

The NMDCC Inc. “Ubuntu Star” Awards Criteria

“Ubuntu” is an ancient philosophy of sub-Sahara African societies, in vogue in the new millennium. “Ubuntu” defines ethics or human morality: humanness. The universal values of “Ubuntu” are rooted in our shared humanity. Inherent in “Ubuntu” philosophy is ethical community service of caring for others.

Nelson Mandela is one of the African leaders who articulated some aspects of the values of “Ubuntu”. The “Ubuntu” award celebrates the selfless community service of individuals or and organizations across our rich multicultural society in Victoria. The awards are a public acknowledgement of distinguished service in keeping with the universal values of “Ubuntu”. The awards may be adjudicated by independent assessors sourced externally.

The following criteria is used to confer the “Ubuntu Star Awards”:

Leadership

- Any person/organization who influences change selflessly in specific communities, organizations and in their role to foster broader collaboration across our multicultural society with their leadership skills through writing, speaking or organizing. This includes community leaders, especially youth, women and other social activists.

Compassion

- Any person/organization striving for change for the common good towards the betterment of society, with the resources that they had at their disposal or in partnership with other stakeholders. This includes community-based projects and social initiatives central to social change.

Creativity

- Any person/organization that uses art, culture or heritage to create awareness and deliver critical social commentary – giving a platform to marginalized voices. This includes writers, artists, directors, filmmakers, illustrators, photographers and performers.

Visionary

- Any person/organization articulating/promoting the vision of a vibrant cohesive Multicultural Victoria, and has contributed to its advancement. This includes committed community workers, leaders, professionals, researchers, entrepreneurs, innovators, disruptors and groups.

Resilience

- Any person/organization that has shown persistence to achieve their dreams/goals against all odds – defying societal and institutional barriers. This includes people from disadvantaged backgrounds such as refugees and indigenous peoples or those who have been discriminated against, including, young people, women, members of the LGBTIQ+ community and differently abled individuals/organizations.