

# media RELEASE



FROM JOY 94.9

November 19 2008

## **JOY 94.9 Wins Community Media Awards for Excellence**

The winners of the 2008 Community Broadcasting Association of Australia (CBA) were announced in Alice Springs and JOY 94.9 took a sweep of accolades. The CBA Awards are national awards given by the national peak body for community media. They are the highest honour a community media maker can achieve and are a nod towards the fine efforts of staff and volunteers at JOY 94.9 in striving to make quality and valuable radio for the gay and lesbian community.

JOY 94.9 Program Manager Leenie Fabri and News Director Tim Lennox accepted on behalf of the station the awards for Excellence in Sports, Excellence in Current Affairs and a High Commendation for Building Station Capacity.

The ***Troy Garner Excellence in Sports Programming*** is named after Troy Garner, a passionate sports broadcaster and recognises a station's significant contribution through sports programming, with a focus on community-based sporting activities that receive limited coverage in the wider media. The award went to *The Sports Lounge* produced by Tanya Jones.

The program was commended for its work in raising awareness of issues of sexual diversity and homophobia in mainstream sport through broad-ranging discussion and debate with a focus on sport in our community. The program was specifically recognised for its coverage of the 1st Asia Pacific Out Games including weekly interviews with the organisers and various non-profit GLBTI sporting groups, a series of 12 podcast episodes and daily updates during the event in the drive program *The Campervan*.

The ***Excellence in Spoken Word, News and Current Affairs Programming*** presented by Deutsche Welle is given to programs that excel in providing news coverage that is independently dealt with and may be innovative in its approach. The award went to *Out and About* a one-off series produced by Tim Newton that was recorded in front of a live audience over 13 weeks and discussed topical and complex issues relating to Australia's GLBTI community.

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The series provided challenges to the host, technical staff and the panel of guest 'experts' while giving the community the chance to get involved in old-fashioned public debating. Topics covered included *Nature v Nurture* debating how people end up being gay and whether it really matters, *Getting Trashed* exploring the gay nightclub scene, drugs and parties and *Unholy Alliance* looking at how Christian and other religions treat the GLBTI community.

The station received a High Commendation in the category of **Best Initiative to Build Station Capacity** which recognises ingenuity, core values and partnerships. JOY 94.9 was praised for working with 12 other community based GLTBI organisations to form a collective response to condemn homophobic remarks made by Jeff Kennett as President of Hawthorn Football Club. The station was also a finalist for the category of Excellence in Digital Media for the its Bourke Street Blitz and other station program blogs.

## For more information please contact:

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