



THE KENNEDY AWARDS



Media Release

Thursday, May 7 2015

A Current Affair sponsors coveted television current affairs award

The NRMA Kennedy Awards for Excellence in NSW Journalism is delighted to announce that the Nine Network's long-running show, A Current Affair, has become the sponsor of the prestigious award for Outstanding Television Current Affairs.

A Current Affair's generous sponsorship of the Outstanding Television Current Affairs Award means that for the first time the category has attracted a key media supporter, fittingly a show which has been a major player in television current affairs for decades.

The coveted award will be presented at this year's NRMA Kennedy Awards gala event at the Australian Turf Club's Royal Randwick Ballroom, Royal Randwick on August 7.

The Outstanding Television Current Affairs Award – won last year by a Four Corners, ABC/ Fairfax team for its expose on the financial planning scandal involving the Commonwealth Bank - recognises standout current affairs reporting aired in NSW during the financial year.

Announcing A Current Affair's sponsorship of the award, Kennedy Foundation Chairman, Peter Ryan, thanked the show for its commitment to the NRMA Kennedy Awards.

"The NRMA Kennedy Awards and the Kennedy Foundation is extremely grateful to have the generous support of the Nine Network's A Current Affair in this, the fourth year of the Kennedy Awards for Excellence in NSW Journalism," Mr Ryan said.

"The award, which was first introduced at the inaugural 2012 Kennedy Awards, will again recognise crack television current affairs over and above that of rival networks throughout NSW.

“The category continues to be a fitting recognition of the expert work our television current affairs teams do on a daily basis, year in year out, and it is fitting that one of our longest running current affairs shows is sponsoring the award this year.

“A Current Affair’s support in 2015 is a significant contribution to the Kennedy Awards which continue to recognise excellence in NSW journalism in a wide range of categories.”

The NRMA Kennedy Awards for Excellence in NSW Journalism, named in honour of legendary Sydney crime reporter Les Kennedy who died aged 53 years in 2011, continue to recognise the state’s finest media professionals and those who have put so much back into the industry.

A Current Affair’s national executive producer Grant Williams acknowledged the work of the Kennedy Foundation and his own personal connection to Les Kennedy himself.

“I had a unique association with Les in that I worked with him for many years in my previous life as a detective with the NSW Police Force and then against him as a fellow journo competing for stories. He was one of the greatest characters I’ve ever met and I admired him greatly,” Mr Williams said.

“I’m thrilled that the A Current Affair team is able to contribute to his legacy in such a major way by sponsoring this prestigious award.”

The NRMA Kennedy Awards are supported by the Kennedy Foundation, a registered charity to administer a benevolent fund for media professionals facing hardship as well as to charitable organisations like leading Australian Clinical Trials Group, ANZUP, and its flagship event the Below the Belt Pedalthon.

The presentation of 33 awards will culminate with the announcement of the P&O Cruises NSW Journalist of the Year by the NSW Premier.

***Registrations for the 2015 Kennedy Awards are now open.** Award entries must be submitted to kennedyawardsjudging@gmail.com in electronic form as PDFs, sound/video files or web links by close of business, Wednesday July 1st, 2015 and feature work published or broadcast between July 1 2014 and June 30 2015.

The finalists in 33 categories will be announced at the Australian Turf Club’s Theatre of the Horse on July 22 ahead of the August 7 gala presentation ceremony at Royal Randwick’s Grand Ballroom.

Tax deductible entry registration and gala tickets are available for purchase via our **website kennedyawards.com.au**.

We are also calling for nominations in the Kennedy Award for Lifetime Achievement, to be accompanied by a 400 word tribute to the nominee for consideration by the judging committee. This can be emailed to kennedyawardsjudging@gmail.com.

Media contact: Steve Warnock (0428 968 499)

