



National Retail Association

MEDIA STATEMENT

July 5, 2011

Awards wait nearly over for young retailers

A talented group of 23 nervous young retailers will find out in less than a month who will be the National Retail Association Young Retailer of the Year.

The award recognises excellence in retailers under the age of 25 and the NRA is pleased to announce this year's finalists are:

Name	Organisation	State
<i>Alexis Pead</i>	Myer	QLD
<i>Angel Ka Ming Chan</i>	Oroton Group	NSW
<i>Ashley Roberts</i>	Country Road	SA
<i>Christopher Simmons</i>	Retail Adventures	NSW
<i>Cory Gordon</i>	Michael Hill Jeweller	WA
<i>Haley Cousins</i>	Yum! Australia - KFC	NSW
<i>Jennifer Skeahan-Heugh</i>	Kmart Australia	NSW
<i>Jessica Wiseheart</i>	Jeanswest	NSW
<i>Jordann Oliphant</i>	Woolworths	WA
<i>Kate Pocklington</i>	Yum! Australia - KFC	VIC
<i>Katherine Powell</i>	Target	WA
<i>Kylie Gauci</i>	Quality Pharmacy Group	VIC
<i>Lanai Mooney</i>	Leading Edge Computers Orange	NSW
<i>Loren Ayers</i>	Starbucks Coffee Company	QLD
<i>Lotus Moy</i>	Kikki. K	VIC
<i>Matt Mc Mahon</i>	Dick Smith	QLD
<i>Scott Boettcher</i>	Super Retail Group	SA
<i>Sophia Wilkins</i>	Officeworks	NSW
<i>Steven Petrella</i>	Super Retail Group	QLD
<i>Tammy Fielding</i>	Luxottica - Sunglass Hut	QLD
<i>Tanya-Marie den Boer</i>	The Coffee Club	WA
<i>Tegan Kennedy</i>	Myer	VIC
<i>Tim Burdon</i>	Caltex Australia	VIC

Judge Marlene Barratt said she was pleased to see the diversity of representation this year, with submissions received from every state and territory.

"It is never easy selecting from the long list of young talent but the finalists have demonstrated outstanding passion and innovation towards their career and the retail industry. I wish them the best of luck for the next stages of the competition," Ms Barratt said.

This year, for the first time, the winner will walk away with a ticket to the Westfield World Retail Study Tour valued at \$16,000.

Jack Hanrahan, Retailer Relations General Manager at Westfield Group, said the company was committed to retail excellence and were proud to support the event to promote an industry with such career opportunities.

“We are very pleased to offer the winner a place on the study tour, which will allow them to see behind the retail scenes in a number of major cities over two weeks, with other like-minded retail industry people,” Mr Hanrahan said.

“The tour’s goal is to educate, motivate and inspire retailers by exposure to the latest global retail trends and technology, providing interactive learning experiences with leading edge retailers and providers globally.”

Before heading to Sydney for the big event, the finalists will undergo a telephone interview and presentation in front of the judging panel.

The award will be presented at a sit-down lunch at the Sydney Mercure Hotel on Wednesday, July 27. Presentations will be made by the keynote speaker Peter Birtles, MD and CEO of the Super Retail Group, and selected finalists will be asked to present.

A workshop will be held that morning with presentations from the Retail Doctor Managing Director Brian Walker, Retailer Relations General Manager of the Westfield Group Jack Hanrahan, Managing Director of Retail Advisor Michael McIntosh, E-2’s Strategy Director Sonja Källström, and Creative Strategist Paul O’Connor, and last year’s award winner Kaylee Albronda, representing Myer.

NRA Executive Director Gary Black said he encourages the public to attend this significant industry event to support the retail sector and its stars.

Please visit www.nra.net.au for more information or contact Carly Faragher, Events and Marketing Manager on 1800 RETAIL (738 245) or events@nra.net.au.