



QUEENSLAND ABORIGINAL  
AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER  
FOUNDATION

## NEWSLETTER

### ISSUE 1 – TERM 1

### 2020

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## QATSIF New Recipients' and Student Leader Celebrations

### Australian Catholic University (Banyo)

On Friday, February 21, thirty-one schools gathered at the Australian Catholic University (Banyo) for the first of two QATSIF New Recipients' and Student Leader celebrations.

In its latest scholarship round, QATSIF has committed over \$3M to support 1,657 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to complete Years 11 and 12.

QATSIF's moving ceremony was led by two amazing student MCs – Ella Udowika from Carmel College and Indigo Malthouse from Bracken Ridge State High School.

After the Welcome to Country, QATSIF ceremonies begin with the symbolic lighting of the QATSIF Elders' candle to recognise the rich cultural heritage which has been passed down since the Dreaming. Uncle Denis Bobongie, who has been a long-time supporter of QATSIF, lit the Elders' candle. Jessica Sturgess and Teagan Reale from Morayfield State High School lit our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander candles on behalf of all students present.

Our 270 audience members were then treated to two incredible dance performances by both Aboriginal and

Torres Strait Islander dance troupes.

Shakira Ritson from Balmoral State High School shared a beautiful poem, *"From the Oceans to the Dust"* in a moving tribute to our Elders.

After the official welcome from ACU's Professor Jim Nyland, there were two inspirational speeches from Aunty Ruth Hegarty and Shaunah Downton.

Aunty Ruth Hegarty, QATSIF's much-loved Patron, challenged our students to take up QATSIF's challenge to be leaders within their school communities and to *"Dream Big"* when it came to their futures.

Shaunah Downton, who was a past QATSIF Scholarship recipient from Southern Cross Catholic College and is currently studying a Bachelor of Midwifery at ACU, spoke passionately about her educational journey from school to university and encouraged the students to chase their dreams.

In 2019, Shaunah received the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student of the Year Award* at the Queensland Training Awards for outstanding efforts in her Cert 3 Health Studies while at school.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander viewers are warned photographs in this newsletter may contain images of deceased persons which may cause sadness or distress.

*Please forward this Newsletter on to your QATSIF students and families.*



The Queensland Ambulance Service's Deputy Commission, Mick Metcalfe presented the inaugural Queensland Ambulance Service Scholarship to Chelsea Sanders from Everton Park State High School.

Chelsea is one of 10 QATSIF students from across Queensland who was selected to receive the inaugural QAS Scholarship.

During the ceremony, some of QATSIF's 172 school leaders and 1,657 new Scholarship students were presented with their certificates in front of their proud families and schools.

Jane Ceolin, QATSIF's Deputy Chair and the Director – First Peoples and Equity Pathways at Australian Catholic University, encouraged QATSIF's 3,000 Year 11 and 12 students to work hard to achieve their dreams and to lead their school communities with pride.

Mrs Ceolin said that she was extremely proud to see QATSIF supporting a record 3,000 students in 2020. She called on all QATSIF students to be leaders within their communities and especially our 172 QATSIF school leaders across the state including **13 School Captains** and **10 Vice Captains**.

QATSIF is very grateful to the Australian Catholic University for supporting our students both now and into their futures.



Rnd 11 QATSIF New Recipients.







QATSIF would like to thank Papillion Studio Photography for their beautiful photos. [www.papillonstudio.com.au](http://www.papillonstudio.com.au).



# University of Southern Queensland (Springfield)

Thirty-four schools gathered at the University of Southern Queensland (Springfield) on Friday, March 6 to celebrate our new scholarship students and student leaders.

Our USQ ceremony was led by our talented MCs Angus Loft (Runcorn SHS) and Lydia Oppermann (Groves Christian College).

The ceremony began with a Welcome to Country by Jahmarlah Bonner, the School Captain of Hymba Yumba Independent School. This was followed by the lighting of our Elders' candle by Aunty Peggy Tidyman. Jade Maher and Levi Holland from Rochedale SHS used the flame from the Elders' candle to light our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander candles.

The talented Marsden State High School Aboriginal Dance Troupe performed *Gari Gynda Narmi* to welcome our 370 guests.

Addie Synnott from St Mary's College read a special tribute to our Elders who carry our stories and memories. Addie chose a beautiful poem called "*From the Oceans to the Dusts*" for our Elders. It was written by Torres Strait Islander poet, Zelda Quakawoot and will be used at our QATSIF ceremonies this year.

Our QATSIF Board Chair, Professor Cindy Shannon AM encouraged our QATSIF students to strive to achieve their best in whatever field they chose.

Following Professor Shannon's speech, she was joined by QATSIF Board Members, Mr Jim Walker and Mr Mark Brand to present 41 school leaders including 5 School Captains with their QATSIF Leadership badges.

Mr Tim Eva, the Queensland Ambulance Service's Education Centre Director presented Kymberly Burns from Highfields State College with her Queensland Ambulance Service School Based Scholarship certificate. Kymberly is one of 10 QATSIF students from across Queensland who was selected to receive the inaugural QAS Scholarship.

Emily McInnes, a past QATSIF student from Ipswich State High School, generously shared her educational journey which had brought her to USQ's Indigenous Higher Education Program. Emily plans to continue her university studies with Bachelor of Media and Communications.

The ceremony concluded with the presentation of certificates to our new QATSIF students and a powerful Fire Blessing shared by Aunty Peggy to encourage students to achieve their dreams.

QATSIF is very grateful to USQ and their staff for hosting our celebration. USQ very generously ran some incredible experiences for our QATSIF students before and after our celebration.



QATSIF would like to thank Papillion Studio Photography and USQ for their beautiful photos. [www.papillionstudio.com.au](http://www.papillionstudio.com.au).







## Rnd 11 Recipients' photos shared by our QATSIF schools

Mackay Northern Beaches SHS.



Biloela SHS.



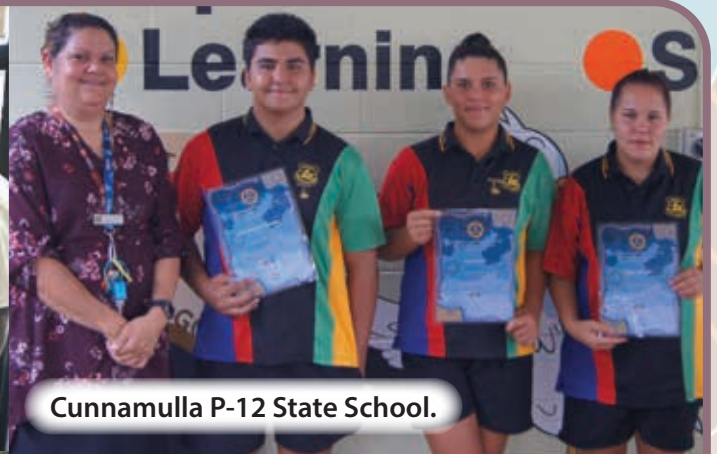
Ingham SHS.







Carmel College.



Cunnamulla P-12 State School.



Pacific Pines SHS.



Nanango SHS.



Palm Beach-Currumbin SHS.



Mareeba SHS.





St Patrick's College (Mackay).



Burdekin Christian College.



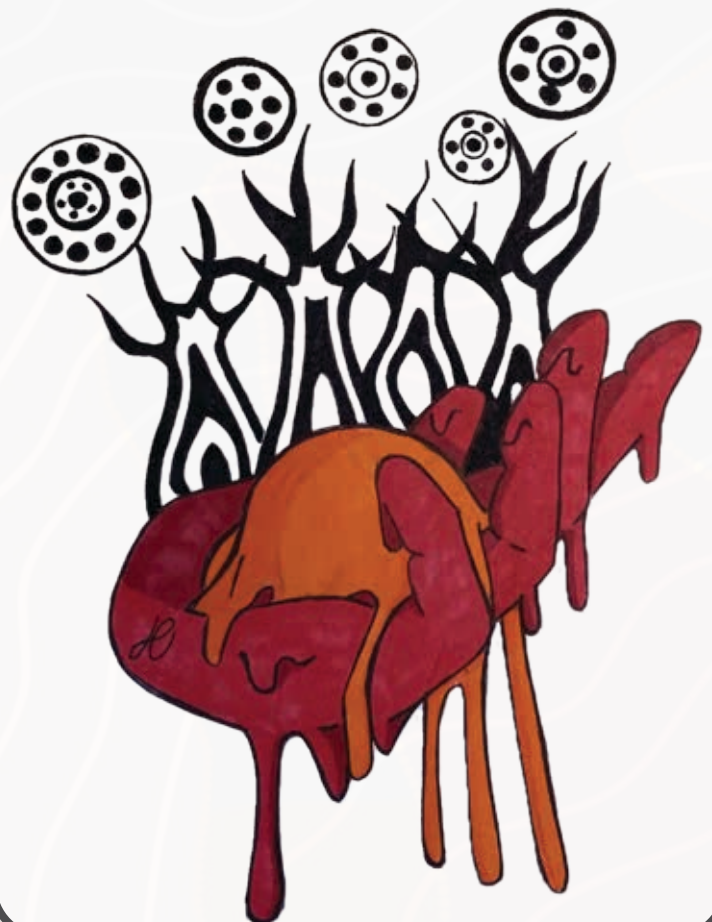
Moranbah SHS.

## Our talented QATSIF students – Alexis Boyd

Alexis Boyd (Year 11), Meridan State College submitted art work for the jersey design for the North Coast Aboriginal Corporation for Community Health (NCACCH). Her work was not picked to go on jerseys, however her design was picked to be displayed on the day.

Alexis is a descendant of the *Bayali* people, Gladstone/ Tannum Sands region.

We congratulate Alexis on her deadly work.





# Queensland Ambulance Service

## School Based Scholarships

In 2019, QATSIF entered into a three year partnership with the QAS (Queensland Ambulance Service) to provide 10 Scholarships for Year 11 QATSIF Scholarship holders who are considering a career with the QAS.

QATSIF advertised the Queensland Ambulance Service's School Based Scholarships to all of our schools and received lots of outstanding applications. In the end, the following 10 students were selected for their passion and interest in a possible QAS career.

School	Recipient
Calen District State College	Bree-Ann Pons
Blackwater State High School	Charli Muller
Everton Park State High School	Chelsea Sanders
Toolooa State High School	Giaan Eggmolesse
Tannum Sands State High School	Imogen Stacey
All Souls St Gabriels	Kayden Fogarty
Highfields State Secondary College	Kymerberly Burns
Fairholme College	Monique Bloomfield
Palm Beach-Currumbin State School	Tyson O'Connor
Bundaberg State High School	Zenaya Silvester-Mumford

QAS will fund the entire cost of these students' QATSIF Scholarships and provide them with opportunities to experience life within the QAS. They will be offered opportunities to meet with Indigenous paramedics and have work experience at QAS stations and centres.

At the end of this year, QATSIF will call for applications for the 2021 QAS School Based Scholarships.

For any of our Year 12 students who are interested in a Paramedic career, there is information on the QAS's website about careers for Aboriginal and Torres Strait

Islander young people (<https://www.ambulance.qld.gov.au/indigenous-recruitment.html>).

For those looking to study Paramedics at university, there are the Jamie Jackway and QAS Tertiary Scholarships available to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.



Charli Muller.



Kayden Fogarty.



Zenaya Silverster-Mumford.



Kymerberly Burns.



Bree-Ann Pons.



Chelsea Sanders.





2020 QATSIF team (L to R): Michael Nayler, Shalana Uta, Sonia Norbido and Rachel Stringfellow.

## 2020 QATSIF Team

In 2020, our QATSIF team will be supporting around 3,000 Year 11 and 12 QATSIF Scholarship students from over 300 Queensland schools.

This year, we welcome Sonia Norbido back from her maternity leave and Rachel Stringfellow who is new to our QATSIF team. Rachel is a past QATSIF student who has completed her Bachelor of Psychology (Hons) and is now preparing for her Masters and PhD studies.

With both joy and sadness, QATSIF farewelled two of our longest serving staff members earlier this year. While we were sad to see them go, we are extremely proud to see them both moving on to new exciting challenges.

Tiana Brockhurst has moved into an exciting new role with Legal Aid Queensland helping to recruit Indigenous law students.

Billy Neagle, who is a past QATSIF student himself, has now graduated from his finance degree and has been snapped up by Deloitte.

Both Tiana and Billy worked tirelessly to ensure that our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students achieve their dreams and to support our wonderful QATSIF schools.

On behalf of Aunty Ruth, our Patron and our QATSIF Board, staff, students, families and schools, we wish Tiana and Billy all the best in their future careers and thank them for helping to change the lives of thousands of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people.

As Aunty Ruth says to our young people, "Noolla nagara, goodbye and thank you. Go forward and be a beacon of hope."



2019 QATSIF team (L to R): Billy Neagle, Michael Nayler, Tiana Brockhurst and Shalana Uta.



## New QATSIF Board Members

QATSIF would like to welcome two new Board Members, Mr Brenton Bowen and Mrs Georgina Kadel.

Brenton Bowen grew up in Hope Vale which is a small Aboriginal Community North West of Cooktown. He was the School Captain of St Teresa's College, a boarding school in Abergowrie, North Queensland.

Following school, Brenton went on to a very successful NRL career with the North Queensland Cowboys and Gold Coast Titans.

Brenton is a proud family man. He has continued to dedicate his post-football life to serving his mob through his careers in the Department of Human Services and more recently at Deadly Choices.

Mrs Georgina Kadel is a proud Torres Strait Islander woman who has devoted her life to educating young people.

Georgina brings almost 30 years of experience in education to her role on our QATSIF Board. She has been a teacher, Director and acting Principal across state and Catholic education systems in Queensland and the Northern Territory.

In her current role as Education Officer – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education, Georgina works closely with students, families, teachers and administrators to improve the learning pathways for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

On behalf of the entire QATSIF community, we welcome Georgina and Brenton and thank them for bringing their rich expertise and experiences to our QATSIF Board.



Brenton Bowen.



Georgina Kadel.

## Congratulations to Professor Cindy Shannon AM



Congratulations to our inspirational QATSIF Chairperson, Professor Cindy Shannon AM, who earned the title of Member in the General Division of the Order of Australia, for her "significant service to Indigenous health and to medical education."

Professor Shannon is a proud Ngugi woman and a descendant of the Quandamooka people. She has been QATSIF's chairperson from its inception. Professor Shannon has made a significant and extensive contribution to health policy including working on maternal, foetal and infant health in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities including dealing with difficult issues such as drug and alcohol abuse and homelessness.

She is also the first Aboriginal Pro-Vice Chancellor of Griffith University and is passionate about improving the educational and employment outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people.





# 2020 QATSIF School Leaders

QATSIF's motto is "Building Tomorrow's Leaders". We are very proud that we have a record 172 student leaders this year including:

## 13 School Captains and 10 Vice Captains.

This represents 13.1% of our QATSIF students. Please let us know if your school has leaders who are not listed below, so we can send out a QATSIF Leadership badge and certificate.

We congratulate our deadly student leaders and their families. QATSIF wishes them and all of our Year 12s all the best for a great year ahead.

### Ayr State High School

Leroy Brown – Indigenous Leader

### Balmoral State High School

Shakira-Jane Ritson – Indigenous Leader

### Beenleigh State High School

Jean Fenwick – Vice Captain

### Bentley Park College

Isaac Watego-Morgan – College Captain

### Biloela State High School

Sophie Dahtler – Senior School Vice Captain & Treasurer Student Council

### Blackheath Thornburgh College

Anjeleah Corrigan – Sports Captain

### Brisbane Bayside State College

Blake Uhle – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student Leader

### Brisbane Grammar School

Stephen Baronio – Harlin House (Boarding House) Vice Captain & School Prefect

### Burdekin Christian College

Jayden Clinton – House Captain  
Ashanti Smallwood – House Captain

### Caboolture State High School

Kuta Kina – Indigenous Leader

### Cairns State High School

Rasharna Blanco-Burns – Student Prefect  
Garvina Lui – House Captain – House Captain

### Calen District State College

Thomas Moffett – Neptune Sports Captain

### Carmel College

Ella Udowika – Social Justice Leader  
Ainsleigh Karklis – House Leader

### Cavendish Road State High School

Eva Heron – Indigenous Prefect

### Centenary Heights State High School

Dakota Anderson – Indigenous Captain  
Bellah Bennett-Payne – Indigenous Vice Captain

### Charters Towers State High School

Teneal Baker – Indigenous Leader & House Captain  
Priscilla Doomadgee – Indigenous Leader  
Ryan Dennis – House Captain

### Coorparoo Secondary College

Isabel Breen – Indigenous Vice Captain  
Lilli Brunton – Sports Captain

### Corinda State High School

Micheala Williamson-Field – Indigenous Captain  
Jada Garland – Indigenous Captain

### Dalby State High School

Jennita Draper – Culture Captain  
Malakai Fing – Culture Captain  
Montel Turnbull – Culture Captain

### Djarragun College

Ranetta Kris – Secondary School Captain  
Beyonce Matthew – Secondary School Captain  
Kapui Mene – Boarding Captain and Indigenous Leader of Tomorrow  
Gloryanna Bon – Indigenous Leader of Tomorrow

### Elanora State High School

Brianna Olivares – Indigenous Leader, International Leader & Student Mentor Executive

### Everton Park State High School

Shanice Jackson – School Captain  
Jayden Little – House Captain

### Flagstone State Community College

Chelsea Coleman – Indigenous Captain, Drama Captain & Instrumental Captain  
Ainsley Hillam – Indigenous Captain and Sports Captain  
Trai Masters – Indigenous Leader  
Kodie Davies – Indigenous Leader  
Nick Riseley – Indigenous Leader  
Aaliyah Berg-Murphy – Vocal Captain

### Forest Lake State High School

Jonah Glover – House Captain

### Good Counsel College

Adian Kulka – House Leader

### Good Shepherd Catholic College

Shannon Anderson – Indigenous Leader

### Gordonvale State High School

Moniqua Lui – Indigenous Student Leader

### Harristown State High School

Ricky Robinson – Indigenous Student Leader  
Bonnie Day – Indigenous Student Leader  
Milli Waters – Indigenous Student Leader  
Kyle Cubis – Indigenous Student Leader

### Heatley Secondary College

Jakahn Von Senden – School Vice Captain

### Highfields State Secondary College

Molly Scofield – Cultural Captain

### Home Hill State High School

Tamika Kelly – Indigenous Leader



### **Hymba Yumba Independent School**

Sade Baxter – Senior Leader

Jivarhn Hill – Senior Leader

**Jahmarlah Bonner – School Captain**

Hannah Clarke – Senior Leader

Jaiden Crowther – Senior Leader

Joniqua Cedric – Senior Leader & House Captain for Uragapul

### **Ingham State High School**

Destiny Morganson – Indigenous Leader

Vaughan Pryor – Indigenous Leader

### **Ipswich Girls' Grammar School**

Stella Davidson – Connell House Captain

Tiayana Sing – School Basketball Captain

Tyisha Lui – Cultural Captain

### **Ipswich State High School**

Keneisha Coulthard-Maihia – Senior Indigenous Captain

Yapanjarra Ellis – Senior Indigenous Captain

### **John Paul College**

Nguumpii Rocky – Boarding Captain

### **Kedron State High School**

Shar Morrison – Prefect

Tyson Croft – Indigenous Leader

### **Kelvin Grove State College**

Jasper Hammond – Indigenous Leader

Flynn Dodson – House Captain (Petrie)

Halle Carn – Sports Captain

### **Kilcoy State High School**

Ethan Kingston – Sports Captain

### **Kingston State College**

Kiani Smith – Vice Captain

Bianca Cook – Indigenous Captain

### **Kirwan State High School**

Rikisha Phineasa – Indigenous School Captain

Kasey Gardner – Indigenous School Captain

### **Loreto College**

Lani-Belle Bickerton – Student Representative Council Executive

### **Lourdes Hill College**

Erica Accoom – Reconciliation Captain

Temanu O'Brien-Schmidt – Mirragin Captain

Shaikyla Fairman – Hendriks House Spirituality Captain

### **Mabel Park State High School**

Keayna Rose – Sports Captain & Wajin Captain

Creegan Webb – Wajin Captain

Lillyarna Willmot – Wajin Captain

### **Mackay State High School**

**Henri Stocks – School Captain**

### **Mareeba State High School**

Sasha Grainer – Indigenous Leader

Jaylan Harries – Indigenous Leader

### **Marsden State High School**

Kerry Cohen – Indigenous Captain

**Indigo Leon-Painter – School Captain & Indigenous Captain**

Grace Keegan – Indigenous Captain

Haylie Karaitiana – Indigenous Captain

### **Moranbah State High School**

Morghen Egan – Wellbeing Captain

Jarli-Russell Blanco – Sports House Captain

Jakory Blanco – Indigenous Ambassador

Leah Offord – Indigenous Ambassador

### **Moura State High School**

**Claire Briggs – School Vice Captain**

### **Nanango State High School**

Emily Gullen – Indigenous Leader

### **Narangba Valley State High School**

Connor Lee – Student Representative Council Treasurer

### **Oakey State High School**

Jerara Bartman – Indigenous Leader

### **Padua College**

Charlie Day – PC Eagle

### **Park Ridge State High School**

Taylor Lawton-Bridge – Indigenous Leader

Sophie Cooper – Indigenous Leader

Holly Maloney – Indigenous Leader

Reanna Licciardello – Indigenous Leader

Hayden Attard – Indigenous Leader

Lachlan Forbes – Indigenous Leader

### **Peace Lutheran College**

**La'Schaya Body – College Vice Captain**

Cajun Darby – House Captain

Isabella Thaiday – House Captain

### **Pine Rivers State High School**

Cherylynn Robertson – Indigenous Captain

### **Proserpine State High School**

William Allan – Indigenous Student Leader

### **Redbank Plains State High School**

Ilesha Drahm – Sport Prefect

James Scott – Bulls House Captain

### **Robina State High School**

Tayah Quayle – Indigenous Student Leader

### **Rosedale State High School**

Jordon Maher – ATSI Leader

### **Rosewood State High School**

Desttany Manietta – Cultural & Arts Leader & Vice President of Student Representative Council

### **Runcorn State High School**

**Angus Loft – School Captain**

Dylan Johnson – Prefect

Rhys Duxbury – Junior Secondary Mentor

Maddison Power – Junior Secondary Mentor

Allira Bird-Baxter – House Captain



**Ryan Catholic College**

Chelsea Munns – Sports Captain  
Mason McKenzie – Vice House Captain

**Saint Stephen's College**

Tymyka Wines – Performing Arts Captain

**Sarina State High School**

Jakohbi Moren

**Seton College**

Natahlia Conboy – Reconciliation Leader

**Spinifex State College**

Jasmine Connelly – School Vice-Captain

Seleena Blackley – Indigenous Captain  
Shilah Caulton – House Captain  
Keili Eggmolesse – Yr. 11 Moondarra House Representative  
Jade King – Yr. 11 Leichhardt House Representative

**Springfield Central State High School**

Ava Sorgel – School Captain

**St Augustine's College, Springfield**

Caitie Casa – First Nations' Student Ambassadors  
Cameron Hunter – First Nations' Student Ambassadors

**St Brendan's College**

Caleb Bartlett – Prefect  
Kalani Sing – House Captain

**St Columban's College**

Ryan St John – Indigenous Ambassador  
Katie Guy – Indigenous Ambassador  
Isaiah Levi – House Leader

**St Edmund's College**

Seth Bishop – House Leader  
Callum Dillon – House Leader

**St George State High School**

Tylah Fontaine – Indigenous Ambassador

**St John Fisher College**

Abby Hopewell – House Leader

**St John's Catholic School (Roma)**

Shauna Fisher – Sports Prefect for our Marian House

**St Monica's College**

Tilona Ahmat – Boarding Captain  
Ida Van Rysinge – McAuley House Captain

**St Patrick's College (Mackay)**

Kamiah Grigg – Indigenous Committee Chair

**St Peter Claver College**

Tate Rhea – College Captain

Bryce Pickwick – Fisher House Captain  
Jayden Elder – Xavier House Captain

**St Saviour's College**

Keeley Crothers – Mission & Identity Leader

**Tagai State College**

Stanley Assan – School Captain

Teriza Muhamad-Mosby – School Captain

Nakita David – School Vice Captain

Trevor Keenan – School Vice Captain

**The Cathedral College (Rockhampton)**

Alexis Ahmann – College Captain

**The Glennie School**

Taylah Stanley – Indigenous School Leader

**Thuringowa State High School**

Emma Mackie – School Vice Captain

Willow Wells – President, Student Representative Council  
Leeann Evennett – Executive Officer, Student Representative Council  
Cade Wells – Executive Officer, Student Representative Council  
Telita Day – Senior Indigenous Leader  
Bree McKean – Green House Captain

**Trinity Bay State High School**

Malachi Smith – Senior Indigenous Leader  
Caleb Zaro – Senior Indigenous Leader

**Trinity College**

Alycia Hyland – Liturgy Prefect  
Nikela Hyland – MacKillop House Captain

**Warwick State High School**

Abby Gainey – Cultural Leader

**Wellington Point State High School**

Lisa Holcroft – Warunggul Leader

**Windaroo Valley State High School**

Melachi Davis – Indigenous School Captain  
Kyara Hourigan – Indigenous School Captain

**Woodridge State High School**

Brooke Hornery – Indigenous Leader - Student Council  
Bree-Anna Wagstaff – President - Student Council



Tyson Croft and Thomas Chaseling, Kedron SHS.



Sophie Dahtler, Biloela SHS.



Vaughan Pryor and Destiny Morganson, Ingham SHS.



Bellah Bennett-Payne and Dakota Anderson, Centenary Heights SHS.



Leah Offord, Moranbah SHS.



Sasha Grainer and Jaylan Harries, Mareeba SHS.



Jakory Blanco, Jarli-Russell Blanco and Morgghan Egan, Moranbah SHS.





# QATSIF Young Leaders in Focus

## Tylah Fontaine

Congratulations to Tylah Fontaine from St George State High school who has just been named as the Lions Youth of The Year for the St George Lions Club.

Tylah has also been elected as her school's Indigenous Ambassador.

We wish Tylah all the best as she continues to lead her community with pride.



## Shannon Anderson

Earlier this year, Shannon Anderson from Good Shepherd College was lucky enough to attend the Women in Mining and Resources Queensland/Queensland Resources Council trip to Brisbane.

This trip exposed Shannon to how the Resources Council encouraged young females to work in the mining field.

The benefits of attending the program included accessing a mentor who works in a field of mining similar to her preferences, learning from a previous mentee how the program had opened up opportunities for her, and understanding the importance of women in mining!

Shannon, who is also the Indigenous Representative on her school's Student Representative Council said, *"I hope to gain some experiences that will influence my decision as to whether or not I want to work in mining! I'm very excited to hear what my mentor will teach me, and what I can gain from her experiences!"*

More info: <https://womeninminingqueensland.com/>



## Ella McCann & Seth Saddler



Ella McCann and Seth Saddler from Pacific Pines State High were selected to be part of the NRL All-Stars Indigenous Youth Leadership Summit last month.

They had to fill in an online application and were picked to represent the Titans at the leadership summit.

Ella and Seth are participants in the Titans Deadly Futures and NRL School to Work (S2W) programs, and were selected because of their demonstrated leadership within their schools and communities, as well as their commitment to their education.

Ella and Seth spent a week with players and 63 youth representatives from other football clubs working together on leadership activities. This was all leading up to the All Stars game in February.

Ella and Seth have come back full of confidence and with an ambition to succeed.



# QATSIF Young Achievers



## Navrin Karklis

Navrin, a past QATSIF student from Carmel College, was selected amongst Energex's 28 new electrical apprentices. Navrin was one of just 5 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander apprentices in the group.

Terri Edwards from Carmel College said how proud she was of Navrin and thanked QATSIF for sharing the information on the Energex apprenticeships late last year which alerted the school to the opportunity.

We wish Navrin all the best in his new career.

## Juliet Biemann & Amily Phineasa

Congratulations to past QATSIF students Juliet Biemann from Grace Lutheran College (Rothwell) and Amily Phineasa from Kirwan State High School who have progressed through to the finals in the 7News Young Achiever Awards QLD!

These awards aim to celebrate the valuable contributions that young people are making throughout Queensland, by acknowledging, encouraging and most importantly promoting their positive influence and achievements within the community.

Juliet and Amily will now proceed on to the finals with two other finalists, with winners to be announced on Friday May 8.

We wish Juliet and Amily all the best!



## Sorry Business – Farewell Uncle Sam Watson and Aunty Joan Hendriks

QATSIF would like to express our deep condolences to Uncle Sam's and Aunty Joan's families and communities.

Both Uncle Sam and Aunty Joan were incredible supporters of QATSIF and especially of our young people and regularly participated in our QATSIF events.

Uncle Sam joined us for our QATSIF Graduation at QUT, less than a month before he passed away. After his powerful Welcome to Country, Uncle Sam spoke passionately about the Aboriginal history of South East Queensland and encouraged the students present to work hard to achieve their dreams and to have deep pride in their Cultures.

Aunty Joan joined us for our UQ Graduation last year. She lit our QATSIF Elders' candle and shared the beautiful Aboriginal Fire Blessing to send students out inspired to achieve. As always, she took the time to seek out and yarn with the young people present.

We are truly grateful for the lives and achievements of these outstanding Elders and community leaders. We thank Aunty Joan and Uncle Sam inspiring a new generation of young leaders with their humble wisdom, generosity, passion and love.

Aunty Joan's memorial booklet finished with this beautiful blessing from Elizabeth Pike (1997).

*May you always stand tall as a tree.  
May you be as strong as the rock Uluru,  
as gentle and still as the morning mist.  
May you hold the warmth of the campfire in your heart.  
And may the Creator Spirit always walk with you.*





# QATSIF Ambassadors'

## South Western Queensland Road Trip

On Sunday, February 9, three QATSIF Ambassadors left with Mike Naylor (QATSIF Secretariat Director) on a 1900km road trip around our South Western Queensland schools.

Our inspirational ambassadors were:

- ★ Kyle Ryan: studying a Bachelor of Biomedical Science before moving into the Doctor of Medicine. Kyle was also *Queensland's Highest Achieving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student* in 2016.
- ★ Janaya Watego: completing her Construction Apprenticeship through See Civil Engineering and Construction. Janaya was the top apprentice in her class.
- ★ Jessica Nizeti-Panebianco: studying a Bachelor of Engineering and Bachelor of Science dual degree and has an internship within the natural gas industry.

Kyle and Janaya had been also been on our 2019 Western Queensland Road Trip to schools between Mount Isa and Charleville.

Our ambassadors shared the ups and downs of their educational journeys as well as their hopes and dreams for the future. Each of our ambassadors challenged the students to work hard and achieve in their chosen field and not to be limited by other people's stereotypes.

Over the week, our Ambassadors spoke with over 240 students across 8 schools – Goondiwindi SHS, St George SHS, Cunnamulla SHS, Charleville SHS, St John's Catholic College (Roma), Miles SHS, Chinchilla SHS and Dalby SHS.

We also presented our new QATSIF Scholarship and Student Leader badges at our schools.

We are very grateful to our South Western Queensland schools, QATSIF Ambassadors and Viva Energy for supporting our visits.





NOW  
OPEN!



QUEENSLAND ABORIGINAL AND  
TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER FOUNDATION

# 2020 CREATIVE ARTS COMPETITION

CALLING ALL QUEENSLAND YEAR 7 - 12 ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER

Artists **Musicians** Storytellers *Videographers*  
Photographers *Dancers* Poets **PERFORMERS**

Would you like to showcase your talents to the wider Queensland community and share your pride in our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultures?

Create a creative arts piece that relates to either:

In This Together  
(Reconciliation Week 2020 theme)

OR

Always Was, Always Will Be  
(NAIDOC Week 2020 theme)

Please send a high resolution image (not the original artwork), recording, video (5 min max) or email of your artistic piece and permission form to: [enquiries@qatsif.org.au](mailto:enquiries@qatsif.org.au) or  
QATSIF 2/301 Water Street, FORTITUDE VALLEY, QLD, 4006.

COMPETITION CLOSSES 5PM FRIDAY 8 MAY.





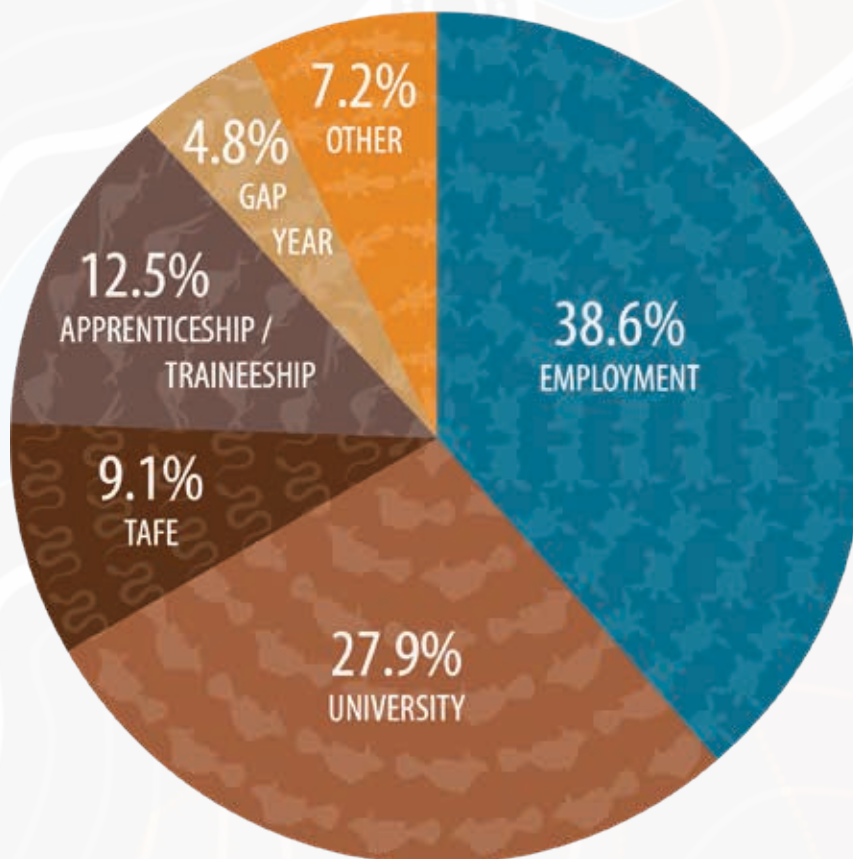
# QATSIF Round 9 Student Destinations

QATSIF is very proud of the achievements of our deadly Round 9 students and would like to congratulate our schools on their outstanding dedication and efforts.

While we are still chasing some schools for their acquittal data, I would like to share the destination data that we had collected up until March 18. There was around 12.9% (87 students) who were unable to be contacted or whose destinations were unknown.

Outcome	All students / Non-Indigenous students	All Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students	Round 9 QATSIF Students (n = 780)
Completed Year 12 (Source DATSIP 2018)	91.4% (Non-Indigenous students)	65.7%	98.5% (768)
Gained QCE (Queensland Certificate of Education) (Source QCAA 2019)	94.5%	88.9%	96% (737)

## Round 9 QATSIF Students' Destinations n=682 (known destinations)



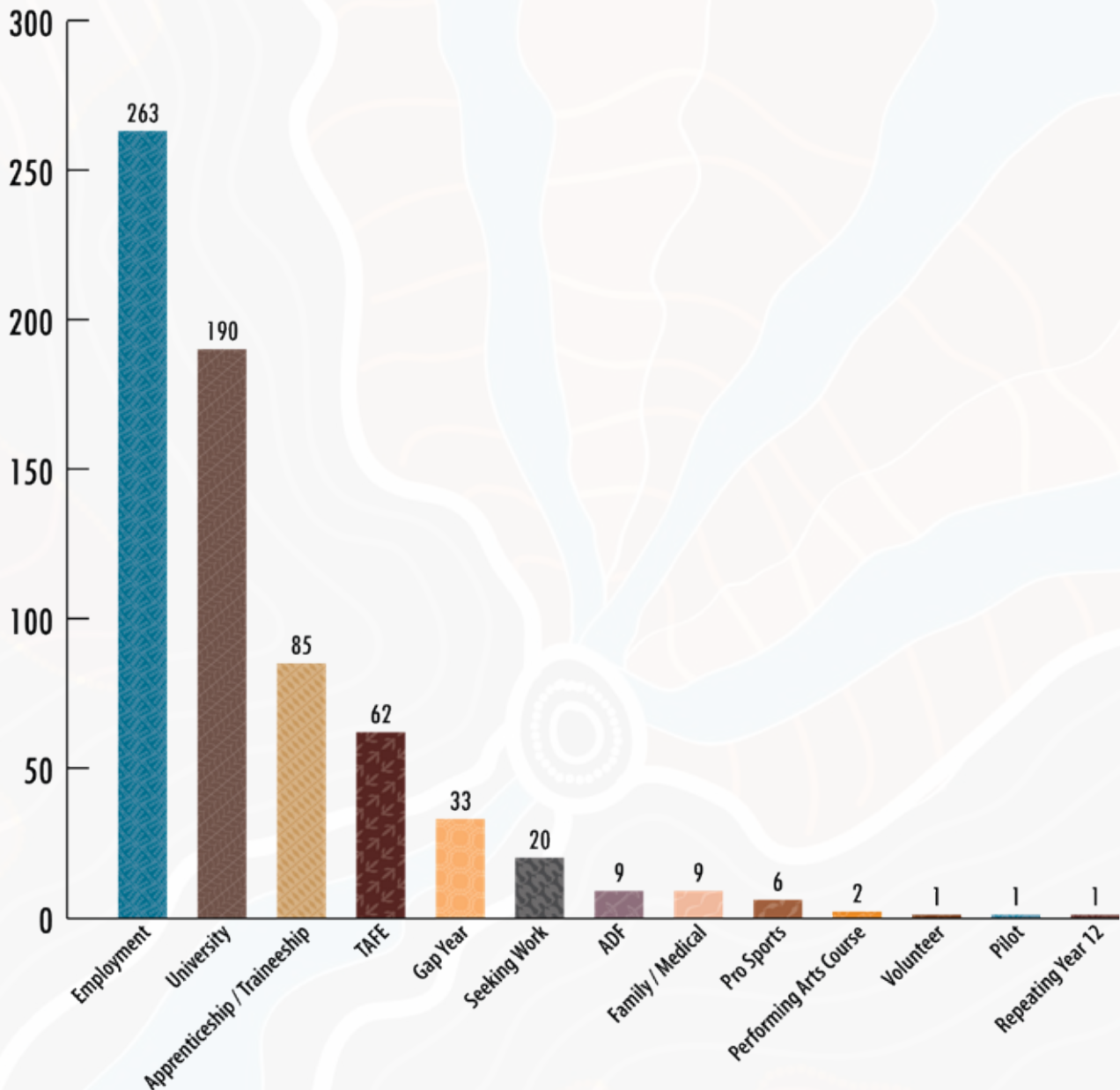
For the 7.2% of our students listed as **OTHER** the number breakdown of students is:

Looking for work	Australian Defence Force	Family carer / Medical	Professional Sports	Performing Arts course	Volunteering	Pilot	Repeating Year 12
20	9	9	6	2	1	1	1



## Known Destinations of QATSIF Round 9 graduates

n= 682 (Unknown / unable to contact 87 students) as @ 18/03/2020



## Post School Destinations for QATSIF Students compared with 2018 Next Steps Data

Destination	All Queensland Students (2018 data)	Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students (2018 data)	QATSIF Students (2019 data)
Education or Training	58.6%	39.8%	50%
Employment	27.7%	30%	40.8%
Not in Education, Training or Employment	13.7%	30.2%	9.2%



# 2020 QATSIF Celebration Dates

Please take note of when we will be celebrating and recognising significant dates in your area.

*\* These dates may change with current COVID-19 restrictions.*

11 May	<b>QATSIF Round 12 Scholarship opens for applications</b>
23 July	<b>QATSIF Cluster Schools' NAIDOC Celebration at Laidley State High School</b>
31 July	<b>QATSIF Round 12 Scholarship applications close</b>
5 August	<b>QATSIF Graduation at Bond University (Gold Coast)</b>
7 August	<b>QATSIF Graduation at CQU (Rockhampton)</b>
12 August	<b>QATSIF Graduation at USC (Sippy Downs)</b>
14 August	<b>QATSIF Graduation at UQ – St Lucia (Brisbane)</b>
19 August	<b>QATSIF Graduation at CQU (Mackay)</b>
20 August	<b>QATSIF Graduation at JCU (Townsville)</b>
21 August	<b>QATSIF Graduation at JCU (Cairns)</b>
27 August	<b>QATSIF Graduation at QUT – Kelvin Grove (Brisbane)</b>
28 August	<b>QATSIF Graduation at USQ (Toowoomba)</b>
TBA	<b>QATSIF Graduation at Maryborough</b>



History. Learning. Love. Resistance.

## IN MY BLOOD IT RUNS

from the director of *Gabby Baby*  
and the producers of *52 Tuesdays*

IN MY BLOOD IT RUNS is a powerful and moving portrait of a young Indigenous Australian boy, Dujan, who is a child-healer, a good hunter and speaks three languages. Yet he is 'failing' in school and facing increasing scrutiny from welfare and the police. We walk with him as he grapples with these pressures, shares his truths and somewhere in-between finds space to dream, imagine and hope for his future self.



## *In My Blood It Runs* – Free Reconciliation Week screening for schools

World Vision are pleased to offer schools a free screening of this award winning documentary during **Reconciliation Week 27 May – 3 June 2020**.

**Synopsis:** *In My Blood It Runs* tells the story of 10 year-old *Dujan* who is a child-healer, a good hunter and speaks three languages and yet is 'failing' in school and facing increasing scrutiny from welfare and the police. We walk with him as he grapples with these pressures, shares his truths and somewhere in-between finds space to dream, imagine and hope for his future self.

In addition to the screening, schools will also receive a pack of Educational Resources to accompany the film and explore the issues it raises for our First Nations people.

Schools can register at:

<http://bit.ly/WV-IMBIR-schoolscreening>

For more information, please contact Zana Bowen:  
[zana.bowen@worldvision.com.au](mailto:zana.bowen@worldvision.com.au)



# Current student opportunities

## FairPlay vouchers

Round 2 closes 1 April 2020

Parents, carers or guardians can apply for a voucher valued up to \$150 for their child, which can be used towards sport and active recreation membership, registration or participation fees with registered activity providers. There is a limit of 1 voucher per child per calendar year.

You can apply if your child:

- is a Queensland resident aged from 5 to 17 years (inclusive) at the time of application
- did not receive a FairPlay voucher this year
- holds, or whose parent, carer or guardian holds, a valid Department of Human Services Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card with the child's name on it

More info: <https://www.qld.gov.au/recreation/sports/funding/fairplay/apply>

## Emerging Athlete Pathways

Emerging Athlete Pathways aims to foster the development of young athletes and support elite athlete pathways by providing financial assistance to help alleviate the costs associated with attending championship events at specific state, national and international events.

More info: <https://www.qld.gov.au/recreation/sports/funding/athletes/emerging-athlete-pathways>

## #LearnOurTruth Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Youth Survey 2020

This survey was created to learn more about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young peoples' experiences (16 - 25 year olds) of the education system in Australia. To take part in the survey, please go to

<https://learnourtruth.com/>

If you have any questions about this survey you can contact the National Indigenous Youth Education Coalition via email [coordinator@niyec.com](mailto:coordinator@niyec.com)



#LEARNOURTRUTH

# QATSIF's 2020 Promotional Coffee Mug

From our 2019 QATSIF Creative Arts Competition, Shanika Hazard's (Darling Downs Christian School) beautiful work entitled *Muru of Life* was chosen for our promotional coffee mugs.

For the past two years, QATSIF has selected a student's work for our promotional mugs. These are presented to Elders and special guests at our QATSIF events.

Shanika says, "The gold path or Muru Wiradjuri (path of life) symbolises our golden years.... the circular dots symbolise long life and the connectedness involved in a tribal community. The many feet represent walking in harmony with one another."

This artwork displays the idea of having the courage to stand together regardless of the trials we face. The learning from the past to create a bold bright future, expressing the need for us to be grounded in the truth of our identity and of where we belong culturally and socially."

Congratulations Shanika and thank you for sharing your talent with QATSIF and the wider community.





OUR 2021 QATSIF QCE  
SCHOLARSHIPS OPEN ON  
11 MAY 2020.

2021  
ROUND 12

# QATSIF QCE SCHOLARSHIPS

Join over 10,300 young Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander leaders who have already received a QATSIF QCE Scholarship.

Talk to your school about applying for a QATSIF QCE Scholarship of \$1,000 per year to support with the financial costs of your senior studies.

More information on QATSIF QCE Scholarships is available at [www.qatsif.org.au](http://www.qatsif.org.au).

Are you currently in Year 10 or 11 at a Queensland school?

Are you proud of your Culture and your efforts?

Are you Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander?

Are you working hard towards receiving your Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE)?

*QATSIF acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land in which we live and work. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and future for they hold the memories, traditions, culture and hopes of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People of Australia.*

## QATSIF Office Contacts

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[www.qatsif.org.au](http://www.qatsif.org.au)

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