



**A U S T R A L I A N
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A S S O C I A T I O N**

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MEDIA RELEASE

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2006 Retail Awards for Excellence – Winners

The Retail Awards for Excellence is the premier event in the retail industry calendar, honouring the spirit, creativity, and passion that make the retail industry one of the primary contributors to our state's economic health.

More than 40 finalists across 11 award categories demonstrated a rich diversity of retail business excellence. These are the high achievers of the retail industry and their outstanding performance was showcased as achieving excellence in their field.

Held at one of Sydney's first class entertainment venues, Star City, on Friday 3 November, the awards gala dinner featured entertainment by MC media personality Tony Squires and the high octane John Field Band. It was a spectacular event that brought retailers together to celebrate, network and just have fun on the dance floor.

"Through the Retail Awards for Excellence, the Australian Retailers Association endeavours to develop, reward and recognise best business practice. The awards have validated the industry's considerable investment into innovative staff development programs. The best of the best retail organisations were represented on the night and we congratulate all finalists and winners on their great achievement." Duncan Shaw, Executive Officer Australian Retailers Association.

Over 300 guests from all over NSW attended this premier retail event that celebrated the achievements of the best in retail. The glittering gala dinner featured the highly anticipated presentation of winner's plaques to:

Award	Winners Name	Winners Company
Young Retailer of the Year (Open)	Garry Coggan	Harris Farm Markets
1 st Runner-Up Young Retailer of the Year	Janaya Nelson	Best & Less
2 nd Runner-Up Young Retailer of the Year	Peter Arena	Toys R Us
Regional Young Retailer of the Year	Nathan Eaves	Homeart
Small Business Young Retailer of the Year	Lana Hilton	Wagamama
Trainee of the Year	Maria Munoz	McDonalds Australia
Vocational Student of the Year	Rebecca Lillas	McDonalds Australia

Apprentice of the Year	Jacob Tehan	Bakers Delight
Apprentice of the Year Highly Commended	Wade Todd	Bakers Delight
Employer of the Year (Training)		Best & Less
Training Initiative of the Year		Wagamama
Small Business Employer of the Year (Training)		Sunlite City Hardware
NSW President's Award for Outstanding Individual Achievement or Contribution to the Retail Industry	Alan Kindl	Noni B

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