

AUSTRALIAN WOMEN LAWYERS

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

AWL AWARD 2022

Our Vision
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AUSTRALIAN WOMEN LAWYERS AWARD 2022

BRISBANE | 5-7 AUGUST 2022

AWL

Australian Women Lawyers Ltd. (AWL) is the peak national body that represents women lawyer Associations throughout Australia and the interests of woman legal practitioners nationally. AWL is concerned with issues relating to the practice and advancement of women in the legal profession and has a strong focus on working to eliminate discrimination against women in the legal system and in the administration of justice. AWL's objects include furthering the understanding of, and support for, the legal rights of all women in society and identifying, highlighting, and eradicating discrimination against women inherent in the community and society generally.

ABOUT THE AWL AWARD

The Australian Women Lawyers Award (AWL Award) recognises women who have provided long term leadership and commitment in the support and advancement of women in the legal profession and recognises women that have made an outstanding contribution to the legal profession in Australia whether or not their career has led to the traditional route of partnership, taking silk or appointment to the bench.

The founder of the AWL Award is the former Patron of Australian Women Lawyers and the former Chief Justice of the Family Court of Australia the Hon. Diana Bryant AO QC who established the Award to recognise the long-term contribution that women have made to the profession through non-traditional pathways and in supporting the development of woman practitioners.

The Award was first conferred at AWL's 4th National Conference held in Canberra in 2012.

Nominations for the AWL Award are open every two years and the recipient is announced at AWL's biennial national conference Gala Dinner.

The award was not conveyed at the 2020 online conference due to the pandemic and not having an in-person event at which the Board felt the recipient would deserve to receive such an award.

PREVIOUS WINNERS

2012 – Elizabeth Heenan (WA)

2014 – Rosalind Croucher (NSW)

2016 – Hon Dr Robyn Layton AO QC (SA)

2018 – Fiona McLeod SC (Vic)



Picture – previous winner, Fiona McLeod SC receiving her AWL Award at our Conference in 2018

AWARD SPONSOR

Australian Government Solicitor - AGS

AWL is very grateful to AGS for their sponsorship of the 2022 AWL Award.

As the Australian Government's central legal service, AGS is a centre of excellence and expertise in areas of law of importance to the Commonwealth and in managing complex, systemic and precedential issues for the Commonwealth.

With offices in every capital city and over 400 lawyers who cover some 40 different areas of law related to government, AGS is one of Australia's largest national legal services providers.



THE AWARD CRITERIA

The criteria of the AWL Award recognises women who have provided long term leadership and commitment in the support and advancement of women in the legal profession.

In assessing nominations, the selection committee gives consideration to submissions that demonstrate a nominee has been active and, or, effective in at least three of the following criteria:

The extent that the nominee has:

- Been an inspirational role model for other women within, or aspiring to, the legal profession;
- Been involved in, engaged with, and/or demonstrated leadership within the legal community and/or the wider community;
- Provided support, encouragement and promotion to the careers of women within the legal profession;
- Contributed to the advancement of equality for women in the legal profession;
- Mentored women within the legal profession;
- Furthered women's contribution to the practice and development of law;
- Encouraged and influenced other women to pursue a legal career;
- Made a contribution that has been voluntary or largely uncompensated;
- Contributed to the understanding of, and the support for, the legal rights of all women;
- Promoted justice and equality for all women;
- Contributed to law reform and its administration particularly relating to women;
- Championed the identification and eradication of discrimination against women in the legal system and in the community generally;
- Participated in the community;
- The degree of difficulty associated with the nominee's achievements. In assessing nominations the selection committee will have regard to each nominee's past achievements and their ongoing contribution at the time of nomination.

The selection committee will also consider the nature and length of a nominee's involvement in the legal profession when comparing nominations.



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2022

WHO CAN NOMINATE

Nominations can be made from any member of the public, individual, organisation and/or Association that has direct links to the legal profession.

The nominee must:

- have a recent and significant connection with Australia; and
- have obtained a law degree, but
- does not need to hold a current practising certificate; and
- does not have to be a current member of a State and Territory women lawyer Association.

Please note:

- the Award will not be granted posthumously;
- no self-nominations will be accepted; and
- unsuccessful nominees may be re-nominated in subsequent years.

The selection committee shall consist of:

- President of AWL;
- President or delegated committee representative from the Australian Association of Women Judges; and
- The immediate past award recipient.

All nominations must include a completed nomination form and the following supporting documentation:

- 100 - 200 word profile outlining/capturing why the nominee should win the Award;
- a brief resume or chronological summary outlining the nominee's professional history;
- details and examples of specific activities and, or contributions that address the selection criteria (5 pages maximum); and
- a signed declaration of acceptance of nomination by the nominee.

The selection committee may at its discretion request further information from a nominator.

The deliberation of the selection committee is confidential and the selection committee reserves the right not to make an award. The decision of the selection committee is final, and no correspondence will be entered into.

NOMINATION FORM

AWL 2022 Award nominations are now open. Award criteria and nomination form can be accessed [here](#).





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australianwomenlawyers.com.au