

2026 Merri-bek Community Awards Nomination form



Before you start

The Merri-bek Community Awards recognise people and groups who make a positive difference in our community.

Who can be nominated?

You can nominate a person, group or organisation that has made a positive contribution to Merri-bek in the last 12 months.

The nominee must live, work, study, volunteer, participate in community activities, or have made a significant contribution in Merri-bek.

Important dates

- Nominations close: 5pm, Monday 24 August 2026
- Awards ceremony: Thursday 8 October 2026

Important information

- You can nominate the same person, group or organisation for more than one award category.
- Complete a separate nomination form for each award category.
- Include supporting documents if you have them, but you do not need to provide them.

What you will need

Before completing this form, please make sure you have:

- Spoken with the nominee and confirmed they are happy to be nominated
- Prepared a written statement of 200–500 words explaining why they deserve the award
- Gathered any supporting documents, photos, testimonials or evidence (optional)

Section 1: Award Category

Please select **one** award category

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| ☐ Volunteer of the Year Award | ☐ Sport and Recreation Achievement Award | ☐ First Peoples Cultural Leadership Award
(in recognition of Lisa Bellel) |
| ☐ Youth Impact Award | ☐ Community Initiative of the Year Award | |
| ☐ Honouring Women Award | ☐ Arts and Creative Expression Award | |
| ☐ Diversity and Inclusion Award | ☐ Environmental Sustainability Award
(in recognition of John Englart) | |

Section 2: Nominee details

The person, organisation or group you would like to nominate

Who are you nominating?

- ☐ An individual ☐ A group or organisation

First name:

Last name:

Age (Youth Impact Award only):

Organisation or group name:

Suburb:

Email:

Phone:

Your details

The person completing this nomination

First name:

Last name:

Suburb:

Email:

Phone:

More information

9240 1111

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Section 3: Why are you nominating this person or group?

Please attach a written statement of **200–500 words**.

Your statement should explain:

- what the person or group has achieved
- how they have helped the Merri-bek community
- why their contribution is important
- any significant achievements, milestones or dates
- how they meet the award category criteria

You may also include:

- letters of support
- photographs
- media articles
- certificates or awards
- other supporting information

Section 4: Award criteria

Please use the criteria below to help prepare your written statement.

Arts & Creative Expression Award

Recognises a person or group that has made an outstanding contribution to arts, culture or creative activities in Merri-bek, or has created opportunities for people in the community to take part in arts and cultural activities.

The nominee must live in Merri-bek or have made a significant contribution to the community through a project, program or creative activity.

Community Initiative of the Year Award

Recognises a person, group or community-led initiative that has made a significant positive difference in Merri-bek over the past year.

This may include a project, event, campaign, program or community movement that brought people together, responded to a local need, or improved community wellbeing.

Diversity and Inclusion Award

Recognises a person, group or organisation that has helped create a more inclusive, welcoming and fair community in Merri-bek.

This may include work that supports LGBTIQ+ inclusion, improves accessibility, promotes cultural safety, addresses racism, or creates opportunities for people from diverse backgrounds to participate and feel included. The nominee has made a positive and lasting difference through their leadership, actions or initiatives.

Environmental Sustainability Award (in recognition of John Englart)

Recognises a person, group, project or initiative that has helped improve environmental sustainability in Merri-bek. The project or initiative has made a positive impact on the environment and encouraged others to adopt more sustainable practices.

The nominee has shown creativity, innovation or leadership in overcoming challenges and achieving positive outcomes for the community.

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Section 4: Award criteria (continued)

First Peoples Cultural Leadership Award (in recognition of Lisa Bellear)

Honours First Nations leadership, cultural strength, advocacy and community impact.

The nominee has helped build understanding, respect and stronger relationships between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and the wider community.

The nominee has also supported reconciliation by raising awareness, sharing knowledge, or creating opportunities for people to learn about and celebrate First Peoples cultures and histories.

Honouring Women Award

Recognises a person, group or organisation of any gender that has made a positive contribution to supporting women and advancing gender equality in Merri-bek.

The nominee has helped create opportunities, encourage leadership, improve wellbeing or human rights outcomes, and promote greater inclusion, participation and equality in the community.

Sport and Recreation Achievement Award

Recognises a person, group or organisation that has made an outstanding contribution to sport and recreation in Merri-bek.

The nominee has increased participation, encouraged inclusion, strengthened community connections, or achieved excellence in sport. Their contribution has had a positive impact on community wellbeing, engagement and participation in sport and recreation.

Volunteer of the Year Award

Recognises a volunteer who has made an outstanding contribution to the Merri-bek community.

The nominee has shown dedication through their volunteer work and made a positive and lasting difference to the lives of others and the broader community.

Youth Impact Award

Recognises a young person who has made a positive contribution to the Merri-bek community.

The nominee has supported, inspired or created positive change for other young people through their leadership, achievements, community involvement or advocacy.

The nominee must be aged 25 years or younger on the date of the awards ceremony

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Section 5: Confirmation of nomination

Please read and sign below.

I confirm that:

- ☐ The nominee has agreed to be nominated.
- ☐ The information provided in this nomination is accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Signature _____

Date _____

Section 6: Submit your nomination



Email

civicevents@merri-bek.vic.gov.au



In Person

Merri-bek Civic Centre
90 Bell Street, Coburg



Post

Merri-bek City Council
Locked Bag 10
Brunswick VIC 3056

Brunswick Customer Service Centre
233 Sydney Road, Brunswick

Glenroy Community Hub
50 Wheatsheaf Road, Glenroy

Speak with us in your language



For more information visit merri-bek.vic.gov.au/your-language

Per maggiori informazioni nella tua lingua, chiama il numero **9280 1911**

اپنی زبان میں مزید جاننے کے لیے
پر کال کریں۔ **9280 1917**

如需了解更多您语言版本
的信息, 请致电 **9280 0750**

अपनी भाषा में अधिक जानने के
लिए, **9280 1918** पर कॉल करें

Για να μάθετε περισσότερα στη
γλώσσα σας, καλέστε το **9280 1912**

तपाईंको भाषामा थप जान्नको लागि,
9280 1910 मा कल गर्नुहोस्

Para saber más en tu idioma
llama al **9280 1916**

To speak with us in a
language not listed here,
please call **9280 1919**

لمعرفة المزيد بلغتك، اتصل
بالرقم **9280 1913**

Kendi dilinizde daha fazla bilgi
edinmek için **9280 1914**'ü arayın

Để tìm hiểu thêm bằng ngôn
ngữ của bạn, hãy gọi **9280 1915**

Privacy collection notice

Merri-bek City Council is committed to protecting your privacy in accordance with the Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014 (Vic) and the Health Records Act 2001 (Vic). The personal information requested on this form is being collected by Merri-bek City Council for the Merri-bek Awards and may also be used to update your personal information otherwise held by Council (for example, contact details including email address, phone number). The personal information will be disclosed to Council Officers and the Merri-bek Community Recognition Committee for Award selection, event participation and subsequent media promotion and may also be used by Council for related purposes. It will not be disclosed to any other external party without your consent, unless required or authorised by law. If the personal information is not provided the application will not be assessed. You can gain access to your personal information you have provided to Merri-bek City Council and if you wish to alter it, please contact **Council's Privacy Officer** via telephone on **9240 1111** or e-mail at Privacyofficer@Merri-bek.vic.gov.au.

More information

9240 1111
merri-bek.vic.gov.au/merri-bek-awards

2026 Merri-1

(200 – 500 words)

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(200 – 500 words)