



AIIP Awards 2027

*Celebrating the people, programs and research
advancing intergenerational practice in Australia*

Applicant Information Pack

About the Awards

The Australian Institute for Intergenerational Practice (AIIP) Intergenerational Practice Awards celebrate excellence across Australia's growing intergenerational practice sector. These awards recognise the individuals, programs, organisations and researchers whose work is creating meaningful connections between generations and contributing to stronger, more inclusive, and age-friendly communities.

Intergenerational practice has advanced significantly in recent years, with increasing recognition of the social, educational, health and community benefits that emerge when people of different generations learn, work, create and connect together. Across Australia, practitioners, researchers and organisations are leading innovative approaches that challenge age-based stereotypes, foster reciprocal relationships, and strengthen social cohesion.

The AIIP Awards provide an opportunity to acknowledge, celebrate and showcase this outstanding work. They shine a spotlight on the achievements of those who are advancing the field through excellence in practice, innovation, leadership, collaboration and research. By sharing examples of effective intergenerational initiatives, the awards contribute to a growing evidence base and inspire others to strengthen and expand their own intergenerational practice.

As the national peak body for intergenerational practice in Australia, AIIP is committed to supporting a future where meaningful relationships across generations are valued, encouraged and embedded in communities, organisations and systems. The Awards reflect AIIP's vision of a society that recognises the strengths, contributions and potential of people of all ages, and its mission to promote excellence, knowledge sharing and continuous improvement in intergenerational practice.

The AIIP Intergenerational Practice Awards 2027 recognise excellence across three categories:

- 1. Program Innovation & Contribution Award 2027**
- 2. Intergenerational Practitioner of the Year 2027**
- 3. Research Excellence Award 2027**

Together, these awards celebrate the people, programs and research that are helping to shape the future of intergenerational practice in Australia.

Purpose of the Awards

The AIIP Intergenerational Practice Awards aim to:

- Recognise and celebrate excellence in intergenerational practice across Australia.
- Showcase innovative and impactful programs, practitioners and research.
- Promote greater awareness and understanding of intergenerational practice and its benefits.
- Encourage high-quality, evidence-informed and values-based approaches to intergenerational engagement.
- Share examples of best practice that can inspire learning and growth across the sector.
- Strengthen the visibility, credibility and sustainability of intergenerational practice nationally.
- Support AIIP's mission to advance meaningful, mutually beneficial connections between generations

Timeline

Activity	Date
Applications Open	1 September 2026
Information Session	23 September 2026, 2:00pm AEST
Applications Close	31 October 2026
Judging Period	November 2026
Finalists Notified	Early December 2026
Finalist Assessment	January 2027
Winners Announced	AIIP Conference 2027 (19-20 February 2027)

Before You Apply

Who Can Apply?

The AIIP Awards are open to individuals, organisations, researchers, and communities that are advancing intergenerational practice in Australia, subject to the eligibility criteria for each award.

Eligibility and Membership

Please review specific eligibility criteria for each award below. Some awards require applicants to hold an AIIP membership or be affiliated with a member organisation. If membership presents a barrier to applying, applicants are encouraged to contact AIIP to discuss their circumstances.

Submission Process

Applying for an AIIP Intergenerational Practice Award is a straightforward process. Please follow the steps below to ensure your submission is complete and eligible for assessment.

Step 1: Review the Information Pack and Confirm Eligibility

Carefully read this Information Pack, including the award descriptions, eligibility requirements, assessment criteria, and key dates. Ensure that you meet the eligibility requirements for the award category you wish to enter before preparing your submission.

Step 2: Download the Relevant Submission Form

Download the submission form that corresponds to your chosen award category.

Step 3: Complete Your Application and Gather Supporting Evidence

Complete all sections of the submission form and address each assessment criterion as clearly and specifically as possible. You are encouraged to provide up to 3 pieces of supporting evidence that demonstrates the quality, impact, innovation, or significance of your work.

Supporting evidence may include:

- Evaluation reports or outcome data
- Testimonials or participant feedback
- Case studies
- Publications or presentations

- Photographs (with appropriate consent)
- Policies, resources, or project documentation
- Media coverage or other relevant materials

Please ensure all supporting materials are clearly labelled and submitted with your application.

Step 4: Submit Your Application

Email your completed submission form and supporting documentation to:

awards@aiip.net.au

Applications must be received by the advertised closing date (31 October) to be considered. You will receive confirmation once your submission has been received.

General Tips for Your Application

- Answer every question directly.
- Use specific examples.
- Provide evidence wherever possible.
- Demonstrate impact and outcomes.
- Include participant feedback, testimonials, evaluation findings, photographs (with consent), or supporting documentation.
- Clearly link your work to the stated AIIP intergenerational practice principles.

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Program Innovation & Contribution Award 2027

Purpose

This award celebrates outstanding intergenerational programs that demonstrate innovation, creativity and meaningful impact through purposeful engagement between generations.

Eligibility

- An intergenerational program that is:
 - Delivered within Australia;
 - Structured (planned and delivered);
 - Purposefully designed to provide mutual benefits to both older and younger generations;
 - Evidence-based (e.g., based on educational frameworks);
 - Evaluated (at least self-evaluated);
- Eligible programs must have been running for at least 12 months and include activities of a minimum 6-week duration.
- Previous applicants and finalists are welcome to apply again*. Awardees and prize winners from 2026 are not eligible.

**Please note that applications from previous years should not be recycled but updated based on the last 12 months.*

Program Award Assessment Criteria with Prompting Questions – 300 words per principle/ response

Principle	Brief Description	Prompting Questions
Mutual Relationships	Describe how the program fosters meaningful, respectful, and mutual relationships between participants, emphasising balanced dynamics and shared benefits.	• How does your program create opportunities for meaningful and mutually beneficial relationships between generations? • In what ways do participants from different generations both contribute to and benefit from the program? • What evidence demonstrates the quality and impact of relationships developed through the program? • How does the program encourage or support ongoing connections beyond formal activities?
Program Management	Describe how the program is structured and operated to support high standards of governance, coordination, resource allocation, and risk management.	• How are the program's goals, activities, resources, and responsibilities planned and coordinated? • What systems, policies, or partnerships support effective program delivery and governance? • How do you identify and manage risks to ensure the safety and wellbeing of participants? • How has the program adapted or improved its operations in response to challenges, feedback, or changing needs?
Program evaluation	Describe the mechanisms in place for ongoing evaluation, monitoring outcomes, soliciting participant feedback, and using data for continuous program improvement.	• How do you evaluate the effectiveness and impact of your program? • What methods do you use to collect participant feedback and measure outcomes? • What key outcomes or changes have been identified through your evaluation processes? • How have evaluation findings been used to improve or strengthen the program?

Participant environment	Describe how the program creates a safe, accessible, and supportive environment tailored to the needs and strengths of all participants.	• How do you ensure the program environment is safe, welcoming, and inclusive for all participants? • What steps do you take to accommodate diverse physical, cognitive, cultural, communication, or accessibility needs? • How does the program promote participant choice, dignity, wellbeing, and active engagement? • What evidence or feedback demonstrates that participants feel safe, respected, and supported?
Leadership and succession planning	Describe the actions taken to build leadership capacity among staff and participants, and the planning in place to sustain the program beyond current leadership.	• How do leaders within the program promote and model high-quality intergenerational practice? • What opportunities are provided for staff, volunteers, or participants to develop leadership skills and capabilities? • What strategies are in place to support continuity and succession if key personnel leave the program? • How do your leadership and succession practices contribute to the long-term sustainability of the program?

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Ranking on the AIIP Intergenerational Practice Continuum

Applicants are asked to identify where their program sits on the AIIP Intergenerational Practice Continuum (see next page). This tool helps organisations reflect on the depth and quality of intergenerational engagement within their program.

The Continuum recognises that intergenerational initiatives exist along a spectrum, from activities that bring different generations into contact through to programs that promote meaningful collaboration, shared decision-making, and mutual benefit. There is no "right" or "best" level. Programs at different stages of development can demonstrate excellence and create valuable outcomes for participants and communities.

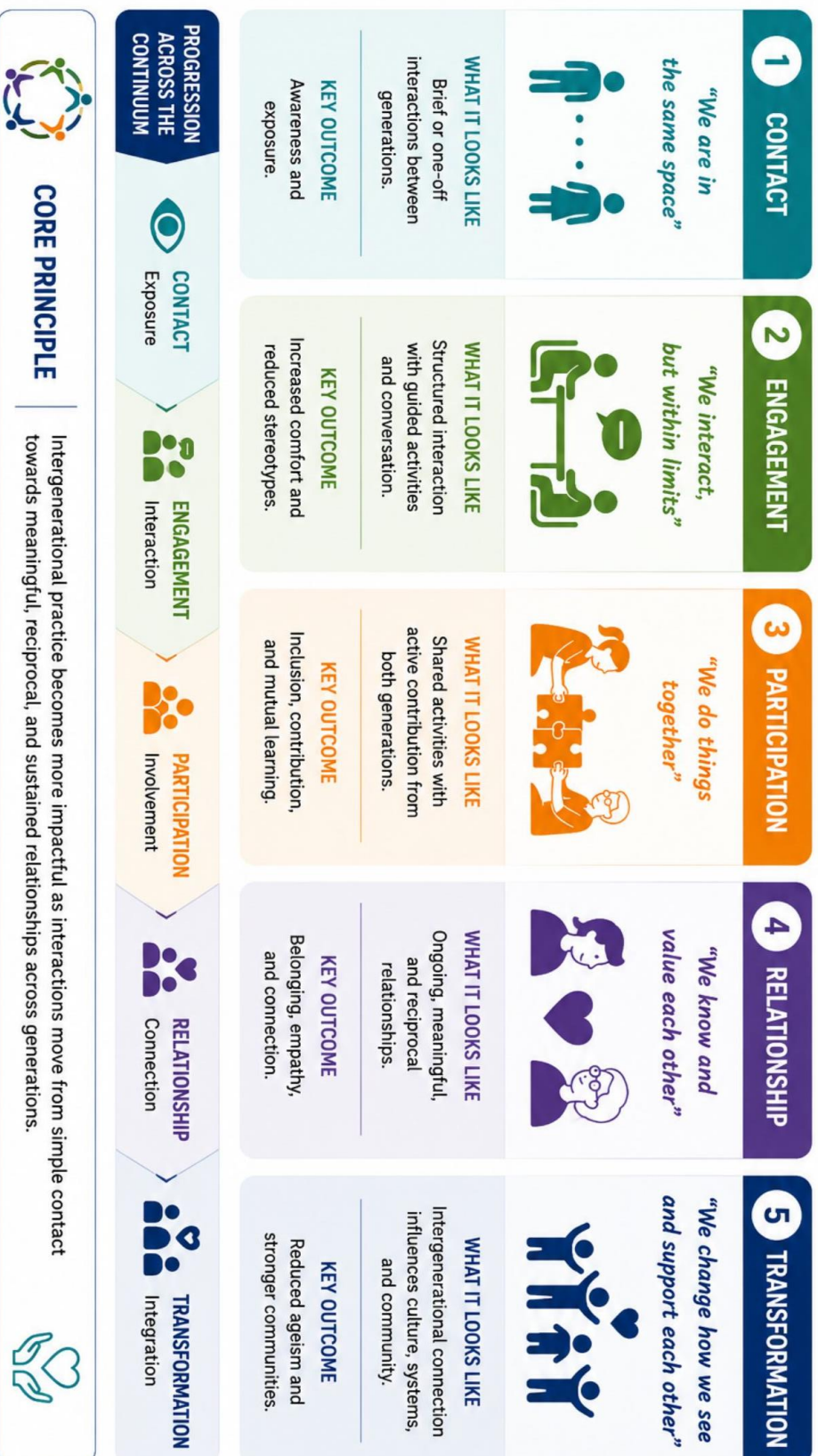
Applicants should review the Continuum and select the level that best reflects their program's current practice. **In your application, briefly explain why you have chosen this level and how your program demonstrates the characteristics associated with it.** This information will help judges better understand the nature, maturity, and intentionality of your intergenerational approach.

Please note: The Continuum is intended as a reflective tool and is not used to advantage or disadvantage applications. Programs will be assessed on the quality, impact, and effectiveness of their intergenerational practice rather than solely on where they sit on the Continuum.

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INTERGENERATIONAL PRACTICE CONTINUUM

From Contact to Transformation: Building Meaningful Connections Across Generations



Detailed print out available in [Members Resources - Australian Institute for Intergenerational Practice.](#)

Intergenerational Practitioner of the Year 2027

Purpose

This award recognises an individual who has demonstrated exceptional leadership, dedication, innovation and impact in advancing intergenerational practice.

Eligibility

To be eligible for this award, applicants must:

- Work within Australia, with contributions benefiting local communities.
- Demonstrate active engagement in intergenerational practice and commitment to professional development in the field.
- Showcase leadership and innovation in designing, implementing, or sustaining intergenerational initiatives within the past 12 months.
- Be currently involved in intergenerational practice (not past or one-off engagements).
- Previous applicants are welcome to apply again*. Awardees/ prize winners from 2026 are not eligible.

**Please note that applications from previous years should not be recycled but updated based on the last 12 months.*

Practitioner Award Assessment Criteria with Prompting Questions – 300 words per principle/ response

Principle	Brief Description	Prompting Questions
Reciprocal learning	Provide examples of how you have promoted and modelled genuine, two-way learning experiences between generations in your practice.	• How did you intentionally create opportunities for all generations to both teach and learn? • How did you encourage participants to value the knowledge, skills, and experiences of other generations? • How did participants demonstrate that learning had occurred? • What evidence or feedback do you have that demonstrates the effectiveness of these two-way learning experiences?

Age discrimination and stereotyping	Describe ways you have identified and addressed age-based bias, advocating for anti-discriminatory practice in your practice.	• How did you challenge stereotypes or misconceptions about particular age groups? • What conversations or interventions did you facilitate to promote understanding and respect between generations? • In what ways have you championed the strengths and contributions of people across all ages? • How do you create opportunities for people of different generations to interact as equals?
Program management	Provide evidence of your competencies in planning, coordinating, and managing intergenerational programs or projects, including addressing challenges and risks.	• How are the program's goals, activities, resources, and responsibilities planned and coordinated? • What systems, policies, or partnerships support effective program delivery and governance? • How do you identify and manage risks to ensure the safety and wellbeing of participants? • How has the program adapted or improved its operations in response to challenges, feedback, or changing needs?
Practitioner values	Reflect on how you demonstrate core professional values – such as respect, empathy, and integrity – in your intergenerational practice.	• How do you ensure that all participants have an equal opportunity to contribute? • How do you create safe and supportive environments where participants feel comfortable sharing their experiences? • How do you continue to strengthen your professional practice and uphold your values? • How do you ensure your actions are consistent with the principles and goals of intergenerational practice?
Leadership and succession planning	Demonstrate your role in fostering leadership among others and supporting succession planning in program or team contexts.	• How do leaders within the program promote and model high-quality intergenerational practice? • What opportunities are provided for staff, volunteers, or participants to develop leadership skills and capabilities? • What strategies are in place to support continuity and succession if key personnel leave the program? • How do your leadership and succession practices contribute to the long-term sustainability of the program?

Research Excellence Award 2027

Purpose

This award recognises outstanding research that advances the evidence base for intergenerational practice and contributes to policy, practice, education and community outcomes.

Eligibility

To be eligible for this award, applicants should be:

- Leading current intergenerational practiced focused research with data collection completed in the last 2 years
- Researcher or research team (at any career stages)
- Previous applicants are welcome to apply again*. Awardees/ prize winners from 2026 are not eligible.

**Please note that applications from previous years should not be recycled but updated based on the last 12 months.*

Research Award Assessment Criteria – approximately 300 words per question OR maximum of 1500 words in total

1. **Significance of Research**

Identify one or more AIIP Principles of Intergenerational Practice that their research contributes to, investigates, advances or informs. These principles provide a framework for understanding the contribution of research to the development of intergenerational practice, policy, education and community outcomes. Explain the research problem, aim, or hypothesis in the context of the selected principle.

2. **Implications**

Address the significance, breadth, and implications of the research's contribution to the chosen principle(s). Articulate how the work advances knowledge, policy, or practice relating to the selected principle(s).

3. **Research Performance and Impact**

Research performance: research outcomes, including competitive research grants, publications, student supervision, etc.

Research impact: Demonstrated research impact within and beyond academia (evidence of awards, presentations, policy, industry, community)

4. Collaboration and Interdisciplinarity

Intergenerational research is largely interdisciplinary in nature. Describe participation in interdisciplinary research and/or collaborative projects with external partners.

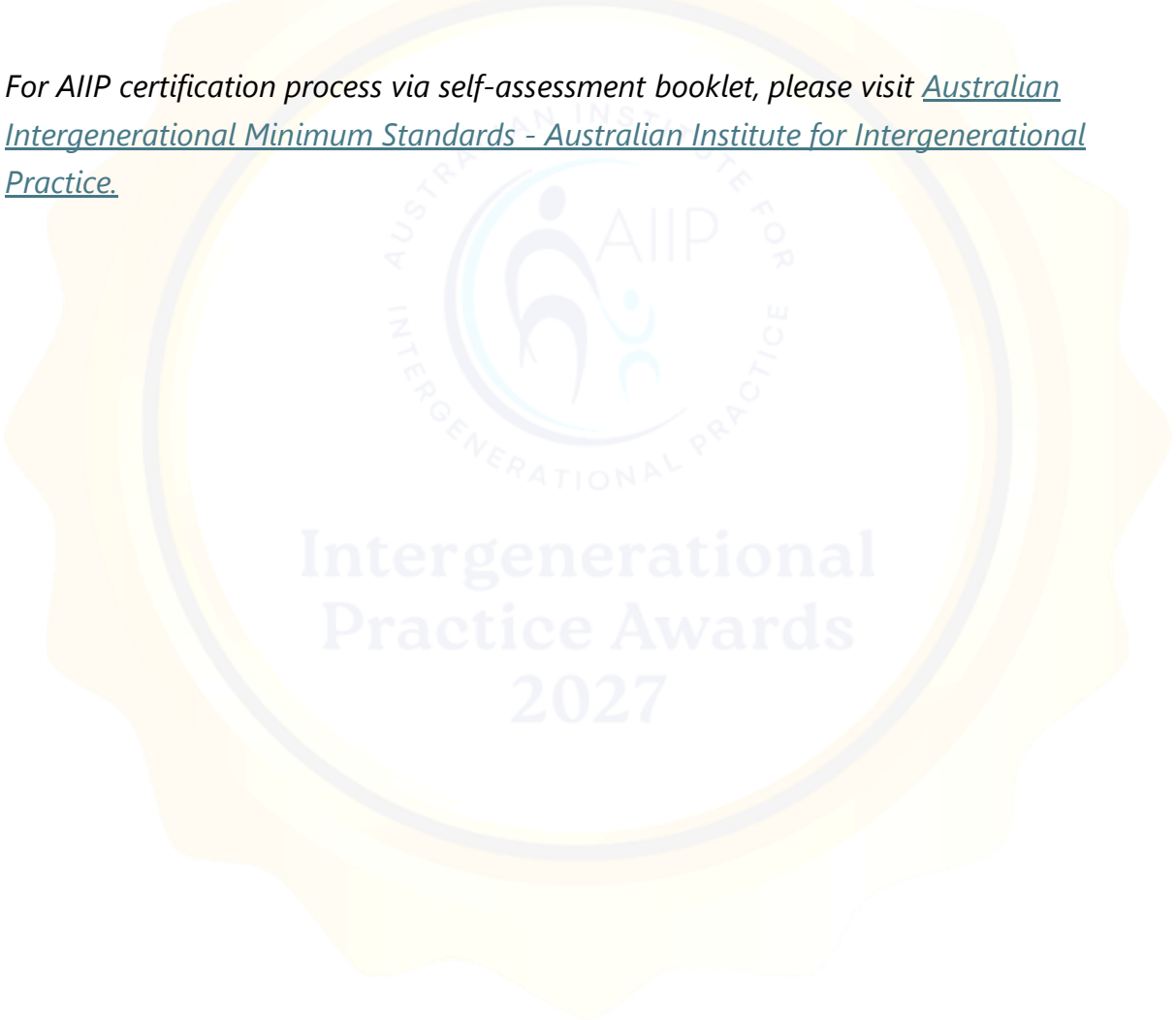
5. Research Integrity

Describe the researcher(s)'s commitment to responsible research practices and contributing to an inclusive, ethical research culture.

List of Intergenerational Practice Principles		
1	Reciprocal learning	Intergenerational practice values the exchange of knowledge, skills, perspectives and experiences between generations. Reciprocal learning recognises that all people have something to contribute and something to learn, creating opportunities for mutual growth, understanding and shared benefit.
2	Social cohesion	Intergenerational practice contributes to stronger, more connected communities by fostering belonging, participation, understanding and collaboration across generations. Social cohesion is strengthened when people of different ages feel valued, included and connected to one another.
3	Age discrimination and stereotyping	Intergenerational practice challenges age-based stereotypes, prejudice and discrimination. It recognises ageing and development as lifelong processes and promotes respect, inclusion and equal opportunities for people of all ages.
4	Mutual relationships	Intergenerational practice fosters meaningful relationships based on trust, respect, reciprocity and shared experiences. These relationships strengthen social connections and contribute to positive outcomes for individuals, organisations and communities.
5	Program Management	Intergenerational practice is strengthened through purposeful planning, informed decision-making and the integration of knowledge from research, policy and practice. Effective planning and management help ensure that intergenerational initiatives are responsive, meaningful and sustainable.
6	Program Evaluation	Intergenerational practice benefits from ongoing reflection, evaluation and evidence generation. Building and applying evidence supports continuous improvement, demonstrates impact, and advances knowledge within the field.
7	Practitioner Values	Intergenerational practice is underpinned by ethical, inclusive and respectful approaches that value diversity, collaboration and lifelong learning. Practitioners, researchers and organisations contribute to the field by acting with integrity and a commitment to best practice.

8	Intergenerational equity	Intergenerational practice recognises shared responsibilities between present and future generations. It promotes fairness, sustainability and stewardship of social, economic, cultural and environmental resources to support the wellbeing of current and future generations.
9	Participant environment	Intergenerational practice seeks to create environments that are safe, accessible, welcoming and responsive to the diverse needs, strengths and experiences of participants. Inclusive environments enable meaningful participation and engagement for people of all ages.
10	Leadership and succession planning	Intergenerational practice is strengthened through leadership that inspires collaboration, innovation and continuous improvement. Leadership includes developing the knowledge, skills and capacity of others to support the growth and sustainability of the field.

For AIIP certification process via self-assessment booklet, please visit [Australian Intergenerational Minimum Standards - Australian Institute for Intergenerational Practice](#).



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Judging Process

Stage 1: Eligibility Review

Applications are screened to confirm eligibility and completeness.

Stage 2: Assessment by Judging Panel

Applications are independently reviewed and scored against the published criteria.

Stage 3: Finalist Selection

Finalists are identified and may be asked to participate in a follow-up assessment process.

Stage 4: Award Determination

Final assessments are completed and winners selected.

Stage 5: Award Presentation

Award recipients are announced at the AIIP Conference 2027.

Contact & Support

Need help with your application?

Email: awards@aiip.net.au

Information Session: 23 September 2026, 2:00pm AEST

Registration link: [AIIP Awards 2027 Information Session | Join meeting in Teams | Microsoft Teams](#)

Or copy and paste the following link in your browser:

<https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/b590766e-eeca-4146-bf6d-d5149754d2ce@9925477b-c375-4a59-8fef-95973c6c9dc6>

Thank You

Every application tells a story of intergenerational practice in action.

By participating in the AIIP Awards 2027, you are helping to showcase the people, programs and research that are strengthening connections between generations and shaping the future of our communities. Thank you for your commitment to excellence and for contributing to the continued growth and recognition of intergenerational practice in Australia. We look forward to receiving your application.