

#### PRESS RELEASE 28<sup>th</sup> October 2024

#### WESTERN SYDNEY TOURISM AWARDS 2024 HIGHLIGHT REGION'S EXCELLENCE

#### WINNERS ANNOUNCED

The inaugural Western Sydney Tourism Awards 2024, hosted by Western Sydney Tourism Taskforce NSW Inc, was a night to remember as industry leaders, government officials, and tourism businesses came together to honour the best of the region's visitor economy. Held on October 24th at the William Inglis Hotel, the event showcased the diversity and excellence of Western Sydney

With multicultural entertainment, delicious cuisine, and a sense of celebration in the air, the event highlighted the achievements of Western Sydney's tourism industry.

Welcome notes were given by Deputy Mayor Peter Harle Liverpool City Council, Steve Cox Destination NSW and Catherine Payne Western Sydney International Airport.

Ms Fazila Farhad, the chair of the Western Sydney Tourism spoke "As we eagerly anticipate the opening of WSI Airport in just two short years, we are proud to announce the winners of the Western Sydney Tourism Awards. These awards are being proactively held to showcase to the international and local markets the cluster of our tourism assets showcasing art, music, hotels, events, campaigns, leadership, history with businesses that have excelled in day and night visitation. We are an international destination and will continue to work with Asia Pacific Markets to showcase our region and advocate for our visitor economy"

Thirteen awards were presented in categories ranging from art and music to hotels and events, with winners receiving recognition from industry leaders such as Qantas, IHG Hotels and Resorts, Vietnam Airlines, Quest Hotels, Mercure /Liverpool Catholic Club, Cabravale Diggers /Novotel and Winter Sports World, Park Royal Parramatta, and University of Wollongong.

Vietnam Airlines sponsored a lucky draw for two tickets to Vietnam, adding an extra element of excitement to the evening.

Overall, the Western Sydney Tourism Awards 2024 was a resounding success, demonstrating the region's commitment to excellence in the tourism industry.



#### The Winners are:

# 1. Campaign Awards 2024 - Hotels / Tourism Business- MAJOR

- 1. Platinum Winner: "Ready for It", Holiday Inn Parramatta
- 2. Gold Winner: "Land of OZ", Camden Valley Inn
- 3. Silver Winner: Little India Liverpool

### 2. Events Campaign Awards - Councils

- 1. Platinum Winner: "Parramatta Lanes", City of Parramatta
- 2. Gold Winner: Liverpool City Council "Experience the World"

#### 3. Business Event Festival for the Year-MAJOR

- 1. Platinum Winner: "Glow", Sydney Zoo
- 2. Gold Winner: Wollondilly Shire Council "Illuminate Festival of Art & Light"

# 4. Tour Group Experience of the Year

- 1. Platinum Winner: "GDT Journey", Golden Dragon Travel
- 2. Gold Winner: Wollondilly Tours



#### 5. Best Visitor Economy Event - Day Visitation

- 1. Platinum Winner: "Thirlmere Festival of Steam", Transport Heritage NSW & Wollondilly Shire Council
- 2. Gold Winner: Blacktown City Council "Medieval Fayre"

#### 6. Best Visitor Economy Event - Night Visitation

Platinum Winner: "Most Blessed Nights", Liverpool City Council

### 7. Outstanding Business Leader of the year -MAJOR

- 1. Platinum Winner: Jake Burgess, Sydney Zoo
- 2. Platinum Winner: Amanda Barnes, Kalinya Estates
- 3. Gold Winner: Anurag Sharma, Holiday Inn Paramatta

# 8. Outstanding Community Engagement

- 1. Platinum Winner: June Young, Lifeline Macarthur
- 2. Platinum Winner: Michael Foulkes, Cabravale Diggers
- 3. Gold Winner: Brent Hilbrink Watson, Wollondilly Tours
- 4. Silver Winner: Irlanda Garcia, Skye Suites Parramatta



#### 9. Best Rated Cuisine - Hotels / Clubs / Restaurants

1. Platinum Winner: "China Doll", West HQ

2. Gold Winner: "Bellbird Dining and Bar", Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre

3. Gold Winner: "District 8", Cabravale Diggers

4. Silver Winner: Menangle Country Club

#### 10. Best Historical Venue - Visitation

1. Platinum Winner: NSW Rail Museum

2. Gold Winner: Kalinya Estate

#### 11. Best Music and Arts Venue

1. Platinum Winner: Sydney Coliseum Theatre, West HQ

2. Gold Winner: Campbelltown Arts Centre

3. Gold Winner: Riverside Theatres Parramatta



#### 12. Best Multicultural Show / Event

1. Platinum Winner: "Cabramatta Moon Festival", Fairfield City Council

2. Gold Winner: "Motherland Africa", Liverpool City Council

#### 13. Tourism Business of the Year MAJOR

1. Platinum Winner: Accor Stadium -Olympic Park

2. Gold Winner: Australian Botanic Garden Mount Annan

3. Silver Winner: Liverpool Catholic Club Silver Winner: The William Inglis Hotel

Special Award: Outstanding Contribution to Tourism - 50 years in Western Sydney

Featherdale Wildlife Park

(See Images below)





Fazila Farhad , Chair Western Sydney Tourism





Steve Cox, Destination NSW opening the Awards





**Catherine Payne, Western Sydney International Airport** 





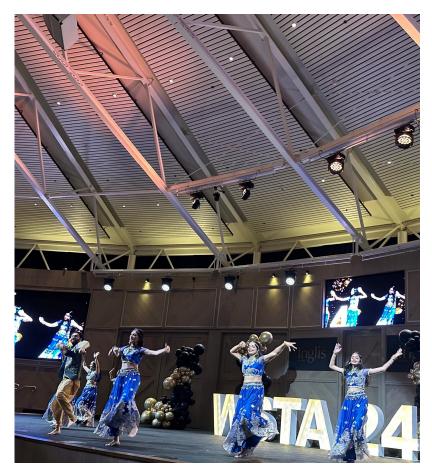
Vietnamese Dance performance





Winners of the Awards





**Bollywood Dance Performance** 





# **Board members of Western Sydney Tourism Taskforce**

For further enquiries Email: join@wstourism.com.au

Western Sydney Tourism Taskforce NSW Inc.

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