

Youth Achievement Awards 2025/2026

On May 27, nearly 200 people filled the Strathfield Town Hall for the Youth Achievement Awards 2025/2026. Even the State of Origin couldn't dampen the enthusiasm and support for the 48 nominees from our local schools and youth organisations.

The event was attended by the Mayor of Strathfield Benjamin Cai, Deputy Mayor Sandy Reddy, Councillor John-Paul Baladi, Councillor Karen Pensabene, Councillor Esther Kim, Strathfield Girls High School Principal Mechel Pikoulas, Homebush Boys High School Principal Kevin Elgood, and other senior staff from various schools.

This year, the event was a true collaboration between Strathfield Rotary and Strathfield Council. Jack Britton and his team from Strathfield Council were instrumental in the planning right from the start and every step of the way through.



For the first time in the history of the Youth Awards, we had student MCs, musical performances, and a brand-new website. Our rocket-scientist keynote speaker, Dr Anita Vandyke delivered an awe-inspiring speech.

I want to thank again everyone who contributed significantly behind the scenes, Bradley Ayres, Usha Garg, Rod McDougall, Anjali Jain, Ed Dunlop (chair of adjudication panel), Alexey Prokopenko, and Jack Britton from Strathfield Council.

Also a big thank you to everyone who was involved on the night. It was a special evening celebrating the excellence, achievements and commitment of youth in our community

Ying Ho
President Rotary Club of Strathfield