

#### **MEDIA RELEASE**

## THE WINNERS OF THE 2022 SYDNEY MARKETS FRESH AWARDS HAVE BEEN ANNOUNCED

Following a two-year hiatus the winners were recognised at a glamorous event in Sydney

NSW and ACT's top florists, greengrocers, providores, wholesalers and content creators were crowned the freshest and best in the business at Sydney Markets' 2022 <u>Fresh Awards</u> at a glittery cocktail function at the ICC Sydney this evening.

The annual Fresh Awards are a much anticipated industry event. As with most events across the country, Sydney Markets was forced to cancel the award ceremony twice during the pandemic. After a two-year absence, this year's awards night was back bigger and better than ever! The industry's elite came out in numbers to celebrate and acknowledge their achievements, staff, colleagues and resilience.

Master of Ceremonies and Fresh Awards favourite, Chris Bath, returned to the stage this year in celebration of the NSW and ACT's freshest. Bath, along with special guests and Sydney Markets leaders awarded 17 incredible winners amongst the fresh produce, floral and content industries.

The Fresh Awards are one of the industry's most highly-regarded accolades. They encourage and acknowledge best practice and innovation in the growing, retailing, wholesaling and content creation of fresh produce and flowers. This year saw 63 finalists recognised across 17 categories which, for the first time, included recognition for businesses in the Non-Retail/Studio Florist sector.

Brad Latham, CEO of Sydney Markets, took great pride in recognising the hard work and dedication of those working within the fresh produce and floral industries, and welcomed the night of celebration with the Markets community.

"The Fresh Award contenders are some of the heroes of our industry. They have had to navigate some of the most challenging times in business both with the pandemic and natural disasters, yet not only have they survived, many have thrived. These small businesses have remained cornerstones of our local communities, pivoting and adapting to ensure they can continue to service their customers."

John Pearson, Chairman of Sydney Markets added, "These businesses are a credit to themselves, and to the industry in general. They work tirelessly to deliver top quality produce, customer service and value for money. Sydney Markets has been looking forward to commemorating our Fresh Awards finalists and winners with an awards ceremony like we have not seen before – and tonight's event did not disappoint."

Retailers and growers were evaluated through an intensive mystery shopping program. They were judged on everything from produce quality and freshness, customer service and industry knowledge, as well as their store appearance and innovative approaches.

Non-Retail / Studio Florist and Fresh Content creators were assessed by a panel of esteemed judges including journalists, authors and industry experts.



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.

For further information about the 2022 Fresh Awards, visit www.freshawards.com.au

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### SYDNEY MARKETS FRESH AWARDS FINALISTS & WINNERS 2022

### **GREENGROCER AWARDS**

Greengrocer of the Year: WINNER: Fruitezy - Miranda

Finalists:

The Grocery Store – Miranda
The Whole Fruit and Grocery Store – Sylvania
Ziggys Fresh - Fyshwick

Retail Presentation
WINNER: Tom's Superfruits - Belconnen

Finalists:

Fruitezy - Miranda LoSurdo's Fresh Food Grocer – Northbridge Ziggys Fresh - Fyshwick

Knowledge in Action
WINNER: LoSurdo's Fresh Food Grocer - Northbridge

Finalists:

Fruitezy – Chatswood Fruitezy – Miranda Tom's Superfruits – Belconnen Ziggys Fresh – Fyshwick

Service Excellence
WINNER: Jannali Quality Fruit & Vegetables - Jannali

Finalists:

Fruitezy – Miranda
The Whole Fruit and Grocery Store – Sylvania
Ziggys Fresh - Fyshwick



# Best Small Business WINNER: Wollombi Road Providore - Cessnock

Finalists:

Daily Fresh – Randwick
Summer Hill Village Fruit Shop – Summer Hill
Thirroul Fruit Barn - Thirroul

# Best Medium Business WINNER: Willoughby Fresh - Willoughby

Finalists:

Menai Top of the Crop – Menai The Whole Fruit and Grocery Store – Sylvania Thre3 Brothers Fresh – Dural

# Best Large Business WINNER: Ziggys Fresh - Fyshwick

Finalists:

Fruitezy - Miranda LoSurdo's Fresh Food Grocer - Northbridge The Grocery Store - Miranda

### **FLORIST AWARDS**

# Florist of the Year: WINNER: Belfield Blooms - Belfield

Finalists:

Art of Bloom - Balmain Bella Floral Boutique - Morisset Your Favourite Florist - Engadine

# Retail Presentation B & M Florist - Monterey

Finalists:

Eden Flower Studio - Gregory Hills Floral Ink - Wentworth Falls Mary K Floral Design - Maroubra

# Service Excellence WINNER: Bella Floral Boutique - Morisset

Finalists:

Art of Bloom - Balmain Eden Flower Studio - Gregory Hills Your Favourite Florist - Engadine



# Merchandising and Branding WINNER: Touchwood Flowers – Port Macquarie

Finalists:

Belfield Blooms - Belfield Funky Flowers - Caringbah Your Favourite Florist - Engadine

Non-retail/ Studio Florist
WINNER: HANANINGEN - Sydney

Finalists:

Florada – Waterloo
MN Floral Images – South Wentworthville
Peony Story – Rosebery
The Naked Florist – Cardiff Heights

# **GROWERS AWARDS**

Produce Grower of the Year:
WINNER: Grech Farm Trading - Theresa Park

Finalists:

Gourmet Herbs - Glossodia Grima's Fresh Farm - Horsley Park Parilla Fresh - Milperra

Flower Grower of the Year: WINNER: Bagala Bros Australia - Horsley Park

finalist:

Commercial Flowers - Kenthurst S & P Dominello Flower Growers – Peats Ridge Thornton Bros Roses - Thirlmere

### WHOLESALER AWARD

Wholesaler of the Year:
WINNER: Perfection Fresh – Sydney Markets

finalists:

Allcrops – Sydney Markets Alvaro Bros – Sydney Markets Tropicana Banana – Sydney Markets



# **PROVIDORE AWARD**

Providore of the Year Award: WINNER: MD Provodores - Auburn

Finalist:

Alpha Fresh Foods - Hume, ACT PARISI Wholesale – Sydney Markets Sydney Direct Fresh Produce - Huntingwood

# FRESH CONTENT AWARD

Fresh Content Award Winner:
WINNER: Anita Garrido – cre\_ate\_dbyanita
Finalists:

Mary Politis - Mary's Kouzina Suzanne Robinson – Mummy to Twins Plus One Tilly Pamment – Tilly's Table