

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2017 LUNCHEON AWARDS

IRENE BELL AWARDS 2017

Presented by the Hon Zoe Bettison MP, Minister for the Status of Women

Erica Majba

Erica has worked through Zonta International since 1999, advocating for issues affecting women, in particular domestic violence. She is currently the Chair of an advocacy program in the Zonta Club of Adelaide to raise awareness of domestic violence against women. Erica has championed the program and has encouraged Western Australian and Victorian Zonta Clubs to take up the program.

Through Zonta she coordinated a volunteer mentoring program, using returned and semi-retired business and professional people to develop rising women managers in the not-for-profit sector. This program was taken up by Volunteering SA and NT and is still running seven years after inception. Erica has provided further community service by taking on leadership responsibilities in the university of the third age and through her support of the Women's Community Centre at Stepney in its fight to survive funding cuts.

Dr Wendy Abigail

Dr Abigail is a longterm active member of many organisations advocating for women locally statewide, nationally and internationally. As a registered nurse with 40 years' experience, she has contributed to her own clinical work, academic research and volunteer advocacy. As an active member of the national Council of Women, Dr Abigail has served on a wide range of women's health related committees and working parties, taking part in the development of influential Papers lobbying for attention to critical women's health issues such as domestic violence, sexual and reproductive health and cervical cancer screening. Dr Abigail's work has extended overseas in visits to Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand where she has provided women focussed education, research training, a research project and donations of goods to assist in improvements in women's health outcomes in these countries.

Steph Key MP

Steph Key MP, the Member for Ashford, has had a passion for social justice from an early age and right through her trade unionist and Parliamentary career, from which she will retire in March next year as of the next State election.

A former South Australian Minister for the Status of Women, since 2006 Steph has been a backbencher who has seen her work over many years result in changes in the area of Equal Opportunity, some rights for same sex couples and improvements in the process and laws surrounding rape, sexual assault, child protection and domestic violence.

Steph is a founding member of the notorious 'Suffrajets' basketball team, the Trade Union Choir SA, EMILY's list and more recently the Muriel Matters Society Inc.

IRENE BELL AWARDS 2017 cont.

Frances Bedford MP

Frances Bedford MP is Deputy Speaker, the Member for Florey and a lifelong champion of social justice issues. The issues that led her to Parliament are the ones that affect most people – having a job with fair conditions, a decent environment to live in, and good public health and education services nearby.

Keen to educate young people about Parliament - and in particular encouraging girls and women to actively participate in politics - in 2009, Frances founded the Muriel Matters Society, named after an Adelaide-born elocutionist who made a name for herself in the UK suffrage movement in the early 1900s.

Frances works tirelessly to promote Muriel's philosophy of equality and access, especially in the areas of women's participation, industrial fairness, education for all, limiting alcohol and substance abuse and world peace.

YOUNG WOMEN'S COMMUNITY AND SPIRIT AWARDS 2017 **JOINT WINNERS**

Presented by the Hon Susan Close MP, Minister for Education and Child Development

Atena Abrahamzadeh

Atena's mother Zahra was murdered by her father in public in 2010. In the wake of this tragedy, she and her brother advocated strongly for women and children experiencing DV and went on to found the Zahra Foundation Australia. The Foundation's programs are designed to economically empower women and rebuild their confidence to become financially independent. Atena is a Director on the board of the Zahra Foundation Australia which she was instrumental in setting up in honour of her mother.

Nadia Baldassi-Winderlich

Nadia studied law at the University of Adelaide. She has a strong history of volunteering with community organisations with a focus on refugees and asylum seekers. As a member of Australian Lawyers for Human Rights, Nadia began volunteering at the Hope Café in 2014, helping refugees to fill out their FOI applications.

Subsequently with the backing of the Adelaide Law School, she founded the Law Student Program which she still coordinates. The Program provides people with accurate information through volunteer translators, explains their legal situation and helps them understand what the documents mean and what the next step is. In order to ensure the continuation of the law student program after she leaves, Nadia has been working with the Adelaide Law School and the manager of Eastern Area Uniting Communities to make it part of their learning program.

IRENE KRASTEV AWARDS 2017

Presented by the Hon Grace Portolesi, Chair, SA Multicultural & Ethnic Affairs Commission

Emily Tanui Korir FINALIST

Emily Tanui is an esteemed member of the Kenyan Community in SA. She has been at the forefront in promoting the cause of her disadvantaged community members. She inspires people by motivating and encouraging them to navigate barriers and take control, putting herself as a role model and not surrendering to her severe stroke. Emily is the national executive board member and national treasurer for the Celebrations of African Australians Inc. and Committee member of Human Rights, Migration and Peace Building Committee.

Monica Belosevic FINALIST

Chairperson of the Serbian Community and President of the Serbian Community of South Australia, Monica has dedicated long hours to serving the Serbian community. Her caring and compassion are always comforting to people who are going through difficult times, especially those who are socially disadvantaged. Many are women from post-war Europe.

Norma Hennessy WINNER

Norma is an active in the community in organising programs, participating in projects and advocating for disadvantaged members of ethnic communities. She mobilises community members to support various programs, using Art and Narrative, Norma organised marginalised women to tell their stories, leading to re-awakening a sense of self-belief. She is a volunteer English teacher of migrants and refugees, and encouraged participants to engage with wider communities. She helps women who were victims of human trafficking and visa fraud.