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# Trio rewarded for their contribution

THREE people who have made significant contributions to the community were acknowledged by the City of Belmont at the 2015 Community Service Awards.



**Award winners Petrina Lawrence, Abdirisak Ali and Alan Richardson with City of Belmont Mayor Phil Marks.**

Petrina Lawrence, Alan Richardson and Abdirisak Ali were presented with awards in the categories of People Who Make a Difference and Youth.

City of Belmont Mayor Phil Marks said community spirit was vital to a community to enable it to thrive and the recipients had displayed this through their hard work and dedication to serving others.

"All our recipients join the list of prestigious Community Service Award winners and they truly embody the spirit of our community," Cr Marks said.

"I want to thank them for serving our community and making the City of Belmont a great place for everyone to live in."

Ms Lawrence was awarded for her 10 years of work on the City's Disability Access and Inclusion Focus Group.

During her time with the group, she helped the City implement initiatives to improve access and

inclusion for Belmont residents of all ages.

Alan Richardson was commended for his many achievements, dating back to his time as a City of Belmont councillor from 1989 to 2005.

He served two terms as deputy mayor in 1996 and 2003 and was awarded the Medal of the Order in Australia in 2013.

The youngest recipient, at just 19, Abdirisak Ali, a refugee from Kenya, was recognised for overcoming barriers to become a leader, tutor and mentor to his peers and the younger generation.

Mr Ali is an active member of the Youth Leadership Roundtable and facilitated a number of consultation workshops on racism, discrimination and climate change.

The three recipients received their awards at a ceremony on December 5.

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