



HUMAN INTELLIGENCE 2.0

A COLLECTIVE FUTURE?
HOW WILL WE MANAGE THE TRANSITION?

1-3 APRIL 2019 // MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA

MEDIA RELEASE

13th November 2018

SCHOLARSHIPS TO BE AWARDED TO INNOVATIVE ENTREPRENEURS AT LEADING INNOVATION EVENT

The southern hemisphere's leading innovation summit has today announced it will award scholarships to ten outstanding, emerging innovators for the upcoming Creative Innovation 2019 event. Scholarship recipients will be granted the stage to pitch their ideas to the world's leading global thinkers, futurists and innovators at the event, taking place in Melbourne next April.

The event, Creative Innovation 2019 Asia Pacific, is the 8th annual innovation event in a series by Creative Universe, and is set to be the biggest yet, bringing together 700 leaders from business, government, academia, community, not-for-profits, media and the arts from across Australia and the world to explore the theme 'Human Intelligence 2.0: A collective future? how will we manage the transition?'. See the global [speakers line-up](#).

The event is the brainchild of Australian singer and social entrepreneur, Tania de Jong AM, who recently walked away with three new accolades, being named one of the [Top 100 Women of Influence](#) by the Australian Financial Review; number 33 of the [Top 100 Most Influential Australian Entrepreneurs](#) by Richtopia; and a finalist for [Social Entrepreneur of the Year](#) by Third Sector Awards. These announcements come on top of Tania's already impressive list of accolades and awards, including being appointed a Member of the Order of Australia (2008); being inducted into the AGSE Entrepreneurs Hall of Fame at Swinburne University (2010); receiving a Churchill Fellowship (1996); and being named *Australian Social Entrepreneur of the Year* by Ernst and Young (2006).

Previous Creative Innovation events have attracted critical acclaim, having been named Corporate Event of the Year in the Global Eventex Awards (2013 and 2015), Corporate Event of the Year in the Australian Event Awards (2015) and Anthill SMART 100 (2015).

Scholarship winner from the 2017 Creative Innovation Event, Sakshi Thakur, Founder of Skiplabs, said the conference inspired her and opened up much-needed connections and networks. *"The Ci2017 Scholarship program was an amazing experience filled with opportunities to grow professionally and personally. I was in awe of the calibre of speakers and deep insights shared throughout the Ci2017 Conference. Since then, the Ci2017 Scholarship has provided me with the continuous support and confidence to pursue my start-up ventures through all its ups and downs. I feel incredibly lucky and grateful to be a part of the Scholarship program, and I strongly encourage emerging entrepreneurs to apply for the Ci2019 scholarship program for a truly life changing experience"*, she said.

Joshua Ross, Founder of Humanitix, winner of the recent \$1m Google Impact Challenge & Ci2017 scholarship winner added *"Winning the Ci2017 scholarship to attend and pitch at the conference was an absolute highlight of my year, as it led to great contacts and networking throughout the rest of the event. The conference itself was mind-blowing, the speakers were true thought leaders. I left with a lot of inspiration and creative ideas."*





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Creative Innovation Asia Pacific 2019 Producer, Tania de Jong AM, said the scholarships are given to emerging leaders to prepare them for the challenges of tomorrow and help them access decision makers across the economy and broader society. *"We are searching for the most outstanding emerging leaders, disruptors and innovators from across Australia, who are creating the future. They are game-changers in society who are not content to just let the future happen, but rather are actively working to implement ideas that make a difference. Leaders that may at times feel afraid or uncertain, yet still rise to confront the needs and challenges of society head on,"* she said.

Winners will receive free attendance to the exclusive event, the opportunity to take to the stage and pitch their idea, prizes to the value of \$10,000 and a free three-month hot desk membership. Tania said the winner will join big and small businesses, entrepreneurs, educators, creative and government leaders and the next generation of leaders and leading thinkers from around the world. *"The event provides positive human collisions that change the course of the future,"* she said.

Scholarship applications close on 20th December 2018 and are invited from emerging leaders, innovators, social and for-profit entrepreneurs. Guidelines are available at: creativeinnovationglobal.com.au/Ci2019/scholarships/

Scholarship recipients will be announced late January.

Creative Innovation 2019 takes place in Melbourne from 1-3 April 2019 at the Sofitel Melbourne On Collins and ticket registration is via the website: www.ci2019.com.au

Ends...

Tania de Jong AM and keynote speakers from the Ci2019 program are available for interviews. For media enquiries, please contact: **Alrick Pagnon, Creative Universe** alrick@creativeuniverse.com.au or **(03) 8679 6000**.