

Message from Order of Australia Association National President The Hon. Hieu Van Le AC

It is a great honour and privilege to serve as the National President of the Order of Australia Association.

The Order of Australia represents one of our nation's enduring expressions of acknowledgement and gratitude. It recognises Australians who, through service, achievement and contribution, have helped make our communities and our country stronger. Behind every honour is a story of commitment to others, to community and



to the values we share as Australians.

My own journey has given me a deep appreciation of the opportunities and sense of belonging that Australia can offer. I arrived in Australia from Vietnam as a refugee in 1977 and have since had the privilege of serving our community in a range of capacities, including as Vice-Regal Representative in South Australia. These experiences have reinforced for me a simple truth: service is one of the strongest foundations of a cohesive and generous society.

The Association has an important role in celebrating and encouraging that spirit of service. Our members have made remarkable contributions in

many different fields, including public service, business, education, the arts, sport, professional life, charitable work and community leadership. Our backgrounds and experiences are diverse, but we are united by a commitment to making a positive difference.

The Australia we serve is diverse and continually enriched by people from every generation, culture, profession and walk of life. This diversity is one of our greatest strengths. Our Association should reflect that Australia and remain a welcoming community where Members can connect, share their experiences and encourage others to contribute.

Our role is not simply to celebrate past achievements. It is also to ensure that the values represented by the Order continue to inspire future generations.

I believe that the strength of the Order of Australia lies not only in the honours themselves, but in the example set by those who receive them.

I look forward to working with Members across Australia, and I fervently hope that the Order of Australia Association will continue to be a proud and enduring champion of service, excellence, generosity and community, inspiring others to make a difference.