

**MEDIA RELEASE – Melbourne, Australia - 13.12.11**

## **THE SCHOOL BROADCASTING NETWORK Inc**

is proud to announce the winners

### **SBN School and International Youth Awards**



The School Broadcasting Network Inc officially launched to the world on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2011 with the **SBN Inc School and International Youth Awards** held at Trinity Grammar Centre for the Arts. **SBN Patron, world renowned Futurist Dr Peter Ellyard gave the opening address and Dr Ellyard also headed the panel of judges who included Graz van Egmond, Executive Director, Banksia Foundation and Victoria Wilding, CEO, Shift Foundation.** The highlight podcast of the SBN Awards will go out nationally across Australia via CRN at 9am 14<sup>th</sup> December.

Numerous nominations were received showcasing the initiatives of amazing young people across Australia and overseas who are innovative leaders - caring for their peers, wider community and our global environment. **SBN also launched the Indigenous Youth Award, proudly sponsored by [The Banksia Foundation](#)**, which, by 2012, will include indigenous nations around the world.

**All winners of the SBN International Youth Awards will be profiled in Positive Impact Magazine (USA) for the next edition in 2012, as part of the magazine's new Australian launch.** For the address from Editor in Chief, Charity Beck, [click here](#).



*'This historic awards event demonstrates how a simple radio linkage and on-line connectivity can create a global cooperating cohort of purposeful young future-makers who share the goal of creating a prosperous, sustainable, harmonious, secure and just future for all. Like many emerging leaders these people often find themselves treading a lonely pathway in doing what is so important to both them and us. Now through the SBN they are able to find, and draw inspiration from, supporting kindred spirits and soul mates in other countries who share their ideals and purposes. My congratulations to*

*Viarnne Mischon and the SBN team for their dedicated and pioneering work of facilitating their journeys"*

**Futurist Dr Peter Ellyard, Patron of The School Broadcasting Network Inc**

**The winner of the inaugural SBN Indigenous Youth Award 2011**

**Proudly sponsored by Banksia Foundation, Australia**

**Allara Pattison, 17 years - Bendigo, Australia**

Wannik Scholarship recipient



*"The Banksia Environmental Foundation is very proud to be sponsoring the SBN Indigenous Youth Award. Through our own Awards program we have seen the positive outcome that recognition plays in our society and we are especially proud of working with the Federal Government's Caring For Country Program where we seek out and award Indigenous projects from around the country on their environmental leadership. We have so much to learn from our Indigenous Australians."*

**Graz van Egmond, Executive Director, Banksia Foundation**

**Winner SBN International Youth Award 2011 8-12 yrs girl**

**Mia Vissenjoux, 12 years - Melbourne, Australia**

School Captain, Bentleigh West Primary School



**Winner SBN International Youth Award 2011 8-12 yrs boy**

**Pavan Raj Gowda, 11 years - California USA**

Founder 'Green Kids Now' non-profit charity for increasing environmental awareness and action



## TOP FINALISTS

**Holly Torjul**, 7 ½ years Adelaide, Aust

**Zoe Sibbons** 6 ½ years Adelaide, Aust

**Megan Kennedy** 11 years Geelong, Aust

**Kasim Ibrahim and Michael Schreiber** 12 years, Melbourne, Aust

**Molly Horne** 12 years Melbourne, Aust

**Ebony Lawrence** 12 years Melbourne, Aust

**Winner SBN International Youth Award 2011 13-18 yrs girl - equal winners**

**Tiana Spence, 17 years - Rockhampton, Qland**

Driving force behind Central Queensland Alive awareness campaign



**Salma Udayan, 16 years - India**

Ran the Delhi half marathon to raise funds for her fellow orphans



**Winner SBN International Youth Award 2011 13-18 yrs boy - joint winners**

**Ali Amod 16 years and Adam Alahmad 17 years - Granville, NSW Australia**

Running a before school café to provide healthy food for students in a safe environment



The SBN Inc International Youth Awards are designed to acknowledge the numerous ‘unsung heroes’ – young people who are leading the way by:

- caring for community
- being committed to social justice
- creating initiatives and benchmarks for an equitable and sustainable future
- furthering the understanding and integration of indigenous or international culture

**The caliber of this year’s inaugural SBN Youth Award nominees is astounding and confirms the value of honouring the numerous young people around the globe who are soon to become our world leaders.**

#### **TOP FINALISTS**

**Parrys Raines (aka Climate girl) 16 years, NSW, Aust**

**Deepak Udayan, 17 years India**

**Kimberly Pellosis 18 years, Frankston, Aust**

**Isabella Simone Toms 15 years, Belingen, Aust**

**Allara Pattison 18 years Bendigo, Aust**

**Brooke Snow 17 years Atherton, Aust**

**Thea Depler-Depold 17 years, SA, Aust**

**Elly Robertson 15 years Melbourne, Aust**

**Hamza Dhedhy 16 years Melbourne, Aust**

**Amnah 13 years and Maryam Arain 14 years Melbourne, Aust**

**Molly Supple 16 years Melbourne, Aust**

**Joshua Reuben 15 years Melbourne, Aust**

## The SBN School Awards 2011

Nine finalist schools performed for the **SBN School Award** - each school performing an original piece based on this year's focus "If you had three minutes to communicate something of vital importance to the world, what would it be?"

**The winning schools were Bentleigh Secondary College, Geelong Christian College and Bentleigh West Primary School.** Each school receives a fully sponsored 'SwitchOn Radio' enrichment program and will be mentored to create their own unique one hour radio show for 'SwitchOn Radio' - a SBN production to broadcast via 3WBC 94.1fm in 2012



*"It was extremely challenging to judge the finalists in the SBN School Awards. All entries were of outstanding quality. The passion, commitment and leadership demonstrated by all participants was highly commendable"* **Victoria Wilding, CEO Shift Foundation**

**The School Broadcasting Network Inc is a non-profit global portal for youth media, young people, schools and youth organization dedicated to giving young people a voice in creating their own future.** SBN is both proud to have founded this initiative and humbled to discover the depth and breadth of commitment and passion shown by the many young people nominated for the inaugural SBN International Youth Awards. The new SBN website [www.sbnonline.org](http://www.sbnonline.org) will officially launch in early first term 2012. The School Broadcasting Network Inc is an initiative borne from the foundations built by multi-award winning independent production network Wonderful World Media (WWMN) based in Melbourne, Australia.

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