inner Eastern Local Learning and Employment Network

2005 Career Pathways Expo – This project provided young people with up to date information and knowledge on a range of educational options and careers to assist them to make informed choices about their career/educational pathways, focusing on applied learning options and valuable legitimate pathways that are not driven by grades and entrance scores.

The Rotary Club of Southbank

The ABC Local Radio Giving Tree – An annual Christmas Giving Appeal that provides presents to less fortunate individuals and families. Last year over 8000 gifts were collected. The project promotes the idea that we can all be participants in mitigating the impact of poverty in the community and can render assistance to those most in need.

Our Rainbow Place – C/O Inner South Community Health Service

Monday BBQ – This project provides an opportunity for local Kooris who gather in the O'Donnell Gardens (the parkies) to get together weekly with a focus on a healthy meal and interact with each other and a number of health and welfare outreach staff at the Veg Out Community Garden. Local elders were concerned about the unmet health needs of the parkies and were keen to develop ways to better engage with this group. The regular gathering at Veg Out has reinforced the groups pride as an entity in its own right but also as a part of the broader indigenous community and the Port Phillip community.



Civic Awards 2005

Civic Project of the Year – Government School Category Nominees

Albert Park Primary School

Sustainable Travel Plan –

This program aims to encourage and reward students and families to make healthy choices every day in how they travel to school by encouraging walking, cycling, car pooling etc. The project has health benefits for the students, the families health



also benefits while also making social connections to each other and the wider community benefits through less traffic congestion, better air quality and improved road safety.

Port Melbourne Primary School

Fruit & Vegetable Project – This project's aim was to improve the fruit and vegetable intake of school aged children living in Port Melbourne. The local community has been working together to complete this project. Some of the activities have included healthy canteen week, dress up as your favourite fruit day, posters created by the children, cooking classes, health and wellbeing days, development of a school kitchen garden.

Port Phillip Specialist School

Building & Developing a Performing Arts Facility – After a major fund raising effort, the specialist school was able to complete the construction of an on-site performing arts facility so the students can fully engage with the learning power of concrete experiences that arts based learning provides. The facility is also seen as a major community resource where the school can provide an excellent venue for a variety of community based activities.



Civic Awards 2005

Citizen of the Year Nominees

Rebecca Bartel

Rebecca has been instrumental in bringing the issue of child care access to the forefront of national attention. In December 2004 she took a lead role in establishing Child Care Access Port Phillip whose goal is to create access to an additional 1000 affordable and high quality child care places in Port Phillip. Rebecca has actively lobbied local, state and federal politicians and recruited parents across Port Phillip. She also played a key role in organising the Child Care Access Rally in 2005 that brought together about 500 mums, dads, grandparents and concerned citizens.

Heather Wale

Heather has been, over the last 20 years, the epitome of a selfless volunteer. She has contributed to a number of local clubs such as the Port Melbourne Historical and Preservation Society, Port Melbourne Football Club canteen, Port Melbourne Cricket Club, Port Melbourne Primary School tuck shop, the South Port Nursing Home as a regular visitor to residents. Without volunteers like Heather, clubs would not be able to meet their responsibilities. (Pictured: Heather Wale in the purple shirt surrounded by friends)



Raymond Swanson

Ray has quietly and unassumingly made a massive contribution to Port Phillip on issues of social justice, equity and community building. He has contributed to both direct service delivery and to the governance and management of community organisations, all in a voluntary capacity. Organisations he has been involved with for the last 11 years include St Kilda Citizens Advice Bureau, St Kilda Welfare Organisation, Community Information Victoria, St Kilda Rooming House Issues Group, Port Phillip Community Group, coordination of free Tax Help service and he is a Justice of the Peace. Ray puts his time and energy into organisations that work with low income, marginalised and disadvantaged people in Port Phillip.



Civic Awards 2005

Robert Taylor

Over the past seven years Robert has volunteered tirelessly to develop and grow St Kilda's Veg Out Community Gardens. Not only has the actual garden 'grown' but Robert has extended Veg Out's role to include conservation and social welfare projects such as the installation of rainwater tanks, establishment of the St Kilda Farmer's Market, running of the St Kilda Celebrity Cricket Match that raises funds for Sacred Heart Mission, welcoming the local indigenous community for their monthly BBQ and constructing raised garden beds so the elderly and disabled can access and use Veg Out.

Tony Alateras

Tony has volunteered within the Greek Community for the last 16 years, namely with the Lemnian Club and the National Association of Greek Clubs. He has also been a committee member at Albert Park High. He has been assisting to organise activities such as weekly meals and social outings for members of the community that are not in a position to organise themselves.



Civic Awards 2005

Young Citizen of the Year Nominees

Cecielia Gregory

Cecielia has made significant contribution to the community as a peer leader and community educator with Inner South Community Health Service. She has played a significant leadership role in supporting and advocating for young people who have parents affected by mental illness. Cecielia attended a peer support program for young people who have parents affected by mental illness and gained a lot from her participation in this program. She was then keen to take a more active role and decided to undertake a peer leader training course. This led to her preparing and facilitating group sessions and acting as a peer leader. She is a positive role model for group participants. She also plays a role in educating the community and advocating on behalf of other young people through public speaking and co-facilitating workshops.

(Pictured: Cecielia Gregory on the left with other attendees of the Civic Awards)



Lisa DiPaolo

Lisa has been involved in a number of community organisations. She has been a member & Chairperson at the St Kilda Police & Citizens Youth Club and their Youth Management Team, involved in Oxfam Community Aid Abroad and the City of Port Phillip Young Persons Reference Group. As this shows, she has an interest in diverse issues and has had a positive impact in the community whilst gaining new personal development skills such as leadership and project management. She has provided ongoing support to peers and PCYC staff and helped young people take ownership of activities in their community.

