



MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday 31 August 2021

FINALISTS AND NEW DATE ANNOUNCED FOR AUSTRALIAN WOMEN IN MUSIC AWARDS

Kate Ceberano, Dami Im, Katie Noonan and Deborah Cheetham AO are among the stellar list of finalists in the **Australian Women in Music Awards (AWMA)** announced today.

Founding Executive Director Vicki Gordon has also confirmed a change of date for the two-day event which will now be held in Brisbane on **17 and 18 May 2022**.

“As a national event which draws on the creative expertise of artists and music practitioners from every state, combined with our priority to provide safe travel for First Nations women from regional and remote communities, the risk of producing a safe event at this stage is unacceptably high,” Ms Gordon said.

With a record number of entries, and submissions from every mainland state and territory, AWMA has been overwhelmed with support this year.

AWMA Juror Council Chair Diana Tolmie said: "I am thrilled with the support from the music industry – to read about the life stories of these fabulous women is truly inspiring!"

The coveted **Emerging Artist** category has again attracted an impressive list of nominees including finalists Tasmanian born, Adelaide raised, and now Brisbane-based First Nations singer-songwriter **Glves**, Melbourne-based West Australian **Vanessa Perica**, and Sydney artist **Martha Marlow**.

Previous winners of this category have included **Alice Skye, Camp Cope** and **Amy Shark**.

Music festival legend **Sahara Herald**, National Event Coordinator for Big Day Out for 18 years and currently Tour Director for Frontier Touring, is in the running for the Music Leadership Award, along with Universal Music Publishing’s Vice President, Commercial & Creative, **Marianna Annas**, and Director of Recorded A&R and Artist Experience at BMG **Jodie Feld**.

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This year's AWMA categories also include the inaugural **Tina Arena Award Special Impact Award** to honour an 'unsung champion' of the music industry. This special award will be presented by **Tina Arena**, who will also deliver the keynote address at the AWMA conference.

The diversity of the Australian Music Industry will be on show at AWMA with award categories honouring **Excellence in Classical Music, Music Journalism and Image Making**. Producers, Engineers, Film Makers, Photographers, Songwriters, Industry Leaders, Artist Managers and more are set to be acknowledged and celebrated in their own right at the AWMA ceremony.

A total of 17 AWMA's will be presented, including the **Lifetime Achievement Award** drawn from finalists **Kate Ceberano, Deborah Cheetham AO** and **Keri McInerney**.

A full list of finalists is provided on the following page, with images available [here](#).

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Australian Women in Music Awards is an initiative of Cicada International Ltd

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AWMA Finalists

1. Lifetime Achievement Award

FINALISTS: Kate Ceberano, Deborah Cheetham AO, Keri McInerney

2. Tina Arena Special Impact Award

FINALISTS: Sahara Herald, Sonja Horbelt, Dina Bassile

3. Humanitarian Award

FINALISTS: Nancy Bates, Leigh Carriage, Gemma Farrell

4. Diversity in Music Award

FINALISTS: Mindy Meng Wang, Eliza Hull, Alice Ivy

5. Excellence in Classical Music Award

FINALISTS: Elena Kats-Chernin, Genevieve Lacey, Celia Craig

6. Artistic Excellence Award

FINALISTS: Katie Noonan, Dr Eve Klein, Elena Kats-Chernin

7. Studio Production Award

FINALISTS: Antonia Gauci, Becki Whitton, Alice Ivy

8. Live Creative Production Award

FINALISTS: Annie Peterson, Jenny Moon, Kait Hall

9. Live Production Touring Award

FINALISTS: Casey O'Shaughnessy, Sophie Kirov, Fanny Lumsden

10. Music Leadership Award

FINALISTS: Marianna Annas, Jodie Feld, Sahara Herald

11. Songwriter Award

FINALISTS: Dami Im, Tania Doko, Lisa Young

12. Emerging Artist Award

FINALISTS: GLVES, Vanessa Perica, Martha Marlow

13. Music Photographer Award

FINALISTS: Cybele Malinowski, Brittany Long, Michelle Pitiris

14. Film-maker Award

FINALISTS: Aimée-Lee Xu Hsien Curran, Natalie van den Dungen, Lucy Knox

15. Music Journalist Award

FINALISTS: Jane Gazzo, Sosefina Fuamoli, Poppy Reid

16. Excellence in Image Making Award

FINALISTS: Cindy Vogels

17. Creative Leadership Award

FINALISTS: Annie Peterson, Vanessa Hughes, Emily Ulman

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