Women's Oay
LUNCHEON

Key Note Speakers



Katja Vedekind

Katja Dedekind is an Australian Paralympic Swimmer, three-time Paralympic medalist, Commonwealth Games gold medalist, world paralympic champion, and world record holder.

Katja's resume is unmatched for an athlete of her age. Breaking onto the Australian Dolphins swim team in 2016, Katja made the Australian Paralympic team after winning gold in the women's 4x50m freestyle, bronze in the women's 200m freestyle, and fifth in the women's 50m backstroke and 50m butterfly at the 2016 Australian Swimming Championships. Rightfully earning her place, Katja would go on to stun the world at the 2016 Rio de Janeiro Paralympics by winning bronze in the women's 100m backstroke S13.

Katja returned in the 2020 Tokyo Paralympics to win two more bronze medals in the women's 100m backstroke S13 and women's 400m freestyle S13, smashing her PB and setting a new Australian record.

2022 marked a massive year for Katja, winning gold and two silver medals at the 2022 World Para Swimming Championships in Madeira before winning a gold medal and setting a World-Record time in the women's 50m freestyle S13 at the 2022 Birmingham Commonwealth Games.

Her contributions as an athlete are already well recognised in 2022, receiving the following honours, Australian Sports Medal, The Patron's 2022 Paralympic Program Swimmer Award, the Queensland Government's 2022 Queensland Sport Athlete with a Disability Award and in 2021, University of Sunshine Coast Sportsperson of the Year.







