

# Awards skirt over cream of the crop

By Stephen Dabkowski    The Age    October 23, 2004



This year's finalists are, from front to back, left to right:

Sam Denmead (Tas)

Cindy Rosenbaum (NT)

[Dr Carolina Gonzalez \(Vic\)](#)

Ilea Kerans (ACT)

Jennifer Kerr (NSW)

Josephine Rose Jennings (WA)

Katina Sims (SA)

Tracy Bester (Qld)

Photo: *Wayne Taylor*

Tonight, Australia's top-performing corporate women will compete for the Telstra Business Women's Awards.

While some big names will compete in the main award - including Janine Allis (founder of the Boost Juice chain) - it will be the award for the Young Business Women's Award that will grab a lot of the interest.

Victoria's finalist in that young women's award is [Carolina Gonzalez](#), owner of [The Nature of Balance](#), a holistic centre that provides therapies in Chinese medicine, acupuncture and massage.

[After just four years in business, Dr Gonzalez now supports more than 1000 clients both in Melbourne and interstate from her base at a South Yarra clinic.](#)

Other finalists in the Panasonic Young Women's Award include Tracy Bester, Queensland-based managing director of Autism Australia.

Ms Bester has written more than 20 publications examining autism that are available in nine countries and four languages.

Jennifer Kerr is the youngest person to be appointed general manager of the Sydney Youth Orchestra Association, and is the only full-time female manager of a state youth orchestra.

Ilea Kerans is co-owner and managing director of Canberra Contact Furniture.

The business employs five staff and services 15 contractors. Before buying the business as a 21-year-old, Ms Kerans was a real estate agent and had owned five residential properties.