

FRESH AWARDS' HAND PICK THE FINEST GREENGROCERS, FLORISTS, GROWERS AND WHOLESALERS IN NSW/ACT

15 June 2018

Finalists in the 2018 Sydney Markets Fresh Awards were today announced, highlighting the excellence of 60 greengrocers, florists, growers, wholesalers and fresh bloggers from across NSW and the ACT.

The finalists have grown and thrived as businesses within each of their local communities by adapting, innovating and offering world class produce and service to their customers.

The Fresh Awards are run by Sydney Markets to recognise and encourage best practice in fresh produce and flower retailing and growing.

The awards are judged by industry experts as well as anonymous local mystery shoppers who visited the businesses over a 6-month period. Nominees were judged on areas such as store appearance, customer service, produce quality, range and freshness.

Sydney Markets' Fresh Awards Manager, Sue Dodd, said the finalists have demonstrated an incredible commitment to both quality and service.

"These small businesses are at the heart of our local communities," Ms Dodd said.

"They offer their customers a winning formula that supermarkets are unable to match - the finest quality produce along with excellent service, a personal touch and a high level of expertise."

"The Fresh Awards act as a timely reminder to all of us about the importance of shopping local and supporting high quality small businesses that contribute so much to our communities."

Winners will be announced during an award ceremony at The Star in Sydney on Wednesday 25th of July 2018. Australian journalist and television personality Chris Bath will act as Master of Ceremonies on the night, overseeing the awards.

Sydney Markets CEO, Brad Latham, said the Fresh Awards are a great source of pride for Sydney Markets, offering a comprehensive program that supports retail excellence and recognises the passion and hard work of fresh produce and flower retails and growers from NSW and the ACT.

Sydney Markets is home to the Sydney Produce Market, Sydney Flower Market and Sydney Growers Market. Supplied by over 20,000 local and interstate growers, more than 700 businesses call the Sydney Markets home, selling fresh fruit, vegetables and cut flowers to florists, fruit retailers and consumers.

2018 FRESH AWARDS FINALISTS

GREENGROCER AWARDS Best Small Business Finalists:

- Bondi Rd Fruitologist, Bondi
- Fruitologist, Rozelle
- Plumpton Fruitworld, Plumpton
- Rossi's Fresh, Carlingford

Best Medium Business Finalists:

- Freshworld, Maroubra
- Harbord Growers Market, Balgowlah
- Ziggy's Fresh, Belconnen
- Ziggy's Fresh, Fyshwick

Best Large Business Finalists:

- Country Growers, Brookvale
- Fruitezy, Chatswood
- Fruitezy Marketplace, Miranda
- Parisí's Food Hall, Rose Bay

Service Excellence Finalists:

- Harbord Growers Market, Balgowlah
- Kareela Grocer, Kareela
- Rossi's Fresh, Carlingford
- Wollombi Road Providore, Cessnock

Retail Presentation Finalists:

- Fruitezy, Chatswood Chase
- Harbord Growers Market, Balgowlah
- Kareela Grocer, Kareela
- Parisi's Food Hall, Rose Bay

Knowledge in Action Finalists:

- Cronulla Gourmet Grocer
- Freshworld, Castle Hill
- Martelli's Fruit Market, Cherrybrook
- Ziggy's Fresh, Belconnen

FLORIST AWARDS

Retail Excellence Finalists:

- B & M Florist, Monterey
- La Vie En Rose, Beecroft
- Pearson's Florist, Chatswood
- The Floral Decorator, Erskineville

Merchandising and Branding Finalists:

- B & M Florist, Monterey
- Jodie McGregor Flowers, Annandale
- Native Botanical, Young
- Pure Flowers, Lane Cove

Service Excellence Finalists:

- Allflowers.com.au, Emu Plains
- B & M Florist, Monterey
- Bunch It with Country, Narellan
- Pure Flowers, Lane Cove

GROWER AWARDS

Produce Grower of the Year finalists:

- Goldenfield Growers, Wallacia
- Grima Farm Fresh Produce, Horsley Park
- Maries Bella Zucchini Flowers, Berkshire Park
- P J Fresh, Badgerys Creek

Flower Grower of the Year finalists:

- Bagala Bros, Horsley Park
- Eagles Greens Supplies, Ourimbah
- East Coast Wildflowers, Mangrove Mountain
- S & P Dominello, Peats Ridge

WHOLESALER OF THE YEAR

- Export Fresh, Sydney Markets
- Fresh Fellas, Sydney Markets
- Goldenfruit, Sydney Markets
- Roy Cave & Sons, Sydney Markets

BLOGGER AWARD

Fresh Blogger of The Year Award finalists

- Five Bean Foods, Elissa Steel
- See Taste Do, Jenny Wong
- Sydney Food Sisters, Effi Tsoukatos & Caterina Sterrantino
- Travel with Joanne, Joanne Karcz

Greengrocer of the Year and Florist of the Year, finalists and winners to be announced on the 25 July 2018.

For further information about the 2018 Fresh Awards, visit <u>www.freshawards.com.au</u> or contact Sue Dodd, Fresh Awards Manager 0438 725 453