

Australia Day Awards 2024

Nomination guidelines and criteria

Recognise and nominate someone who has made a valuable contribution to the Northern Beaches community.

Enquiries

Northern Beaches Council – Volunteer Program Coordinator

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Award Categories

- Citizen of the Year
- Senior Citizen of the Year
- Young Citizen of the Year
- Sportsperson of the Year
- Community Event of the Year
- Community Group of the Year – NEW AWARD 2024
- Outstanding Community Service Awards

How to Nominate

- There is no fee to nominate and no limit to the number of times an individual can nominate i.e. one person can nominate multiple people/events/groups.
- The nomination closing deadline is midnight, Monday 30 October 2023.
- Please complete the nomination form available at <https://www.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/community/awards/australia-day-awards>
- Please read both the general and category specific guidelines and eligibility criteria prior to submitting a nomination.
- Additional supporting information may be attached with each nomination.

Assessment Process

- Nominations will be reviewed by an appointed assessment panel of community representatives including the current Citizen of the Year.
- The selection of award recipients will be based upon the nominations received and information available to the assessment panel at the time. The panellists decisions are final and no correspondence will be entered into.
- Northern Beaches Council reserves the right to withdraw an award if further information or the recipients conduct such as a serious criminal conviction draws the awards into disrepute.
- Nominations will be assessed in November & December 2023.

- All entrants will be notified whether successful or not by 22 December 2023.
- Winners will be announced and presented with awards in a ceremony to be held on Thursday 25 January 2024.

Privacy Policy

- Nomination documents will remain confidential.
- Northern Beaches Council may use nomination information for the purpose of promoting the awards, in such cases nominees will be contacted for consent.
- Council will seek permission from the nominee (and their parent/guardian if under 18) prior to their information being presented to the assessment panel.
- Council staff may make minor corrections to your nomination form if required or requested.

General Criteria and Eligibility

- Nominees for the six 'of the Year' award categories must be Australian Citizens, reside in the area and have contributed to the Northern Beaches Local Government Area (LGA).
- Nominees for the Outstanding Community Service Awards are not required to be Australian Citizens but must have contributed to the Northern Beaches Local Government Area (LGA).
- If the nominee does not reside within the Northern Beaches LGA, they can only be considered for the Outstanding Community Service Award (if all other criteria are met).
- Unsuccessful nominees may be re-nominated in subsequent years.
- Self-nominations will not be accepted, except for the Community Event and Community Group of the Year where an organiser may nominate their event/group.
- Awards will not be granted posthumously.
- Northern Beaches Councillors, state and federal politicians are not eligible to be nominated. Council staff, retired politicians and officers will only be considered for work beyond their official duties.
- At least two referees must be supplied with the nomination and they must be able to verify the information provided.
- All nomination information and material submitted remains the property of Northern Beaches Council.
- Members of the assessment panel and Councillors are not permitted to nominate or encourage others to nominate on their behalf.
- If a member of the assessment panel is nominated, they may choose whether to renege their position on the panel or make their nomination redundant.

- An award does not have to be granted should the assessment panel decide that no nominee fits the criteria sufficiently.
- A person can be nominated for multiple categories if eligible, however cannot be granted more than one award. If nominated, eligible and chosen for multiple award categories, the assessment panel will decide the best category in which to award the recipient.
- The nominee will be considered for all categories they are eligible for, even if they have not specifically been nominated for those categories.
- Where age is required for eligibility in a particular category, the nominee's age is considered as of Australia Day 26th January 2024.
- Previous recipients will be considered eligible for any eligible categories subject to:
 - the panel agreeing that a suitable amount of time has lapsed since the original award was given;
 - the nomination demonstrating that the nominee has continued their service in the intervening period or has contributed in a different way to that awarded in the past; and
 - the panel agree that a second or repeat award is appropriate.

Award Category Criteria and Eligibility:

Citizen, Senior Citizen and Young Citizen of the Year

- Nominees for Senior Citizen of the Year must be aged over 65 years as of 26 January 2024.
- Nominees for Young Citizen of the Year must be aged under 25 years as of 26 January 2024.
- The nominee must reside in the Northern Beaches LGA.
- The nominee should be held in high regard in the Northern Beaches community.
- The nominee must have made an outstanding service or positive contribution to benefit the Northern Beaches community within the year immediately prior to the award being granted.
- The nominee must demonstrate strong ethical and community values.
- The nominee must demonstrate leadership, innovation and/or creativity through their service.
- Regard will predominately be given to the nominee's community/charitable/school activities and achievements in the Northern Beaches LGA for the year immediately prior to granting of the Award. The nominee's additional past activities and achievements should be included to add merit to the nominees long-term and ongoing contributions.
- The award is only available to an individual, not a group.

Sportsperson of the Year

- There are no age restrictions for Sportsperson of the Year. The nominee must reside in the Northern Beaches LGA.
- The nominee must have made a positive contribution to advance their performance and their sport within the Northern Beaches LGA within the year prior to the award being granted.
- The award is only available to an individual, not a group.

Community Event of the Year

- The event nominated must be presented in the Northern Beaches LGA since November 2022 and prior to nominations closing in 2023.
- The event should have a proven benefit to the Northern Beaches community.
- The event must demonstrate community values and must achieve community involvement, acceptance and support

Community Group of the Year

***New Award 2024**

- The group nominated must be active in the Northern Beaches LGA between November 2022 and October 2023
- The group must have made an outstanding service or positive contribution to benefit the Northern Beaches community within the year immediately prior to the award being granted.
- The group must demonstrate leadership, innovation and/or creativity through their service.
- The group must demonstrate community values and must achieve community involvement, acceptance and support.

Outstanding Community Service Awards

- Unlike the other award categories, this category recognises commitment over a long period of time, beyond the year prior to the award being granted.
- The award may be granted to more than one person/as a group, only if each person in the group has dedicated the same level of commitment to the same service.
- Up to 15 awards will be presented in this category subject to the final decision of the assessment panel.
- The nominee must have made a positive contribution to benefit the Northern Beaches community
- The nominee must have demonstrated a special concern and commitment to the community through their consistent efforts and support of local community activities.
- The nominee must have been involved over a number of years in unpaid community work within the Northern Beaches.
- The nominee must demonstrate strong ethical and community values.
- One non-resident of the Northern Beaches may be awarded if:
 - the person has rendered exceptional community service within the local government area; and
 - the person fully satisfies all other criteria detailed above.