



2014 CHILDREN'S LAW AWARDS

Promoting the Rights of Children and Young People

Nomination Form

The National Children's and Youth Law Centre (**NCYLC**) is seeking nominations for the 2014 Children's Law Awards to be presented in September 2014. The 2014 Children's Law Awards recognise the achievements and commitment of those individuals and organisations that advance the legal rights and interests of children and young people across Australia. The Awards aim to effect real and lasting change for children, and to ensure that children, one of the most vulnerable groups in our society, receive the best possible start to life.

The Children's Rights Report 2013¹, prepared by the National Children's Commissioner, provided an insight into the enjoyment and exercise of the human rights of children in Australia.² The Report noted that while there is "a lot to celebrate about our children... many fall through the gaps and their wellbeing is threatened in fundamental and serious ways".³ Many children in Australia are given opportunities to prosper; but identifiable groups of children exist who face conditions that are far more uncertain.⁴

The Children's Law Awards present a unique opportunity to highlight the important legal issues confronting children and young people, and serve as a means to focus the Australian community on the need to continually promote and advocate for children's legal rights. The Awards demonstrate that the tireless efforts of those who work to represent, advocate for, and raise awareness of children's legal rights are worthy of public recognition and support.

The Children's Law Awards are held biennially and were last presented by the NCYLC in 2012 at King & Wood Mallesons' office in Melbourne.

For further information contact Jane Timbs on (02) 9296 3144 or jane.timbs@au.kwm.com

¹ National Children's Commissioner, Australian Human Rights Commission 'Children's Rights Report 2013' (November 2013). | ² Ibid, p 7. | ³ Ibid, p 19. | ⁴ Ibid, p 84.

Award criteria

Nominations are open to the public in the following categories

The National Award for Outstanding Legal Representation

This Award is presented to **ONE** organisation or individual that has demonstrated exceptional commitment to the legal representation of children and young people in striving to promote their legal rights and interests within Australia.

Nominations must address **ALL** of the following selection criteria:

Outstanding dedication and commitment to the legal representation within Australia of the rights and interests of children and young people

How did the Nominee demonstrate exceptional dedication and commitment, beyond the call of duty, to the legal representation of children and young people within Australia? This may have been demonstrated by representative work performed over many years or, alternatively, a single legal representation that has been noteworthy.

The significance of the legal representation for children or young people

Were there any pressing circumstances that meant the legal representation of the children or young people was particularly required (for example, the harm confronting a child or group of children if legal representation was absent)?

The unique or exceptional nature of the legal representation

Were there any circumstances surrounding the legal representation that make it particularly challenging or exceptional?

Any positive outcome or influence that was achieved

What positive outcomes were achieved as a result of the legal representation or what was the influential affect that the legal representation had?

The National Award for Outstanding Contribution to Policy or Law Reform

This Award is presented to **ONE** organisation or individual that demonstrates an exceptional contribution in policy or law reform in order to advance the legal rights and interests of children and young people in Australia.

Nominations must address **ALL** of the following selection criteria:

Outstanding dedication and commitment to the legal rights and interests of children and young people in Australian policy or law reform

How does the Nominee demonstrate tireless dedication and commitment to the advocacy of the legal rights and interests of children and young people in the areas of Australian policy or law reform? This may be demonstrated by commitment over a longer period of time or for a single noteworthy activity.

The significance of the issues that the contribution sought to address

How were the issues that the Nominee sought to address or raise awareness about significant?

The unique or exceptional nature of the contribution

Were there any circumstances surrounding the contribution itself that make it particularly challenging or exceptional?

Any positive reform outcome or influence that was achieved

What positive reform outcomes were achieved as a result of the contribution or was there any influential affect that the advocacy had?

The National Award for Youth

This Award is presented to **ONE** young person under the age of 25 who has shown exceptional contribution and innovation in advancing the legal rights and interests of children and young people in Australia.

Nominations must address **ALL** of the following selection criteria:

Outstanding contribution in advancing the legal rights and interests of children and young people within Australia

How does the Nominee demonstrate outstanding contribution and innovation in promoting and advancing issues concerning the legal rights and interests of children and young people within Australia? This contribution may have been demonstrated by a media piece or channel, through advocacy or some other means.

The significance of the issues that the innovative contribution sought to address

How were the issues that the Nominee sought to address or raise awareness about significant?

The nature of the innovative contribution in highlighting the legal rights and interests of children and young people

What circumstances surrounding the making or the contents of the contribution make it particularly innovative or exceptional?

Any positive outcome or influence that was achieved

What positive outcome was achieved as a result of the innovative contribution or was there any influential affect that the innovative contribution had?

Award conditions

- (a) The closing date for nominations is Friday 13 June 2014.
- (b) Nominations must be entered by completing the attached form. Additional nomination forms can be downloaded from the NCYLC website at www.ncylc.org.au.
- (c) Nominees must be nominated by a Nominator. Nominees **cannot** nominate themselves for an award.
- (d) Nominees **cannot** be nominated more than ONCE.
- (e) Nominations must be signed by both the Nominator and the Nominee.
- (f) Nominees in the Youth category must be **under the age of 25** at the time of submission.
- (g) The National Children's and Youth Law Centre and King & Wood Mallesons, including staff and Board members, may not nominate or be nominated for an award.
- (h) The judging panel's decision is final and no correspondence concerning their decision will be entered into.
- (i) The judging panel will announce Nominees that have been shortlisted for an award in July 2014.
- (j) The judges' decision will be announced at the 2014 Children's Law Awards Presentation Ceremony in September 2014 at King & Wood Mallesons' office in Sydney.
- (k) The National Children's and Youth Law Centre and King & Wood Mallesons reserve the right to accept, decline, progress, withdraw or otherwise deal with any nominations as they see fit upon submission.

Timeline

Nominations for Awards Open	28 April 2014
Nominations for Awards Close	13 June 2014
Award Presentation Ceremony	September 2014

2014 Children's Law Awards Nomination Form

Please review the **"Award conditions"** before completing and submitting a nomination form. You are reminded that you **cannot** nominate yourself for an award under any award category and that all nominations must be made by a Nominator. Nominees **cannot** be nominated more than ONCE. All nominations must be signed by the Nominator and Nominee.

Please tick which Award you wish to nominate for:

- The National Award for Outstanding Legal Representation**
- The National Award for Outstanding Contribution to Policy or Law Reform**
- The National Award for Youth**

Nominator details	
Name	
Address	
Email	
Phone	(Work) (Home)
Position	
Organisation	
Relationship to Nominee ("Relationship" means how you know the Nominee)	
Nominee details	
Name	
Address	
Email	
Phone	(Work) (Home)
Position	
Organisation	
Referee details	Two referees are required for each nomination and these will be contacted in July 2014. Please ensure that your referees are aware of your nomination and are available to provide information about the nominee.
Name 1	
Address	
Email	
Phone	(Work) (Home)
Position	
Organisation	

Name 2	
Address	
Email	
Phone	(Work) _____ (Home) _____
Position	
Organisation	

Statement addressing Award criteria

Please attach a statement explaining in 400 words or less how your Nominee fulfils the relevant selection criteria. Please address **ALL** of the selection criteria.

Consent of Nominator and Nominee

I have read and understood the Award criteria and Award conditions of the 2014 Children’s Law Awards.

Signed (Nominator)

Date _____

Signed (Nominee)

Date _____

Completed forms should be returned by either:

Post

Christopher Murphy
 King & Wood Mallesons
 Level 61, Governor Phillip Tower
 1 Farrer Place
 SYDNEY NSW 2000

Fax

(02) 9296 3999

Email

christopher.murphy@au.kwm.com

Presented by
 the National Children’s and Youth Law Centre and King & Wood Mallesons



PARTNERS OF THE 2014 CHILDREN'S LAW AWARDS



National Children's and Youth Law Centre

The National Children's and Youth Law Centre (NCYLC) is an Australia-wide community legal centre that focuses on addressing the human and legal rights issues confronting children and young people.

The NCYLC was established in 1993 and works with the legal and justice systems in three core areas:

- public advocacy for the rights of children and young people, including lobbying governments and decision-making bodies to apply the provisions of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child;
- education of children and young people through advice and information services including "Lawmail", an email information and referral service, and "Lawstuff" an online legal information service aimed at children and young people; and
- projects designed to raise community awareness of children's rights and legal issues. These are aimed at children and young people, governments, advocates, educators and business.

www.ncylc.org.au
www.lawstuff.org.au
www.childrights.org.au



**KING & WOOD
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King & Wood Mallesons has worked with the NCYLC as a community partner since 2001 in support of its overall capacity and mission, and with a number of its core legal information and advice services.

www.kwm.com

Supporter of the 2014 Children's Law Awards



Australian Government
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