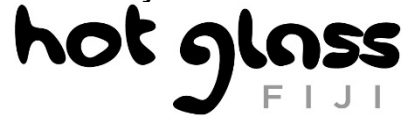


Alice Hill, a member of Skål International Suva of Hot Glass Fiji has won one of the prestigious "Fiji Development Bank Small & Medium Enterprises Awards".



Hot Glass Fiji won the Jury Prize – Special Award in the **2014 Fiji Development Bank Small & Medium Enterprises Awards**.



Hot Glass Fiji wins a 2014 FDB SME AWARD

Alice said "We are very honoured and proud to receive this award and it is fabulous to have the team recognised in this way."

"Peter and Laisa joined the company earlier this year without any glass blowing experience, and they have learned the skills at a fantastically fast rate. The Fijian's intuitive understanding of the artisan handicraft production shows though in all the glass pieces made"

"The glass pieces are inspired by Fiji's natural beauty, colours of the rainforests and ocean. The natural fibres and textures used in Fijian culture feature dominantly."

This gives visitors and locals alike a little piece of Fiji to have with them where ever in the world they live"

Alice Hill, owner and operator of Hot Glass Fiji, and her team of glassblower artists have been operating in Korotogo on the [Coral Coast](#) since 2013.



SPONSORS: Mr Mahesh Kumar, Manager, The New India Assurance Co Ltd, and partner, Mr Krishnamrthy Venukumar, Chief Operating Officer Fiji, and partner with Alice Hill.

As explained by FDB acting Chief Executive Officer Mr. Nafitalai Cakacaka said "After 10 years of hosting the FDB Small Business Awards, we have expanded the criteria of the awards to include the SME Enterprises and relaunch it as the FDB Small & Medium Enterprises Awards"



“SMEs have been dubbed the engines of growth and FDB is at the forefront of ensuring that there is a conducive environment for SMEs to thrive and are also rewarded through awards such as these.”

The theme for the awards is ‘SMEs - the drivers of our future growth is to highlight the outstanding achievement of small and medium enterprises and their potential in the trade and business arena. In addition, it is to encourage and appreciate them in their capacities to enhance and develop the national economy in line with Government efforts to increase economic diversification activities.

The awards are divided into five (5) major categories namely; Agriculture, Tourism, Manufacturing, Wholesale & Retail and the Professional & Business Services category. All these categories are further divided into two (sub-categories) with Agriculture divided as Livestock/Aquaculture and Livestock farming categories whilst the other major categories are divided as Sole Traders and Partnerships/Companies/Cooperative.

A total of \$35,000 is up for grabs at the awards whilst each winner from the respective categories and sub-categories will receive \$2,500. All finalists are then considered for the four (4) Jury prizes which are the Best Business Practice Award, Best Risk Management Award, Special Award and the SME of the Year Award. Each winner from these jury prizes will also receive \$2,500.

The awards night was on November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at the Grand Pacific Hotel. All Skål International Suva Skålleagues congratulate Alice on this fantastic achievement!

