Entry type: Person
Entry ID: AWE2182

Koshland, Ellen

Occupation Community advocate, Director, Philanthropist, Poet

Summary

Ellen Koshland is the founder and president of the Education Foundation, a not-for-profit organisation that seeks to stimulate new thinking about public education in Australia and fund innovative student projects in public schools.

Details

Ellen Koshland established the Education Foundation in 1989 to encourage community involvement in state schools that would contribute to a quality public education system and improve learning and life outcomes for young people. The Foundation works with other charitable foundations, businesses and individuals to fund programs that actively support students to develop their talents and foster a love of learning. The Foundation, under Ellen's leadership, has raised more than $10 million to fund over 500 programs changing the lives of many thousands of state school students and teachers. It now operates on a national scale in all states of Australia and, in 2008, became a permanent division of The Foundation for Young Australians.

Originally from the United States, Ellen was inspired by her grandfather, Daniel E. Koshland, who established the San Francisco Foundation. She moved to Australia in 1973. Already considering possibilities in philanthropy but unsure of how to begin, an approach by Jill Reichstein and a meeting with women from the Victorian Women's Trust motivated Ellen to establish the Education Foundation.

Ellen Koshland served as the Victorian Co Chairperson of Anti Poverty Week in 2007 and is currently an Education Ambassador for the Melbourne Community Foundation and a Director of The Foundation for Young Australians.

In keeping with her interest in literature, she acted as judge for the Nettie Palmer Prize for Non-fiction in 2006, and the CJ Dennis Prize for Poetry in 2007.

Events

2018 - 2018
Inducted into the Victorian Honour Roll of Women

Published resources

Resource
Ellen Koshland's MAD Day Speech, R.U.MAD? (an initiative of the Education Foundation), 2002, http://www.rumad.org.au/EK_speech.html

Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

Newspaper Article
Bid to help private schools go public, Green, Shane, 2005

Journal Article
Feature Interview: Ellen Koshland, Koshland, Ellen, 2008

Article
Equity, Excellence and Effectiveness: Moving Forward on Schooling Arrangements in Australia, Koshland, Ellen, 2005, http://www.educationfoundation.org.au/Downloads/Research

Site Exhibition
In Her Gift: Women Philanthropists in Australian History, Australian Women's Archives Project, 2009, http://www.womenaustralia.info/exhib/wiph/home.html

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Created 19 October 2006
Last modified 23 March 2018

Digital resources



Title: Ellen Koshland
Type: Image
Date: 3 May, 2023