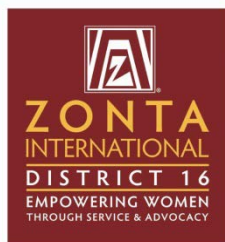


Embargoed until 19 September 2018



NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN FOR THE ZONTA NEW ZEALAND WOMEN OF ACHIEVEMENT 2019 AWARDS

On this special day of 125 years of women's suffrage in New Zealand, Zonta New Zealand celebrates this milestone by opening nominations for the Zonta New Zealand Women of Achievement 2019 Awards.

In 2016 Zonta New Zealand recognised the contribution of 50 New Zealand women towards to the empowerment of women and girls within New Zealand and globally. These 50 women, ranging from household names to quiet achievers, included former Prime Ministers Helen Clarke and Dame Jenny Shipley, Dr Marilyn Warring, Heather Henare, Dame Margaret Sparrow, Cherry Raymond, Dr Farah Palmer, Holly Mathieson, Sharmila Pathak, Lesley Elliot and Louise Nicholas.

Zonta International celebrates its centennial in 2019. Zonta brings together women worldwide who are continuously working together at all levels in our communities to empower the lives of women and girls globally. We, Zonta New Zealand, want to recognise the achievements of a further 50 women in New Zealand for this special Zonta centennial anniversary.

Souella Cumming, Governor of Zonta New Zealand, says *"We invite the New Zealand community to get behind the inspirational women in our lives and nominate them for an award. To celebrate their contribution to empowering women in New Zealand who are making a difference to the lives of other women both in New Zealand and globally. In the words of Kate Sheppard: "All that separates, whether of race, class, creed, or sex, is inhuman, and must be overcome."*

Nomination forms are available from www.zonta.org.nz under Awards. Nominations can be made direct to the Zonta Awards Committee at zontawoa@outlook.co.nz or through one of the 28 Zonta Clubs throughout New Zealand. Nominations close midnight, 31 March 2019.

The Awards will be announced on 8 November 2019, the global date to recognise Zonta's centennial.

END

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Background information:

Zonta International was founded in Buffalo New York, USA in 1919. The first Zonta Club in New Zealand and Australia – the Zonta Club of Auckland – was established in November 1965. Since that time Zonta in New Zealand has grown and today there are 28 clubs located from Whangarei to Dunedin, all working together to empower women locally, nationally and internationally through service and advocacy.

Mission & Vision:

Mission – Zonta International is a leading global organization of professionals empowering women worldwide through service and advocacy.

Vision – Zonta International envisions a world in which women's rights are recognized as human rights and every woman is able to achieve her full potential. In such a world, women have access to all resources and are represented in decision making positions on an equal basis with men. In such a world, no woman lives in fear of violence.

Media Release for recipients of the 2016 Zonta 50 Women of Achievement Awards <https://zonta.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/50-Anniversary-Celebration-Awards-50-Women-of-Achievement-2016.pdf>