

NORTHERN TERRITORY

**DIGITAL
EXCELLENCE
AWARDS
2023**



Minister's Foreword

NT Digital Excellence Awards 2023

Welcome the 2023 Northern Territory Digital Excellence Awards where we recognise the achievements and excellence of the leaders in our digital industry.

Digital technology is critical to economic development and jobs growth in the Territory. The Northern Territory strives to grow our economy to \$40 Billion by 2030, and become a world leader in data storage and connectivity.

It is with the support of our digital industry leaders that we continue to thrive. They help us deliver on our Digital Territory Strategy, and continue to support important projects that help Territorians make the most of digital advancements.

This evening, we showcase and celebrate the many talented nominees who are fantastic local examples of displaying excellence in the digital industry, and I feel enormously optimistic about the future of this sector by the calibre of the nominees.

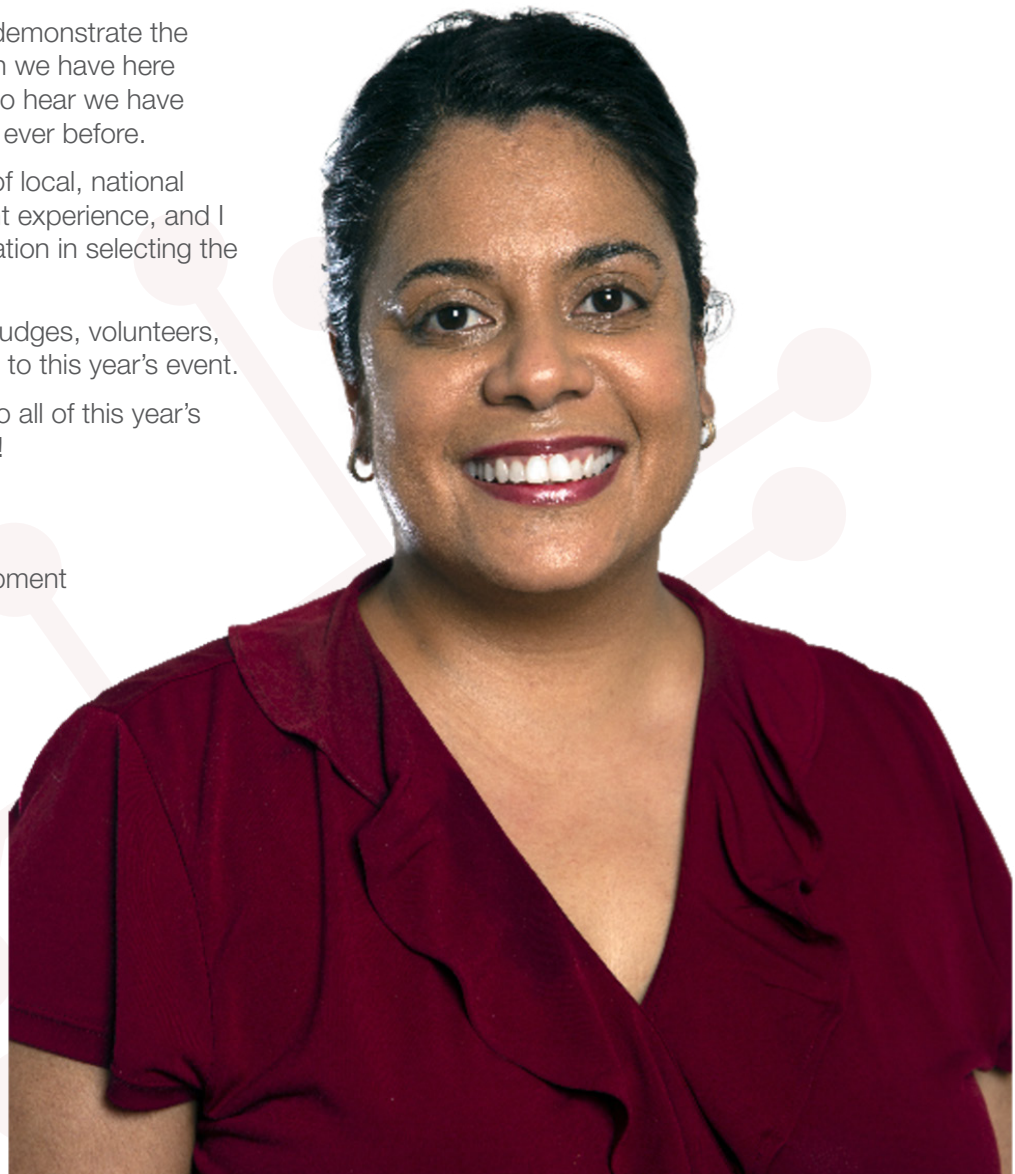
The Digital Excellence Award categories demonstrate the breadth of the digital talent and innovation we have here in the Territory, and I'm also very excited to hear we have received more nominations this year than ever before.

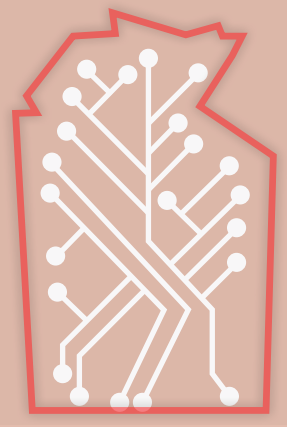
The awards' Committee brings a wealth of local, national and international industry and government experience, and I commend them for their careful consideration in selecting the winners.

Thank you to the organising Committee, judges, volunteers, nominators and sponsors for contributing to this year's event.

I also send my heartiest congratulations to all of this year's nominees and wish them the best of luck!

The Honourable Ngaree Ah Kit MLA
Minister for Corporate and Digital Development





NORTHERN TERRITORY DIGITAL EXCELLENCE AWARDS

2023

About the NT Digital Excellence Awards

The Northern Territory Digital Excellence Awards formally celebrates individuals and organisations for outstanding digital achievement and innovation in the NT. The Awards ceremony is the NT's premier Information Communication and Technology (ICT) event of the year, created and supported by ICT peak bodies. A committee comprised of peak body representatives and volunteers organise and manage the event, including seeking support from corporate sponsors and government bodies.

The concept of the awards is based on the peak bodies national awards, with an opportunity for award winners from the NT to be nominated for national awards.

The objectives of the awards are:

- To recognise and reward excellence in the Northern Territory ICT sector
- To foster and celebrate innovation, excellence, and collaboration amongst NT ICT providers and their clients
- To promote the NT's ICT industry capabilities locally and nationally
- To promote the NT as a viable destination for ICT careers, investment and opportunities
- To inspire students and young people into a career in ICT
- To inspire women in the NT into ICT careers, and support women working in ICT
- To attract young people to study and pursue career pathways into the technology sector



Message from Organising Committee

Collaboration among the peak ICT industry bodies is a distinctive characteristic of our sector in the NT. In 2017, we formed the view it was time to better promote the industry and skills that are a hallmark of the industry in the Territory, to stakeholders outside the traditional ICT industry, in the Territory and further abroad. We repeated the success of the 2017 Awards in 2019, 2020 and 2021, and now the Awards continue to grow with this year's event attracting the most nominations of any previous event.

In contemporary commercial endeavours the difference between success and failure, not just between competing businesses, but among whole sectors and entire economies, is increasingly determined by the rate of digital innovation, adoption and adaptation. Consequently, it is becoming increasingly difficult to measure the digital economy, as digital technology is now embedded in almost every commercial endeavour.

The Northern Territory has a vibrant and growing ICT Industry and Digital community that continues to be an important part of all industries in the NT. We are also seeing a time of great opportunity and significant ongoing developments with major projects coming online including the multiple undersea cable connecting the NT to the rest of the world and the appeal of Data

Centre establishment here. We are also seeing growth through innovation and the example of our budding gaming industry bodies well for providing opportunities to Territorians into a global industry worth more than \$300b.

The NT is also home to an internationally renowned natural environment, the world's oldest living culture, the best fishing on earth, a vibrant arts scene, a leading University and world class ICT and digital innovation.

As representatives of ACS, ICTNT, and AISA, we are proud to join Minister Ngaree Ah Kit in presenting the NT Awards for Digital Excellence 2023, and thank the judges, partners and volunteers who have contributed their time, talents and generosity to help make this happen.

Damien Charles (Chair)	ICTNT Representative
Karina Bourne (Deputy Chair)	ICTNT Representative
Lauren Hall	ACS Representative
Stephen Chungue	Committee Member
Bronte Sealy	Committee Member



Brought to you by

ACS: Australian Computer Society, NT Branch

The ACS is the professional association for Australia's Information and Communication Technology (technology) sector. We exist to make Australia and its ICT workforce a world leader and to promote the development, innovation and value of Australia's ICT resources. We do this by delivering authoritative independent knowledge and insight into technology, to build relevant technology capacity and capability, and to be a catalyst for innovative creation and adoption of technology for the benefit of commerce, government and society. Visit <https://www.acs.org.au/> for more information.



Contact: Lauren Hall (NT Branch Manager) lauren.hall@acs.org.au

AISA: Australian Information Security Association, NT Branch



As a nationally recognised not-for-profit organisation and charity, AISA champions the development of a robust information security sector by building the capacity of professionals in Australia and advancing the cyber security and safety of the Australian public as well as businesses and governments in Australia. AISA has become the recognised authority on information security in Australia with a membership of over 3000 individuals across the country. AISA's vision is a world where all people, businesses and governments are educated about the risks and dangers of cyberattacks and data theft, and to enable them to take all reasonable precautions to protect themselves. Visit <https://www.aisa.org.au/> for more information.

Contact: Bharanidharan Shanmugam (Chair NT), bharanidharan.shanmugam@cdu.edu.au

ICTNT: Information Communication Technology Industry Association of the Northern Territory

ICTNT is comprised of a broad representative group of the Information Technology services and supplier companies as well



as companies in the Telecommunications Industry. The association represents companies across the whole of the Northern Territory. ICTNT is the primary ICT Industry advocacy body in the Northern Territory, established to: promote and represent the interests of the Northern Territory ICT Industry across both business and the public sector; act on behalf of association members to support Government in the development of robust ICT policy; attract, grow and retain ICT skills within the Territory through instruments such as the ICT Industry Website, and; identify industry development initiatives, fund and broker these on behalf of members through opportunity generation activities. Visit <http://www.ictnt.asn.au/> for more information.

Contact: Karina Bourne (Chair), info@ictnt.asn.au



Major Partners

Digital Futures DCDD Inspiring Women Award Partnership

The Department of Corporate and Digital Development works to support increasing the Territory's digital skills and capability.



Better technology needs to be created and developed by people with different experiences, reflecting society as a whole.

Encouraging women into technology, creates diversity of thought, leading to better problem-solving and tech products or solutions.

With women making up just 29% of the technology workforce in 2020, the Digital Futures programme and events aspire to encourage more Territory women to take up careers in digital.

NT Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade – Innovation of the Year Award Partnership

The Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade is supporting a strong, vibrant economy for all Territorians that is driven by a culture of innovation. Our goal is to build a \$4 billion innovation ecosystem to support a \$40 billion economy in the Territory by 2030. Our priorities to achieve this are: Accelerate the Commercialisation of Innovation; Activate our Innovation Territory Ecosystem; Advance Public Sector Innovation, and; Amplify the Value of Science in the Territory. The outcome we are delivering is the Territory recognised as a powerhouse of innovation in our national and international region, attracting new investment and a strong future for all Territorians.

The Northern Territory Government supports the Innovation of the Year Award and encourages all Territorians working in ICT and STEM fields to reach for the future. The Department provides programs to support aspiring start up founders and leaders of growth focused businesses, and we invest in regions, facilities, and infrastructure to support activities that advance our next generation of STEM enabled entrepreneurial innovators. It is important for our future workforce that our ICT professionals have the capacity to develop innovative products and playing their part in the global digital industry.

Find out more about our support programs and access resources to help growth focused businesses, start-ups and entrepreneurs on your innovation journey at www.innovation.nt.gov.au



Kinetic IT – Community Benefit Project of the Year Award Partnership

Kinetic IT is enhancing the human experience through technology. As a leading, proudly Australian-owned technology services provider, we deliver outcome-focused solutions which harness intelligence, enhance the user experience and drive meaningful change for our customers. Our proven end-to-end solutions serve some of Australia's largest and most iconic organisations, enabling them to deliver services in education, emergency services, utilities and transport industries.

Committed to delivering genuine success, we tailor our services to each customer's unique environment, resulting in fit-for-purpose solutions, award-winning service delivery and consistently high end-user satisfaction. Kinetic IT is proud to continue its partnership with the Northern Territory Digital Excellence Awards for the fourth consecutive year, recognising industry excellence and this year celebrating the solutions that help our communities to thrive via the Community Benefit Award.



NEC Australia – STEM Student of the Year Award Partnership

NEC Australia is a leading technology company, delivering a complete portfolio of information and communications technology solutions and services in multi-vendor environments to government and corporate sectors.



As the Territory's largest private sector ICT employer, NEC is committed to creating jobs that enable people to work, live and raise families in the NT. NEC actively seeks to promote diversity as it develops sustainable career pathways within its workforce - with a particular focus on Indigenous employment.

NEC are proud to support and partner on the NT Awards for Digital Excellence, we strongly support innovation and recognise the achievements of all entrants.

ServiceNow – ICT Project of the Year Award Partnership

About ServiceNow

ServiceNow (NYSE:



NOW) makes the world

work better for everyone. Our cloud based platform and solutions help digitize and unify organizations so that they can find smarter, faster, better ways to make work flow. So employees and customers can be more connected, more innovative, and more agile. And we can all create the future we imagine. The world works with ServiceNow™ and we are value the opportunity to be a part of the Northern Territory Digital Excellence Awards

Radical Systems – ICT Rising Star of the Year Award Partnership

Radical Systems is an Australian provider of information technology services, with its headquarters situated in



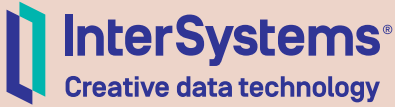
Darwin, Northern Territory. Our comprehensive range of services includes enterprise software development and architecture, systems integration, data and cloud engineering, technology consulting and advisory.

Additionally, we offer skilled technical specialists to support your programs, projects, and operational requirements.

We are thrilled to sponsor the 'ICT Rising Star of the Year' award, celebrating an extraordinary individual who channels their passion, motivation, commitment, and intellect towards the advancement and innovation of the NT ICT industry, benefiting both the sector and its customers.

 **Supporting Partners**

Thank you to all our Supporting Partners



 **Other Sponsors**

Website



Video & Photography



Social Media



Judges

Bob Creek (Chief Judge)

Bob has been in the Territory for over 50 years. Following a couple of years in mining camps he arrived looking for adventure, pushing a line marking machine from Alice Springs to Darwin in the early seventies.

Bob has had several lead roles in the NTG which includes the development of geospatial systems, introduction of WOG email, development of the NTG 24x 7 ICT Service Desk, introduction of the identity and access management system (EPASS).

Bob's roles included operational responsibility of WOG ICT services and the management of the Data Centre for several years ushering in transformational technology such as virtual computing and networked data communications.

Bob continues to be involved in leading NTG enterprise projects including the replacement of the justice systems, policing, child protection and youth justice and the 360 degree view of a child.



Karen Hawkes

Karen Hawkes is Director of Darwin's Digital Marketing Agency, Captovate. As digital architect and lead Projects Director, Karen has played a pivotal role in the delivery of many prominent websites and Apps across the Territory. Captovate is also a leading supplier of web services for the NT, SA and federal Government.

As Captovate's social media expert, Karen delivers social media campaigns across the NT. She authored the Social Media Boot Camp and the Social Media Strategy for the NT Government. In 2018 Karen was a keynote Territory Success Story for October Business Month and in 2019 was a keynote speaker at the Innovation Symposium. She is also an invited member of the Ministerial Digital Advisory Council.

Karen was the winner of the 2019 NT Digital Excellence ACS ICT Professional of the Year Award and the Minister's Gold Award.



Krissy Breed

Krissy Breed's government career spans over 15 years across communications, governance, industry development, innovation, and reform across the science, business and education sectors. Krissy now leads reform in Northern Territory Government Education system.

A jack of all trades, Krissy has successfully led neurodiverse teams to achieve their full potential, and has experience in full stack web design, business configuration innovation and introduced the Northern Territory's first fleet of photobooths.

After two decades in the ICT industry in the Northern Territory, Steven Roberts, CEO of One IT Services, stands as a pillar of regional tech expertise. Steven leads a team of engineers, cybersecurity specialists and platform developers.

As a board member of The Business Enterprise Centre NT, Board Secretary of ICTNT, and chairperson for St. Paul's Primary School, Steven champions community and industry growth.

His commitment extends to educating through cybersecurity sessions for the AICD, CPA Australia, October Business Month, and many more. Steven's advocacy for international students and building the NT's ICT resources exemplifies his dedication to the region.



Jeroen Schijvenaars

Jeroen Schijvenaars is a Senior Security Engineer with NEC Australia working on the managed services contract for the Northern Territory Government (NTG).

Jeroen has 19 years' experience in IT, working with Microsoft Enterprise Technologies, Backup Technologies, Virtual Infrastructure and Remote Access Solutions. Ten years ago he started to specialise in IT security. In his current role, Jeroen is responsible for the management and implementation of security strategies as they relate to the NTG. His IT security knowledge enables him to provide security and risk consultation for new technology projects and business as usual activities within the NTG.

Over the course of Jeroen's career he has obtained several Microsoft and Data Protection certifications. He has achieved 12 Global Information Assurance Certifications (GIAC) including GIAC's Security Expert (GSE #285) Portfolio Certification being the most prestigious credential in the IT security industry. In 2020 Jeroen was the AISA NT Cyber Security Professional of the Year and received the Minister's NT Digital Excellence Gold Award at the NT Digital Excellence Awards.



Judges Cont.

Jesse Leal

Jesse commenced his IT career in 1997 with Sabre Systems in Darwin. In 1998 he took up the position of ICT Manager at Danila Dilba Aboriginal Medical Service. In 2002 he started his own business Leal Technology supporting SME businesses and organisations throughout the NT. In 2017 in partnership with his long time colleague they started New Future IT with a mission of providing IT traineeships to young Territorians in particular young indigenous Territorians.



Amelia Nuku

Amelia Nuku is the Chief Executive Officer of the Industry Skills Advisory Council NT (ISACNT), an independent not-for-profit organisation that provides advice to and gathers intelligence on training package development, workforce development, skills shortages, and workforce solutions in the Northern Territory.



With more than 25 years of experience working in the Vocational Education and Training sector in the Territory, Amelia has successfully developed workforce solutions for industry that have created sustainable training and employment opportunities, achieved positive business outcomes, and contributed to increasing a local skilled workforce.

Mita Das

Mita is a Workforce and Skills Officer at ISACNT supporting NT businesses and workforce with their workforce and skills challenges. She has extensive experience across Vocational Education and Training (VET) and in higher education as the former Manager of the Careers Centre at Charles Darwin University (CDU). She also worked as a Career Coach at Sense of Direction supporting Territorians to find their dream careers.



Lou Martini

Lou is the co-founder and Managing Director of Jackadder International Pty Ltd. He has extensive business and technology experience in ICT consulting and management across the government and commercial sectors.



Lou has also been actively involved in supporting the development and growth of the ICT industry in Australia. This includes roles as a Director of the National Board of the Australian Information Industry Association, and most recently as Secretary of the ICT Industry Association of the Northern Territory. This has given Lou a deep insight and understanding of the opportunities and challenges faced by the industry.

Lou is committed to supporting the continued development of digital skills and the technology workforce, which these awards recognise, and are a prerequisite to the continued growth of the industry in the Northern Territory.

He is also passionate about the environment and recently completed his Masters in Tropical Environmental Management at Charles Darwin University.

Bronwyn Lo

Born and bred in Darwin, Bronwyn completed her schooling and started her working career in the NT Government in the late 80s. Bronwyn has a Bachelor of Business Degree (IS). Bronwyn has held several IT roles in the NTG, reaching IT Director/CIO.



Bronwyn has been a Program Director in the Enterprise Project Services division for the last 9 years, responsible for overseeing delivery of enterprise IT projects and programs. Bronwyn was involved with the engagement of local IT graduates through the CDU IT Code Fair, celebrating its 10th year anniversary this year, supporting the continuing goal of developing and retaining local IT talent and growing the local ICT industry.

Bronwyn was recently acknowledged for her 35 years in the NT public service. Bronwyn finds it amazing to see how far digital has grown in the NT, but believes we are only touching the surface with a lot more exciting things to come.

Scott Beven

Scott Beven is currently working as the Chief Information and Security Officer and Deputy Director for ICT Delivery at Charles Darwin University responsible for the Incident response, strategy and implementation of All Service Delivery and Cyber related activities.



A long time Darwin ICT specialist, Scott started in the local industry in 1996 and has worked for Digital, Compaq, HP, CSG and the NTG across a variety of Desktop, Network and Cyber Security roles predominately on the NTG ICT Outsourced contract. With a heavy background in Incident response Scott has dealt with a wide range of Cyber related attacks including Code Red, Blaster and Sasser to name a few. Scott has a heavy interest in defensive Cyber implementations and vector removal, has assisted in the implementation of several SIEM and Enterprise solutions while providing multiple ISM level reviews across the Education and Commercial sector across the last five years

Steven Roberts

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Master of Ceremonies

Ernie Dingo

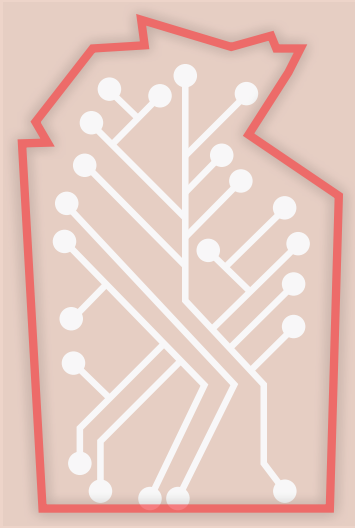
Ernie Dingo has earned enormous respect as a performer capable of extraordinary versatility. His talents as an actor, television host, reporter and comedian have made him one of Australia's best known and most loved performers.



In 2018 he filmed, 'Going Places with Ernie Dingo' for SBS/NITV. Ernie also recently filmed a roll for 'Squinters' and earlier in the year appeared in the award winning ABC series 'Mystery Road'. Other roles have been for 'Redfern Now – Dogs of War', and the feature film 'Bran Nue Dae'. In 2015, he was also part of the SBS series 'DNA', in which he travelled the world discovering his ancestry, and was part of the 2018 series of 'Who Do You Think You Are'.

He was with the top rating Seven Network program 'The Great Outdoors' since it began. Ernie was the host of 'The World Around Us' on the Seven Network, and has fronted numerous other Seven productions, including two Olympic specials and Melbourne's Comedy Gala. His most recent television productions are 'Outback Wildlife Rescue' and 'No Leave No Life'. Ernie is a passionate advocate for his people and is vigilant about the portrayal of Aboriginals in film and television.

He has many industry nominations and awards to his name, is a Living National Treasure and in 1990 was awarded the General Division of the Order of Australia. He was voted 'Aboriginal of the Year' by the NAIDOC Committee and 'Personality of the Year' by the Australian Caption Centre. He was again recognised for his work when he was awarded the Deadly Award for 'Outstanding Contribution to Film and Television'.



NORTHERN TERRITORY DIGITAL EXCELLENCE AWARDS

2023

Awards and Nominees

Digital Futures DCDD Inspiring Women Award



The Inspiring Women Award will go to a person who has made a lasting and significant commitment to progressing women in ICT. They are known within the ICT community in NT as a change agent and have contributed to supporting women in ICT, inspiring girls into ICT careers, and connecting women with opportunities in ICT to progress their careers. They attempt to increase female participation in the ICT workforce.

Nominees

- CDU careers Centre
- Melissa Tipó
- Faculty of Science and Technology Outreach Team / Inspired NT
- Barbara White
- Specialist Direct Digital Ecosystem

NT Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade – Innovation of the Year Award



The Innovation of the Year Award recognises digital innovation developed in the Territory and/or by Territorians that delivers any combination of new economic, social, environmental value. The innovation must be in production (that is beyond prototype and, for example, already in use, either as part of business process, or commercialised in market). The innovation must be desirable, feasible, and viable. It must also be investible, sustainable, and scalable. The most important criteria for this award is the value for the Territory generated by the innovation.

Nominees

- Clinical Branches
- Playground 123
- Dr Rohan Fisher (Landscape Knowledge Visualisation Lab)

AISA Cyber Security Professional of the Year Award



Cyber Security Professional of the year is awarded to an individual who has demonstrated excellence in Information Security/ICT. The award is to recognise and promote excellence, innovation and professionalism in IT and Information Security by individuals. They are a positive role model and influence the workplace by improving people's awareness on Information Security and current threats.

Nominees

- Carter Smith
- David Auld
- Eric Hilario
- Matt Tattam
- Professor Mamoun Alazab
- Sarawanan Nandhakumar
- Saurab Shah

ACS ICT Professional of the Year Award



The ICT Professional of the Year demonstrates excellence in their field of ICT. They are active in their continuing professional development and display the highest standards of professional ethics. They use their technical knowledge to be a positive role model and influence the workplace to the highest standards both professionally and ethically.

Nominees

- Dylan Bennett
- Nancy Libien
- Rifat Mahmud

ICTNT Local ICT Business of the Year Award



This award is to formally recognise and reward Information Communication Technology (ICT) businesses that have continually demonstrated excellence in the delivery of relevant ICT services in the Territory. Excellence can be demonstrated through a commitment to innovation, business improvement and quality of service.

Nominees

- Salty Games Pty Ltd
- True Blue IT Services

Kinetic IT Community Benefit Award



The Community Benefit Award recognises outstanding contributions by an individual, business, or project towards building stronger and healthier Territory communities. This could be through enabling greater citizen participation particularly by disadvantaged or underrepresented people; through innovative use of technology to overcome barriers; an initiative that helps close the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous citizens or any other nomination that has achieved major community benefit.

Nominees

- Level Up Gaming
- Sole Owner
- Youthworx NT

NEC STEM Student of the Year Award

NEC

The STEM student of the Year award is awarded to a person who has had high achievements in Science, Technology, Engineering or Mathematics subjects and is an ambassador for STEM. Despite their age and experience, they have demonstrated excellence and a drive towards learning and development. They are a role model and an example to their peers and conduct themselves with the highest standards of ethics. The candidate is under 18 years of age.

Finalists

- Raj Huda
- Riley Lewis
- Dylan Mortimer
- Nathan Love
- Methuli Kulasekara
- Anson Hao Yung Lee

Service Now – ICT Project of the Year Award

servicenow

The ICT Project of the Year will be awarded to the team that can demonstrate the successful completion of a challenging project that has used ICT to markedly improve the value, efficiency and effectiveness of the organisations' services and which have resulted in significant business benefits.

Nominees

- Area9
- SALTY GAMES PTY LTD
- Department Of Corporate & Digital Development
- DCDD ICT Project Management Office
- I'm Plastic Free
- Venus Health Co. Pty Ltd.
- On behalf of (1) NTG Department of Corporate and Digital Development, (2) Radical Systems, and (3) Territory Families, Housing and Communities

Radical Systems – ICT Rising Star of the Year Award

Radical SYSTEMS

The ICT Rising Star of the Year is awarded to a person who has established their career in ICT. Despite their age and experience, they have demonstrated excellence and a drive towards professional development. They are a role model and an example to their peers and conduct themselves with the highest standards of ethics and professionalism. The candidate is under 30 years of age.

Nominees

- Digita Shrestha
- Melisha Lafaber
- Sudarshan Bhattarai
- Declan Smyth
- Georgina Gurr

CDU Code Fair – Overall Award for Most Outstanding Entrant

The Charles Darwin University Code Fair has for many years been one of the premier events on the NT ICT Calendar. The event recognises the outstanding work for both Higher Education and VET students, as well as providing an opportunity for students and industry to network. The event also contributes and promotes awareness of education and training in Information Technology to local Middle and High School students.

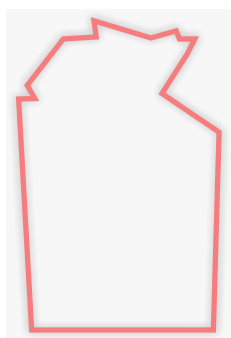
As part of the Digital Excellence Awards, we will recognise the Most Outstanding Entrant across all Code Fair award categories. This will also provide an opportunity for CDU Students to gain further exposure and recognition on stage, alongside all areas of our ICT Industry and Community.



The Minister's NT Digital Excellence Gold Award



The Minister for Corporate and Digital Development, The Hon Ngaree Ah Kit, will present this award to the category winner who the Minister judges has demonstrated the highest degree of digital excellence in the Northern Territory for 2023. All finalists are eligible.



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Award Nominees & NT Awards for Digital Excellence, 2023

The organising committee would like to thank all nominees for their high calibre applications. Nominations were received from across the Northern Territory.

Winners of the 2023 NT Awards for Digital Excellence will be announced at the Awards ceremony, Parliament House, Friday 3 November 2023.

If you are keen to become involved in next year's event, please contact a Committee member with your expression of interest.



