

MEDIA RELEASE

Multicultural Arts Victoria (MAV) congratulates

Khaled Abdulwahab

Winner of the Australia Council 2006 Young Leaders Award

The Australia Council for the Arts has honoured Khaled Abdulwahab, youth officer and cultural development worker at Multicultural Arts Victoria with an award for outstanding leadership and contribution to the advancement of community arts and culture.

Khaled was one of three young arts workers that received an Australia Council award worth \$10,000 from Community Partnerships Chair Mr Tim O'Loughlin and Acting CEO Megan Coombs on Friday 13th October in Melbourne at the Koori Heritage Trust.

"The Australia Council is a strong advocate for the advancement of arts leadership and the nurturing of young talent and these awards are a reflection of our enduring commitment", Mr O'Loughlin said.

Khaled was successfully nominated by Multicultural Arts Victoria. Ms Jill Morgan Executive Officer of Multicultural Arts Victoria said, "Khaled is very deserving of this award. He is a highly skilled hip hop artist with outstanding talent and a valuable member of the staff at MAV. I congratulate him on this significant award. He is an inspiration to all other young people and refugees locally as well as nationally."

MAVs Chair Stefan Romaniw said "Khaled is a very talented young artist and arts worker who arrived in Australia as a refugee in 2001 from Eritrea. He has demonstrated determination and commitment to become a leader in multicultural arts. We are very proud of his efforts and achievements."

"Khaled's work highlights the valuable contribution refugees and asylum seekers make to the cultural life of our community" Jill Morgan said.



Khaled (from left to right) with Frank Panucci the Director of Community Partnerships and Megan Coombs Acting CEO Australia Council, David Anderson Program Manager the Arts Centre, Jill Morgan EO Multicultural Arts Victoria and Tim O'Loughlin Chair Community Partnerships Australia Council

For further information or interviews please contact MAV 03 9417677

www.multiculturalarts.com.au

