



National Union Awards

Call for Nominations 2009

Unions represent two million working Australians and their families. We stand for decent rights in the workplace and a fairer society.

This important work relies on the dedication and expertise of thousands of delegates, organisers, industrial officers, secretaries, other staff and supporters throughout our broad movement.

The ACTU National Union Awards recognise the special achievements of just a few of these dedicated and skilled people.

Award Categories

Delegate(s) of the Year

Organiser of the Year

**Jennie George Award - for contributions to
women's advancement in unions**

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Award – Union

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Award - Individual

Best Workplace Campaign

Best Communications Strategy

Best Media Quote by a Union Leader or Member

Award Categories & Nomination Instructions

Delegate(s) of the Year

- Name of nominee or group of nominees
- Reason for nomination in 500 words or less
- Contact details of nominee(s)

Organiser of the Year

- Name of nominee
- Reason for nomination in 500 words or less
- Contact details of nominee

Jennie George Award - for contributions to women's advancement in unions

- Name of nominee
- Reason for nomination in 500 words or less
- Contact details of nominee

Best Workplace Campaign

- Name of nominee
- Reason for nomination in 500 words or less
- Contact details of nominee
- Campaign overview/plan and materials to support nomination should be included eg stickers, posters, powerpoint presentation, audio and visual material
- Nomination endorsed by union secretary

Best Communications Strategy

- Name of nominee
- Reason for nomination in 500 words or less
- Contact details of nominee
- Communications overview/strategy should be included as well as supporting material, eg media material, newspaper clippings, tv/radio items, audio/visual material

Best Media Quote by a Union Leader or Member

- Name of nominee
- Reason for nomination in 500 words or less
- Contact details of nominee
- Date and source of media quote (Newspaper, radio or TV programme)

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Award- Union

- Name of Nominee
- Reason for nomination in 500 words or less
- Contact details of nominee

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Award- Individual

- Name of Nominee
- Reason for nomination in 500 words or less
- Contact details of nominee

All nominations should reflect in part or in whole the criteria set down for each award. Nominations should be sent to Michelle Ryan by post to Level 6, 365 Queen Street, Melbourne, VIC, 3000. For all inquiries, please call Michelle Ryan 03 9664 7379

CRITERIA FOR AWARDS

Delegate(s) of the Year

Demonstrated success in:

- Implementing a campaign
- Increasing membership
- Mapping a workplace
- Setting up a communication network
- Activating members
- Dealing with the employer
- Liaising with the community
- Developing understanding of collective action

Attributes:

- Selflessness
- Energy
- Leadership
- Principled

Organiser of the Year

Demonstrated success in:

- Implementing a campaign
- Increasing membership
- Mapping a workplace
- Setting up a communication network
- Activating members
- Dealing with the employer
- Liaising with the community
- Developing understanding of collective action
- Developing activists
- Implementing informal education strategies
- Working with other unions

Workplace Campaign of the Year

Implementation of campaign which in addition to a successful outcome:

- Increased membership
- Developed activists
- Had a high level of membership involvement
- Promoted union values in the community

The campaign:

- Was well planned and coordinated
- Operated on many fronts beyond the workplace eg politically, among customers and other unions, in the community
- Utilised innovative tactics

Best Communications Strategy

- Maintained a positive/influential public profile
- Enhanced a union campaign
- Portrayed a member-based union
- Forged link with community
- Adopted new messaging techniques
- Innovative in capturing media attention
- Well planned/created momentum
- Communicated effectively with members
- Reached potential new members

Best Media Quote by a union leader or member

- Created an understanding to all in the community of the benefits of unionism
- Clearly communicated the union's position on an issue
- Evoked an empathetic response from the listeners, viewers or readers
- Used language/ideas creatively to win radio, television or print media coverage

Jennie George award – for contributions to the advancement of women in unions

This award is made to a union in recognition of what the union has done to assist in the development of women in the union movement.

Suggested criteria:

An initiative or actions which have:

- Assisted women to increase their professional capabilities
- Resulted in women taking on leadership positions (as elected officials) within the union
- Assisted women to participate in union activities
- Increased the number of women union officials
- Allocated resources to issues concerning women
- Provided senior union official support or mentoring
- A monitoring/quantifying/reporting aspect

Some of these initiatives might include:

- Training/education programs
- Formalised mentoring programs
- Increasing the representation of women throughout the union's elected structures
- Formally involvement of women in policy formulation
- Involving women directly at all levels in recruitment (of members) and publicity campaigns
- Consultation with women employees on the issues which they consider to be of importance
- Non-discriminatory work practices and remuneration practices
- Transparent, equitable recruitment, selection, and promotion practices
- Employment practices which consider family responsibilities
- Availability of part time work
- Union EEO and Sexual Harassment policies for its employees, with

accompanying, appropriate education

- Gender analysis of exit interviews (preferably conducted by someone independent of the union).

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Award- Union

To a union in recognition of what the Union has contributed towards the progression and development of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders:

- Members/Workers and Communities
- Social Justice Activities
- Employment Initiatives

Suggested Criteria for Award:

An initiative or actions which have:

- Resulted in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men and women taking on leadership positions (as elected officials) within the union
- Assisted Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workers to participate in union activities
- Increased the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander union officials
- Allocated resources to issues concerning Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workers and/or communities
- Provide senior union official support or mentoring
- Increased employment for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
- Increased recruitment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander members

Some of these initiatives might include:

- Union cross cultural awareness policies, which are culturally sensitive with a accompanying appropriate training and recruitment practices of its employees and members
- Formalised mentoring programs

- Increasing the representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people throughout their union
- Formal involvement of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander members in policy
- Involving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander members directly at all levels
- Consultation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employees on the issues which they consider to be of importance

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Award- Individual

It is envisaged that this award will be awarded to a grass roots member/activist of a Union. The award is made to a unionist in recognition of what the unionist has done to further Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's rights and conditions through their involvement with the union movement.

Suggested Criteria for Award:

An initiative or actions which have:

- Actively participates in union activities
- Actively participates in union industrial campaigns
- An Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander worker who has demonstrated leadership within their workplace and/or within their union
- Encouraged Aboriginal and in Torres Strait Islander workers to participate in union activities

Some of these initiatives might include:

- Increasing recruitment
- Acting as a mentor to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander members
- Increasing the representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander members throughout the unions elected structures

- Participation in raising awareness and education of cultural issues within their union or workplace
- Actively promoting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural awareness within their workplace or union