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| Higher Education and Skills Group  **Participation Branch Memo**  **Department of Education and Early Childhood Development** |

***NUMBER:*** *2014 / September / 2*

**TO:**

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| Learn Local organisations  *– ALL* | ACFE Board | ACFE Regional Councils |
| Adult Education Institutions | Learn Local stakeholders |  |
| Participation Branch staff |  |  |

**FROM:** Jane Dewildt, Acting Director, Participation Branch

**DATE:** 01/09/14

**SUBJECT:** *Winners of 2014 Learn Local Awards*

**ACTIONS / CRITICAL DATES:**

* *Please note and congratulate the winners of the 2014 Learn Local Awards.*

**The Minister for Higher Education and Skills, the Hon Nick Wakeling MP announced the winners of the 2014 Learn Local Awards at a celebration of the sector at the St Kilda Town Hall on Thursday 28 August.**

**The awards recognise excellence in the Learn Local sector across five award and two acknowledgement categories with winners sharing in a total prize pool of $50,000.**

**This year’s winners were:**

**Outstanding Pathways Program – Emerging Cultural Leaders Program**, **Footscray Community Arts Centre**The is the only program of its kind in the arts sector, encouraging participants from culturally and linguistically diverse communities to develop skills in building their own careers.

**Outstanding Learner – Lisa Stimson, LINK Neighbourhood House, Kaniva**

Participating in the Women in Ag program gave Lisa the confidence to take up further study and build her understanding of agriculture.

**Outstanding Practitioner – Tony Senese, Prahran Community Learning Centre Inc**An accomplished artist, Tony is now sharing his skills with students who have previously disengaged from education and supporting them to pursue further study.

**Excellence in Creating Local Solutions – Wyndam Community and Education Centre**The Wyndham Humanitarian Project is a best practice model engaging with newly arrived migrants and refugees to identify and respond to educational needs.

**Innovation in Digital Literacy – Traralgon Neighbourhood House**  
The Digital Shed project is connecting school students with members of the community, building good will and boosting engagement.

**Learn Local for Business – Kyabram Community and Learning Centre**   
Working with KyValley Dairy, the Learn Local has supported the business to identify and deliver effective training to best meet the business’ needs.

**Learn Local Legends:**

Noweyung

Ballarat Neighbourhood Centre

Southern Grampians Adult Education

Shepparton Access

Sandybeach Centre

Upper Yarra Community House

Campaspe College of Adult Education (CCAE)

Kensington Neighbourhood House

Those of you in areas covered by Leader newspapers should look out for coverage featuring profiles of the winners and finalists.