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AILA WA Award win for Jo Wheatley All Abilities Play Space

The Jo Wheatley All Abilities Play Space in Dalkeith has won an Award of Excellence in the 'Play Spaces' category of the 2019 WA Australian Institute of Landscape Architects (AILA) Awards.

Fiona Robbé of Architects of Arcadia accepted the award in Perth on Friday 26 July, acknowledging project partners the Rotary Clubs of Nedlands, Subiaco and West Perth, the City of Nedlands and Earthcare Landscapes.

In her acceptance speech, Fiona Robbé said this was a project "by the community, for the community" and acknowledged the unique community partnership behind it.

Fiona said that this was also a win for disability, "because high quality design for disability is rarely achieved and even more rarely acknowledged."

Funds to construct the playground were raised by Rotary, with significant contributions from generous private sponsors. While the City of Nedlands provided the riverside site and surrounding infrastructure, many of the contractors involved in constructing the play space donated materials and labour.

The first of its kind on this scale in Western Australia, the Jo Wheatley All Abilities Play Space is located at Beaton Park on the banks of the Swan River. It was inspired by a desire to provide a place that would bring people together, regardless of their age or ability. The iconic location on the foreshore is well-known to the whole of Perth, attracting locals and visitors alike.

Award winners from the WA Chapter of AILA will now enter the national AILA Awards, to be held in Melbourne in October.

About the City of Nedlands

The City of Nedlands is situated 7km from Perth and stretches from the banks of the Swan River to the edge of the Indian Ocean. A population of more than 21,000 lives in the suburbs of Nedlands, Dalkeith, Mt Claremont, Swanbourne, Karrakatta and parts of Floreat and Shenton Park.

For further information, please contact communications@nedlands.wa.gov.au or 9273 3500.