

2025 Student Experience Award Clubs and Societies Winners

Outstanding events of the Year

On Campus Event of the Year

The On Campus Event of the Year honors clubs or societies making a genuine effort towards enhancing the campus culture and providing a vibrant campus experience for students. The on campus event can be a social or a professional development opportunity for students; all on-campus club events are eligible, big or small.



Winner: **UC Dramatic Arts Club - The House of Bernada Alba**

This production from UC DAC has benefited student members in many ways. From giving the first timers a chance to learn about production and experienced members taking over leadership and mentoring roles. It brought students from different faculties together,

proving that the club isn't exclusive to arts students, and everyone can find their theatre passion in the club.

Highly commended: **Grand Iftar - UC Bangladeshi Student Association, UC Muslim Student Association, UC Pakistani Student Association**

Off Campus Event of the Year

The Off Campus Event of the Year is designed to recognize clubs and societies that are willing to step outside the comfort of working with UC Life on campus and stage physical events off campus.



Winner: Off the Grid Girls - Hiking Series

Off the Grid Girls went above and beyond in creating a space for active outdoors while feeling safe, supported and included. Their events watched women step outside their comfort zones, embrace the unknown, and find confidence in the knowledge that they're part of a wider community. Their events are more than just hikes, they're a movement.

Highly commended: **UC Snowsports Club - Mt Hotham Trip.**

Outstanding person of the Year

Unsung Hero Award

The Unsung Hero Award is to acknowledge individuals who may not hold a leadership position within their club, but have made a positive impact on the club or society. These are the people who can make a huge impact on leaders and members of the club without realising or asking for acknowledgement.

Winner: **Georgia S from Canberra Rural Allied Health and Nursing Collective.**

Georgia S is the primary organiser for their club's first rural ball alongside her position as Indigenous Liaison. In her position she has attended their IAHA event and managed our social media posting and effectively leading our cultural safety mission. She has also gone above and beyond creating new designs for a future merch drop, which has demonstrated her innovation and leadership outside her role.

Club person of the Year

The Club Person of the Year is awarded to a member of the campus community who stands out as having made the most outstanding contribution to their club, the university and the broader community over the course of the year that is above and beyond what is expected of them. This can be any executive committee or club member from the UC Community.



Winner: Lara Burstow - Canberra Rural Allied Health and Nursing Collective (CRANC) and Canberra Student Pharmacy Association (CaSPA)

Lara Burstow is the Vice President for both CRANC and CasPA. She always puts her hand up to take the burden off other club members of not one, but two clubs. For the first one, She took half the administration work off the presidency role by creating drafts to faculty, made sure the club is involved in opportunities or could do so, and brought ideas to the table that will benefit other students and make events fun with her incredible energy and attitude. She put in the same massive amount of work for the second club and single-handedly created the club's newsletter. Doing all of this while having a full time Honors study load in pharmacy, shows her incredible resilience, her dedication and outstanding leadership.

Highly commended:

Jinze Han - UC Chinese Student & Scholars Association

Sebatian Gago Gorvena - UC Latin American Student Association

President of the Year

The President of the Year award has been established to recognize an outstanding individual who embraces the mission of their club while challenging its executive committee and members to advance new initiatives, acquire new skills, encourages engagement at all levels within the UC community and promotes an environment that inspires others to think outside the box. This can only be achieved if this individual shows great leadership qualities and commitment that spearheads the club and lays out the foundations for ongoing success.



Winner: **Xanthe Armamento - UC Nursing Society**

Xanthe took over a small and quiet club with little presence on campus and transformed it into the largest academic club at UC, creating an informative and safe community for the biggest cohort on campus and breathing new life into an essential student society.

Highly commended:

Isabella Atkinson from UC Charm

Farizma Shawkat from UC Refugee Action Club

Outstanding Club of the Year

Social Media Engagement Award

The Social Media Engagement Award is to honour the club that has strived to establish a strong online presence, regularly engaged with their club members online, and made a name for themselves within the broader UC Community



Winner: UC Charm

UC Charm has built a strong, recognisable brand that makes their events instantly identifiable, and establishes a consistent, engaging presence that reaches students across campus. Their social media showcases a whimsical digital space that reflects the magical identity of our club and reinforces the club as a fun, inclusive, and vibrant part of campus life.

Highly commended: **Off the Grid Girls**

Community Service Award

The Community Service Award is to honour a club that has contributed to the UC community or has strived to improve connections within the UC community. Community Engagement can be demonstrated in a variety of ways, including clubs volunteering time towards multiple UC events or projects, Orientation Week, Open Day, faculty-led initiatives or even other clubs events at the University.



Winner: **UC Chinese Student and Scholars Association (UCCSSA)**

UCCSSA has been deeply involved in the UC community, participated in various UC events, partnering with the UCX and UC Thrive to host a calligraphy showcase and community lunch, and co-organised a Job Ready workshop with the SRC. Beyond direct participation, the club also acted as a bridge between the university and their student community. They translated and promoted key university activities, responding to practical student needs working their membership. The Vice President personally wrote a step-by-

step guide on how to cancel parking at UC, which was widely appreciated by students who had struggled with the process.

Highly commended: **UC Stars Kung Fu Club**

Club Upstart Award

The Club Upstart Award is a long-running award to recognise the best new club this year. The club must have affiliated for its first time in 2025 and made a genuine contribution to campus culture.



Winner: **UC Pakistani Students' Association (UCPSA)**

UCPSA has grown into one of the most active and engaging cultural associations at UC within a year of establishment. They hosted successful landmark events such as Qawali Night, Eid celebration, and Dastan-e-chai gatherings. They built strong partnerships with local businesses to secure sponsorships, student discounts, and collaborations. They

have given Pakistani students a united voice on campus, while also opening doors for cultural exchange and representation within the wider Canberra community.

Highly commended: **UC Indonesian Student Association**

Academic Club of the Year



Winner: **UC Nursing Society**

UC Nursing Society has attained 56 memberships in just 5 hours at Semester 1 O-Week, reflecting the society's stronger presence and reputation as an essential support network for their students. They hosted information sessions and networking events to prepare students for placements, strengthened their social media presence and communication, and fostered meaningful partnerships that provided exclusive benefits such as discounted scrubs and medical treatment that is not available through UC's Health Hub. Their scrubs donation initiative not only reduced financial barriers for new nursing students but also fostered a sense of community and sustainability within the cohort.

Highly commended: **Canberra Student Pharmacy Association**

Cultural Club of the Year



Winner: **UC Latin American Student Association (UC LASA)**

UC LASA has run more than 25 events this year and participated in key UCX initiatives, ranging from community events, national celebrations, embassy events to networking and job opportunities. This year they achieved a record of 82 memberships, demonstrating the reach and impact within a small but passionate student community; fostering a welcoming, inclusive environment where students feel valued and engaged. Through its creativity, leadership, and dedication, they exemplify what it means to be a cultural club: celebrating diversity, building connections, and leaving a lasting positive impact on the UC community.

Highly commended: **UC Pakistani Students' Association**

Social Club of the Year

Winner: **UC Snowsports Club**

UC Snowsports Club has always faced a challenging task, with high-risk events and complex budgets. Already known as one of the most exciting clubs on campus, this year they took things to another level by adding new events beyond their traditional offerings, all while delivering responsible management, incredible execution, and record membership.

Highly commended: **UC Charm**

Sport Club of the Year



Winner: **UC Stars Run Club**

UC Stars Run Club has growth their membership base significantly. They hosted 2 weekly Run for Resilience sessions, creating new runs every Tuesday morning and Friday evening, allowing both early and late risers to participate. Their events allowed great interaction

between students and staff outside of a typical class environment and a great opportunity for new students and students in exchange to find like-minded people.

Highly commended: **UC Stars Table Tennis Club**