



# 2023 Awards – Information Pack



# BlockchainNZ Awards 2023

With the growing success of the New Zealand Blockchain and Web3 ecosystem over the last year, BlockchainNZ and Callaghan Innovation's Web3NZ are partnering together to host an end of year celebration for our blockchain and Web3 community.

To continue encouraging our growing ecosystem, BlockchainNZ are establishing the first BlockchainNZ Awards to be awarded at our end of year celebration.

## About the Event:

**When:** Wednesday 6 December 2023, 5.30pm – late

**Where:** Callaghan Innovation, 1 Watt Street, Parnell, Auckland

**What to wear:** Smart Casual

## About the Awards:

Our intention with these awards is to acknowledge the individuals and companies who have notably contributed to the progression of the blockchain industry. The awards will be distinguished into two categories: Individual and business. We are offering sponsorship opportunities for our corporate members to be part of the first annual BlockchainNZ Awards to acknowledge the success of our community over the last 12 months.

# Award Categories – Individual

## 1 Stand-Out Individual of the Year

The Individual of the Year award is for an individual who showcases foresight, innovation, and a strategic approach to the adoption and application of blockchain technology.

The recipient of the award has made remarkable contributions over the past year, showcasing leadership, innovation, and a profound impact on both the local and global blockchain landscape. Their efforts will encompass not just technical advancements, but also community growth, policy advocacy, and the promotion of blockchain education and understanding.

## 2 Educator and Advocate of the Year

The Educator and Advocate of the Year award is a distinguished honour reserved for an individual who has masterfully merged the roles of both teacher and champion in the blockchain ecosystem.

This award recognises the symbiotic nature of education and advocacy to applaud the individual who has not only enlightened others with their knowledge, but has also passionately championed the broader acceptance of blockchain technology.

## 3 Entrepreneur of the Year

The Entrepreneur of the Year award is reserved for an individual who has not only successfully conceptualised and launched a blockchain-centric venture, but has also navigated its growth with keen business insights and innovative strategies.

This individual embodies the spirit of entrepreneurship in its purest form, merging tech know-how with a visionary approach that has positively impacted the blockchain industry for all.

# Award Categories – Business

## 1 Start-Up of the Year

The Start-up of the year shines a spotlight on the rising star of the blockchain industry. It recognises a company that has already demonstrated unparalleled potential, innovation, and a clear trajectory towards making significant strides in the blockchain industry.

This award celebrates more than just a promising business idea. It's an acknowledgement of the relentless drive, adaptability and entrepreneurial spirit that the start-up has shown in navigating the challenges of the rapidly evolving blockchain landscape.

## 2 Innovative Solution of the Year

Innovative Solution of the year is a tribute to the groundbreaking ingenuity within the blockchain industry. This award recognises the business that has introduced a novel concept, product, or methodology that has significantly elevated the possibilities and impact of blockchain technology.

This award not only recognises new ideas, but also celebrates innovations that have demonstrated tangible benefits. It stands as a testament to forward thinking and the relentless pursuit of excellence in pushing technological boundaries.

## 3 Web3 Company of the Year

The Web3 Company of the year stands at the forefront of recognising pioneers that are reshaping the digital landscape and have demonstrated exceptional commercial success with their business.

Rather than just being at the technology forefront, this company demonstrates the seamless integration of commercial strategies and technological advancements in Web3, setting a new standard for the industry.

# Web3 Business of the Year Award

The Web3 Company of the year stands at the forefront of recognising pioneers that are reshaping the digital landscape and have demonstrated exceptional commercial success with their business.

Rather than just being at the technology forefront, this company demonstrates the seamless integration of commercial strategies and technological advancements in Web3, setting a new standard for the industry.

## Judging Criteria:

- **Innovation:** Introducing pioneering Web3 solutions, products, or platforms that address market needs in novel ways;
- **Leadership & Vision:** Steering the business with foresight, anticipating the future trajectories of Web3, and positioning the company as a leader in the industry;
- **Sustainability & Growth:** Maintaining a resilient and ethical business model, poised for scalability and future advancements in Web3.

# Innovative Solution of the Year Award

The Innovative Solution of the Year Award is a tribute to groundbreaking ingenuity within the blockchain industry reserved for a company that has significantly elevated the possibilities and impact of blockchain technology.

This award is not just about recognising new ideas, but to celebrate innovations that have demonstrated tangible benefits, either by enhancing user experiences, improving system efficiencies, introducing new blockchain use-cases, or catalysed shifts in traditional paradigms. It stands as a testament to forward-thinking and a pursuit of excellence in pushing technological boundaries.

## Judging Criteria:

- **Tangible Impact:** Demonstrates measurable benefits and positive change as a direct result of blockchain innovation;
- **Usability and Potential:** Ensuring the innovative solution is accessible, user-friendly, and poised for adoption on a larger scale that can transform current and/or future applications or industries;
- **Problem Solving:** Addressing a significant challenge or gap in the blockchain ecosystem and providing an effective solution;

## Start-up of the Year Award

The Start-up of the Year Award shines a spotlight on the rising stars of the blockchain industry. It recognises a company in their early stages that has already demonstrated unparalleled potential, remarkable innovation, and a clear trajectory towards making significant strides in the blockchain industry.

This award celebrates more than a promising business idea. It's an acknowledgement of the relentless drive, adaptability, and entrepreneurial spirit that the start-up has shown in navigating the challenges of the rapidly evolving blockchain landscape.

### Judging Criteria:

- **Innovation:** Delivering groundbreaking solutions or new approaches that address existing challenges or tap into new opportunities in the blockchain industry.
- **Impact:** Showing tangible results with user engagement, market disruption, or technological advancements
- **Growth Potential:** Demonstrating a scalable business model, coupled with the potential to expand and thrive in diverse markets.
- Nominees must be a start-up (less than \$1m revenue forecasted for FY24)

# Stand-Out Individual of the Year Award

The Stand-Out Individual of the Year award is for an individual who showcases foresight, innovation, and a strategic approach to the adoption and application of blockchain technology.

The recipient of the award has made remarkable contributions over the past year, showcasing leadership, innovation, and a profound impact on both the local and global blockchain landscape. Their efforts will encompass not just technical advancements, but also community growth, policy advocacy, and the promotion of blockchain education and understanding.

## Judging Criteria:

- **Leadership:** An ability to inspire others, guide projects to success, and play a pivotal role in collaborative efforts.
- **Innovation:** A clear track record of innovative thinking, resulting in tangible solutions or new approaches within the blockchain domain.
- **Community Engagement:** Active participation in community events, workshops, and seminars, as well as efforts in fostering a collaborative blockchain ecosystem.
- **Overall Impact:** A demonstrable impact on the growth, acceptance, and evolution of the blockchain industry in New Zealand and beyond.



# Educator & Advocate of the Year Award

The Educator and Advocate of the Year award is a distinguished honour reserved for an individual who has masterfully merged the roles of both teacher and champion in the blockchain ecosystem.

This award recognises the symbiotic nature of education and advocacy to applaud the individual who has not only enlightened others with their knowledge, but has also passionately championed the broader acceptance of blockchain technology.

## Judging Criteria:

- **Educational Excellence:** Providing accurate, engaging, and comprehensive educational content through events, courses, or publications;
- **Advocacy Efforts:** Actively promoting blockchain's potential and addressing its challenges to a wider audience, including policymakers, industries, and the general public;
- **Community Engagement:** Active participation in community events, media and other platforms, consistently representing and uplifting the blockchain community;

## Entrepreneur of the Year Award

The Entrepreneur of the Year award is reserved for an individual who has not only successfully conceptualised and launched a blockchain-centric venture, but has also navigated its growth with keen business insights and innovative strategies.

This individual embodies the spirit of entrepreneurship in its purest form, merging tech know-how with a visionary approach that has positively impacted the blockchain industry for all.

### Judging Criteria:

- **Innovation:** Introducing fresh, disruptive solutions or enhancing existing ones to better address market needs;
- **Leadership:** Steering their venture with determination, fostering a culture of excellence, and mentoring teams or individuals to achieve their collective goals;
- **Strategic Insight:** Demonstrating a deep understanding of market dynamics, capitalising on opportunities, and adeptly managing challenges;
- **Community Engagement:** Building strong relationships within the blockchain community, seeking collaborations, and sharing insights for mutual growth.