## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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## NOMINATIONS OPEN FOR 2022 NSW WOMEN OF THE YEAR AWARDS

The search is on for the most outstanding and influential women in NSW, with nominations now open for the 2022 NSW Women of the Year Awards.

Minister for Women Bronnie Taylor said the annual awards play an important role in recognising inspirational women from diverse backgrounds across NSW.

"These awards are all about celebrating women who are standing up and standing out in their communities and setting a wonderful example for everyone," Mrs Taylor said.

"There are so many women from all walks of life who are spearheading positive change and inspiring others to do the same right across the state.

"The 2021 Women of the Year Awards attracted a record 373 nominations and yet we know we are really only scratching the surface."

Categories include the Woman of Excellence, Aboriginal Woman of the Year, Aware Super NSW Community Hero of the Year, Young Woman of the Year and Regional Woman of the Year.

The One to Watch, which recognises girls aged seven to 17 who supported others through acts of courage, strength, determination or kindness is in its second year.

"The One to Watch is our way of giving a huge shout out to rising young stars who are showing strength and resilience, shining the way for others," Mrs Taylor said.

NSW Chief Health Officer, Dr Kerry Chant, was named 2021 NSW Woman of Excellence and 2021 NSW Woman of the Year. She highlighted the continuing dedication of her peers during the pandemic.

"I am inspired by the female colleagues I work alongside every day as part of our COVID-19 response. I am surrounded by incredible intelligence, commitment, skill, compassion and determination," Dr Chant said.

"I encourage all women to believe in themselves and their capacity to contribute."

Nominations close on Friday 17 September and can be submitted here: <a href="https://facs.smartygrants.com.au/WOTYA2022">https://facs.smartygrants.com.au/WOTYA2022</a>

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