



Media Release

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The Thrilling Showdown: Australasian Auctioneering Championships (AUSTROS) 2024 set to be accessible for the Deaf and Hard of hearing community

With just under a week to go until the commencement of the highly anticipated AUSTROS 2024, 13 leading property auctioneers from across Australasia are gearing up for an exhilarating showcase of their talents with the event hosted by the Real Estate Institute of Tasmania (REIT).

Representing the pinnacle of auctioneering excellence, these finalists from Australia and New Zealand will vie for the title of the Trans-Tasman region's top auctioneer on May 15, 2024.

REIA President, Leanne Pilkington expressed her enthusiasm about the prestigious event, highlighting the integral role auctioneering plays in the real estate industry both Australia and New Zealand.

"AUSTROS 2024 has garnered great excitement from across Australia and New Zealand with the event recognising outstanding talent within the real estate industry.

"Participants in AUSTROS undergo rigorous selection, with each Australian state and territory conducting its own competition to unearth its top two auctioneers," Ms Pilkington said.

"We are also delighted to announce that AUSTROS 2024 will be signed in both Auslan and New Zealand sign language in partnership with Expression Australia as part of our commitment to making real estate transactions fair, accessible and transparent."

Rebecca Adam, Chief Executive officer of Expression Australia, praised the Real Estate Institute of Australia (REIA) for its significant advancements in accessibility for our Deaf and Hard of hearing community.

"The inclusion of both Auslan and New Zealand sign language (NZSL) interpretation at the AUSTROS 2024 marks a turning point in communication accessibility within the real estate industry," Ms Adam said.

Expression Australia, along with REIA, is committed to making access and inclusion for our Deaf and Hard of hearing community a standard practice throughout the real estate sector. This will be achieved through ongoing collaboration and the development of industry-wide best practices and resources.

Event host, REIT Chief Executive, Michelle Tynan added "For the Real Estate Institute of Tasmania, hosting the Championships is extra special, as it gives Tasmania the opportunity to witness the true craft of Auctioneering. We hope we showcase locally the value of auction as an important method of sale for the Tasmanian real estate consumer. We encourage Tasmanians to come along to watch the true spectacle that auctioneering can be.

REINZ Chief Executive, Jen Baird, said that "We take our auctioneering seriously in NZ, and competition was fierce for the two spots for kiwis at the AUSTROS this year. While we celebrate the skill of the competition, the real value of our auctioneers is the support, advice and talent they bring to the sales process, supporting agents to deliver excellence to their clients every day.

AUSTROS stands as an annual testament to the exceptional talent within the Australasian auctioneering community. Jointly organised by the Real Estate Institute of Australia (REIA) and REINZ, these Championships have evolved into the pinnacle event of the Australasian Auctioneering calendar.

The rotation of hosting duties among the various Australian states and territories ensures widespread participation, with New Zealand serving as the esteemed host once every four years. The REIT co-hosted the inaugural AUSTROS in 1993 together with the Real Estate Institute of Victoria.

The full AUSTROS program is attached and can be viewed <u>online</u>. The event can be viewed: <u>https://auctionslive.com/austros-2024</u>.



Media Please Note: Filming and interviews with REIA, REIT and Expressions Australia will be available 11am, Wednesday 15 May 2024 at AURA Bar, Crowne Plaza Hotel, 110 Liverpool Street, Hobart.

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Established in 1924, REIA is a federated body of State & Territory Real Estate Institutes representing 85% of Australian real estate agencies. We are a national advocate for the Australian real estate industry which is made up of 46,793 Australian businesses that employs 133,360 Australians.

For more information visit www.reia.com.au

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