



May 5, 2008

ME joins with HESTA to award Australian nurses

Members Equity Bank (ME) is the proud major sponsor of the HESTA Australian Nursing Awards, a program to recognise Australia's most skilled, innovative and dedicated nursing professionals

All thirteen finalists have excelled in fields as diverse as nursing in drought-stricken communities, aged care, sexual health promotion and the use of massage therapy before and during surgery.

HESTA, the industry super fund for health and community service workers, and award sponsors Members Equity Bank are proud to announce the national finalists for the 2008 HESTA Nursing Awards. The finalists are:

Nurse of the Year Category

- Vivienne Fazula for services to a drought-stricken community, Dingee Bush Nursing Centre, VIC
- Rebecca Hudson for dedication to a not-for-profit hospital, Hamley Bridge Memorial Hospital, SA
- Samantha Gibson for her work supporting a young mother with cancer, St John of God Hospital, Subiaco, WA
- Mandy Lee-Ryan for outstanding palliative care, Condobolin Health Services, NSW

Innovation In Nursing Category

- Christopher Churchouse for use of actors to improve nurse training: Edith Cowan University, WA
- Margaret Dashorst for her work on kinesiology, reiki and perioperative patients, Royal Adelaide Hospital SA
- Donna Muscardin for use of music to promote sexual health, Foster/Taree Community Health Centre, NSW
- Kylie Nadenbousch for her work on snakebite management, Mitchell Community Health Services, Whittlesea, VIC
- Claire Rickard, for strategies to reduce blood wastage when taking blood samples, Griffith University, QLD
- Sharon Williams for her role in developing online referrals, Launceston General Hospital, TAS

Graduate Nurse of the Year Category

- Kate Carroll, Toowoomba Health Service, QLD
- Corinna Farr, Royal Perth Hospital, WA
- Kelly Leiper, Royal Melbourne Hospital, VIC

HESTA Chief Executive Officer Anne-Marie Corboy said she was looking forward to announcing the winner of each category at the awards dinner in Melbourne on Thursday 15 May.

"We look forward to celebrating the success of all these nurses, and thanking them for the service they provide to Australian communities," Ms Corboy said.

The Australian Nurse of the Year will win \$10,000 in travel and education grants. The Innovation in Nursing winner will receive a \$10,000 development grant, and the Graduate Nurse of the Year will be awarded \$5000 for travel and education.

Finalists were selected from hundreds of entries by representatives of the Australian Nursing Federation, Royal College of Nursing Australia, the Congress of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nurses, Australian Catholic University's School of Nursing and Midwifery, and Australian Rural Nurses and Midwives.

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