



Women in AI Awards: Business, Government and Research Now Eligible

The [2021 Women in AI Awards Australia and New Zealand](#) celebrate the best work in AI by women across the region.

With a phenomenal response from local AI leaders, we are pleased to announce the women in AI awards 2021 are ***now open to all women working, leading, creating and demonstrating innovation in AI across Australia and New Zealand.***

Australian Women in AI Ambassador and **CEO of Pat Inc Beth Carey**: "I am pleased to update the criteria for WAI Awards 2021 Australia - New Zealand. With guidance and support from our esteemed Advisory Group, we are broadening the criteria for applicants.

The awards will now be ***open to all female leaders & innovators in industry, university, government and startups.*** This acknowledges the global impact female AI professionals are having as well as increasing the talent pool of our small ANZ population."

The awards' mission is to close the gender gap in the field of AI. Celebrating the many women making outside contributions to the industry helps educate the next generation of female leaders in AI, and increase female representation and participation in the field.

CEO and founder of STEM Matters Kylie Ahern agrees: "In 2016, Australia had the lowest % among countries in the Asia Pacific region for girls electing to take STEM subjects in school (27%). And [reports acknowledge](#) a range of barriers for female entrepreneurs, including unconscious gender bias, lack of visibility, less capital, fewer professional networks; lack of research and reporting, underrepresentation in high-growth industries and lower confidence.

The awards offer a chance to not only celebrate the women who HAVE overcome these challenges, and help to address many of them; but also broaden the exposure of VCs to the depth of talent in Australia. Lifting that awareness also helps to sustain economic growth for the AI sector – the more stories out there, the more awareness there is."

With 11 categories of entry, the awards represent a chance for Australia and New Zealand to support and reward the excellence of those outstanding women now working in the AI sector - and improve pathways for future generations.

To find out more, or to enter the awards, please visit www.womeninai.co/waiawards2021aus-nz