

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 1 – TERM 1

2021

IN THIS EDITION

- New Recipients' and Student Leaders' Celebrations
 - ★ ACU (Banyo)
 - ★ USQ (Springfield)
 - ★ Photos from our QATSIF Schools
- Transurban STEM Scholarships
- QAS School-Based Scholarships
- 2021 QATSIF School Leaders
- QATSIF Round 10 Student Destination Information
- Holy Spirit College's RAP
- Rocket Science and Aerospace Opportunities
- 2020 Marymount College Graduation
- 150th Anniversary of The Coming of the Light
- QATSIF Mabo Day and Coming of Light celebrations
- Ideas for class or school Reconciliation/NAIDOC Week celebrations
- QATSIF 2021 Creative Arts Competition
- QATSIF Board Members
- QATSIF Team
- Some words of wisdom and hope from Aunty Ruth
- 2021 Date Claimer: QATSIF Events and Graduations
- Student Leaders' Meetings
- Floral Friday Fundraiser



QATSIF New Recipients' and Student Leaders' Celebrations

QATSIF celebrated our latest scholarship recipients with events at the Australian Catholic University (Banyo) and the University of Southern Queensland (Springfield).

At the ceremonies, around 450 students were presented with their QATSIF scholarship certificates. Across Queensland, many of QATSIF's current 3,600 students joined our livestreamed ceremonies and had certificate presentations in their own communities.

Now in its 12th scholarship round, QATSIF has committed a further \$3.66 M to support 2,030 new Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to complete Years 11 and 12. Over the past 12 years, QATSIF has supported nearly 12,500 students with their senior studies.

QATSIF's scholarship funding is provided through the interest on unallocated Stolen Wages funds from the initial Queensland Stolen Wages reparations back in 2008. Throughout our ceremonies, QATSIF paid tribute to the generations of Aboriginal and Torres Islander Elders and Ancestors whose wages were unjustly held by successive Queensland Governments from the 1890s through to the 1970s and whose labour and efforts made our QATSIF Scholarships possible.

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. At the ceremonies, Uncle Dennis Bobongie and Uncle Milton Walit lit our Elders' candle. In a beautiful tradition, QATSIF students then use the flame from the Elders' candle to light the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander candle as a sign of their commitment to carry on Culture handed down since the Dreaming.



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

Each of the ceremonies were led by outstanding student MCs from our QATSIF's schools – Grace Bachmann (Mt Maria, Mitchelton) and Bailey Dreise (Pine Rivers SHS) led our ACU celebrations and Kaylee Haspels (St Mary's College, Ipswich) and Dylan Thomas (Kingston SHS) led our USQ event.

Students from Beenleigh State High School, Ambrose Treacy College and Faith Lutheran College demonstrated their incredible cultural pride through traditional Aboriginal dance performances.

Taryn Anno from Earnshaw State College and Mischa Ford from Marymount College read moving poems on the strength, resilience and beauty of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures. Both of these poems had been written for QATSIF's annual Creative Arts Competition.

At the ACU celebration, Professor Shannon AM, QATSIF's Chair, shared both the unjust history of Stolen Wages in Queensland and her pride in QATSIF's great work. She also challenged the students to work hard, take up any opportunities given to them and to "*Dream Big*" when it came to their futures. She said that she was extremely proud to see QATSIF supporting a record 3,600 students in 2021. Uncle Wayne Fossey, a long time QATSIF supporter, shared his family's Stolen Wages story and encouraged outstanding student achievement at USQ.

Two past QATSIF students spoke with the new QATSIF students about their own educational journeys that were leading them into education careers. Hayden Kubler (past Xavier College student) and Emily Gullen (past Nanango SHS student) thanked the Elders and Ancestors whose hard work and sacrifices had provided our QATSIF Scholarships and spoke of their determination to make a difference to other young lives when they become teachers.

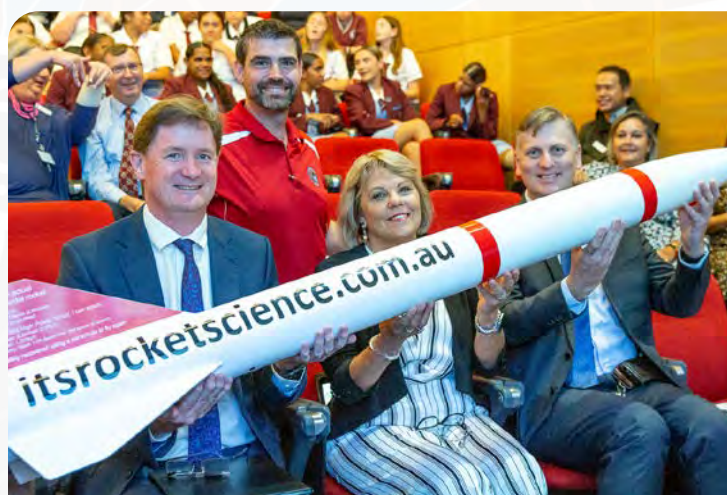
At ACU, the Queensland Ambulance Service's Assistant Commissioner, Peter Warrener presented Queensland Ambulance Service Scholarships to four of the ten QATSIF students from across Queensland who were selected to receive additional opportunities through the QAS.

Mr Mike Buxton from Transurban also presented Transurban Paiaun Karumba (Yuggera – Dream Big) STEM Scholarships to many of the 20 QATSIF students who will receive opportunities to connect with Engineers and additional support with purchasing IT equipment.

During the ceremony, some of QATSIF's 150 school leaders including our 20 School Captains were presented with their leadership badges and certificates in front of their proud families and schools.

Toward the end of the ceremony, the students were blessed by an Elder with Burnam Burnam's "Aboriginal Fire Blessing" to send them out to lead their schools and work hard achieve their future dreams.

QATSIF is very grateful to the Australian Catholic University and the University of Southern Queensland for supporting students both now and into the future.









QATSIF would like to thank Papillion Studio Photography for their beautiful photos. www.papillonstudio.com.au.

Rnd 12 Recipients' Celebrations shared by our QATSIF schools



Bowen SHS

Congratulations to Bowen State High School's 11 Senior Indigenous students who were successful in receiving their 2021 QATSIF Scholarships. The students' success was officially recognised at a whole school assembly and community information session in weeks 4 and 5 of this term.

Students are: Back row L-R: Cygnet, Harry, Emmanuel, Chloe, Hayley, Jack, Kyisha, Trinity. Front L-R: Zion, Linda and Ciara. Well done!

We wish our students every success in their journey towards attaining their Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE).

Moranbah SHS

On Wednesday 17 March, Moranbah State High School held their QATSIF Induction Ceremony with their Year 11 recipients, previous QATSIF scholarship recipients (Year 12s), fellow Indigenous students from year 7 – 10, families, staff and community members.

Among the special guests from the community were Phil Fisher and Luarna Walsh from the *Barada Barna* people (Traditional Custodians), Lori Smith (General Manager from BHP) and Kelly Brebner (Social Performance Specialist from Anglo American).

There was a beautiful Welcome to Country from Luarna Walsh, our Indigenous School Captain who led the ceremony. A previous QATSIF recipient also spoke to the guests about how the scholarship is helping him achieve his goals. Everyone watched the QATSIF information video on a projector screen and enjoyed morning tea together after the ceremony.





Ayr SHS



Mirani SHS



All Souls St Gabriels School



Rockhampton Girls' Grammar School



Burnett State College



Southport SHS



Kingston State College



Proserpine SHS



St James College



Mareeba SHS



Rosewood SHS



Bremer SHS

Harristown SHS



Blackwater SHS



Mossman SHS



MacGregor SHS



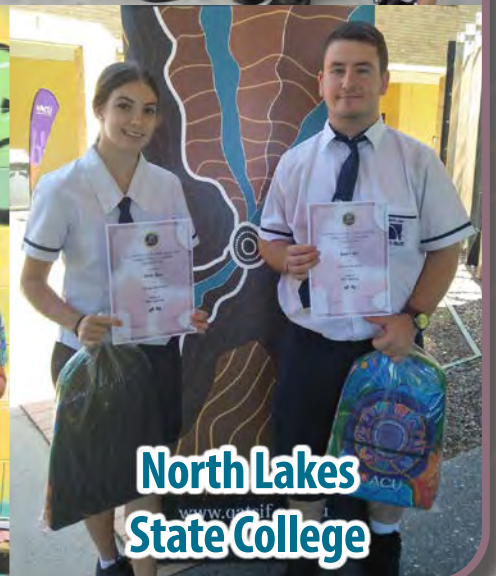
St Patrick's College Townsville



Tagai State College



North Lakes State College



Transurban Paiabun Karumba STEM Scholarships

In 2021, Transurban has selected nine new QATSIF students to join their Paiabun Karumba (Yuggera – Dream Big) Scholarship program.

QATSIF congratulates the following students who have received this deadly opportunity:

School	Recipient
Aspley State High School	Braelyn Rolfe-Chase
Aspley State High School	Josephine Dixon
Aspley State High School	Kodi Windsor
Beenleigh State High School	Britney King
Dakabin State High School	Myklette Doctor
Redlands College	James Bryant
Victoria Point State High School	Kyle Watson
Victoria Point State High School	Maddisen Gibbons
Victoria Point State High School	Maddy Skirzyk

Last year, all Year 10 Round 12 QATSIF students from communities close to Transurban's tunnel system (Logan, Brisbane and Ipswich) who had a passion for STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) were invited to apply for this scholarship.

As well as receiving their QATSIF Scholarships, these students will receive additional opportunities including meeting with Transurban's Engineering team, experiencing Transurban's road management centre and an additional \$500 to spend on IT equipment.

Mr Mike Buxton, an Aboriginal Civil Works Inspector from Transurban presented the Transurban Paiabun Karumba STEM Scholarships at our Australian Catholic University and University of Southern Queensland celebrations.



Queensland Ambulance Service School-Based Scholarships

For the past two years, QATSIF has partnered with the Queensland Ambulance Service (QAS) to support QATSIF students who are interested in a QAS career.

Each year, all Year 10 students who have applied for a QATSIF scholarship have been invited to consider applying for a QAS School-Based Scholarship and 10 outstanding young people are selected.

QATSIF congratulates our 2021 QAS School-Based Scholarship recipients:

School	Recipient
Townsville State High School	Brendyn Mann
St George State High School	Ellsy Rudd
Mountain Creek State High School	Imogen Farrarwell
Mountain Creek State High School	Imogen Harvey
Rockhampton Girls' Grammar school	Kaylah Frazer
Noosa District State High School	Keara Woods
Charleville State High School	Riley Wilson
Helensvale State High School	Ruby Thompson
Sandgate District State High School	Ty Martens
Kelvin Grove State College	Wyatt Hughes

At our recent Australian Catholic University (ACU) ceremony, the Queensland Ambulance Service's Assistant Commissioner, Peter Warrener presented Queensland Ambulance Service Scholarships to four of the ten QATSIF students. The QAS has also organised to present certificates to the other students at their own school ceremonies.

As well as receiving their QATSIF Scholarship, the QAS is planning to offer these students opportunities to meet with Indigenous Paramedics, visit QAS stations and perhaps do some work experience. The QAS is also assisting these students with First Aid courses and driving lessons.



2021 QATSIF School Leaders

Aunty Ruth, our QATSIF Board and staff congratulate all of our 152 students (below) who have been elected to leadership positions within their schools so far this year.

We are very proud to have **20 School Captains** and **5 Vice Captains** around Queensland.

All Student Leaders are invited to join a special Teams meeting from 9am–10.30am on Thursday, April 29.

It will be an opportunity for our Student Leaders to share some of the activities and events that they have planned for the year ahead and meet with other young leaders.

Alexandra Hills State High School

Sharni Mellare – School Captain

All Hallows' School

Halle Sheppard – Mercedes House Culture Captain

Ambrose Treacy College

Allan Currie-Saunders – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leader

Jye Duncan-Cope – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leader

Jontay Gothachalkenin – Student Council Representative

Balmoral State High School

Jack Maloney – Indigenous Leader

Bentley Park College

Nickolas Clark – College Captain

Blackheath & Thornburgh College

Chylesiah Baira-James – College Sports Captain

Tina Yasserie – Bacon House Captain

Blackwater State High School

Charli Muller – Indigenous Ambassador

Bowen State High School

Linda Illin – Vice House Captain

Bracken Ridge State High School

Monique Carolan – House Captain (Laver)

Brisbane Adventist College

Chaqana Tooley – Prefect

Elijah Fiaalii – House Captain

Shakana Foley – Indigenous Student Mentor

Luana Browne – Indigenous Student Mentor



Brisbane Bayside State College

Chenoa Youse – Indigenous Captain

Cheyenne Brown – Peer Supporters Group

Bundamba State Secondary College

Dream Brady – School Captain

Julie Ponting – Vice Captain

Kiernan Green – Cultural Captain

Burnett State College

Mikayla Hodge – Formal Committee Chairperson and Tarumbal House Captain

Burpengary State Secondary College

Joshua Anderson – House Captain

Carmel College

Hunter Binskin – Ministry Captain

Cavendish Road State High School

Lilly Prescott – Senior Indigenous Prefect

Talitha Saldanha – Senior Indigenous Prefect

Centenary State High School

Isabella French – Senior Indigenous Captain

Makayla Renouf – Year 11 Student Council

Chancellor State College

Keeley Foster – College Ambassador

Charleville State High School

Laura Russell – Indigenous Ambassador

Coomababah State High School

Timothy Sielaff-Burns – 2021 School Captain

Dalby State High School

Georgia Lindsay – Senior Culture Captain

Deacon Pridmore – Senior Culture Captain

Earnshaw State College

Zoe Paton – College Captain

Tamika Anno – House Captain (Bradman)

Emerald State High School

Kate McLeod – Indigenous Leader

Dimity Turner – SRC Publicity Officer

Emmaus College (Jimboomba)

Riley Chenoweth – Year 12 Community Captain for Broughton House

Fairholme College Toowoomba

Chloe Brazel – House Prefect

Monique Bloomfield – Cultural Leadership Committee Member

Charli Kings – Wellness Leadership Committee Member



Good Shepherd Catholic College

Alina Dempsey – Indigenous Student Leader

Groves Christian College

Ella Fox – Prefect

Tyrell Smith-Begg – Prefect

Gympie State High School

Hal Daniel – Indigenous Student Ambassador

Heights College

Jay Warcon – School Captain

Hervey Bay State High School

Misharleah Fogarty – School Captain

Hymba Yumba Independent School

Ziphoria Minniecon – School Captain

Ipswich Girls' Grammar School

Emily Dowell – School Netball Captain & Cultural Leader

Tekisha Rotumah – School Basketball Captain & Cultural Leader

Freedom-May Sam – Cultural Leader

Casey Thompson – Carter House Captain

Ipswich State High School

Tahlia Marshall – School Captain

Phoebe Conlon – Senior Indigenous Captain

Rose Munt – House Captain

Shaieisha Towler – House Captain

Maliyan Thompson – Well Being Captain

Gillian McInnes – Visual Arts Captain

James Nash State High School

Benjamin Stokes – Student Ambassador

John Paul College (Daisy Hill)

Lily Cubby – Boarding Captain

Kelvin Grove State High School

Wyatt Hughes – Indigenous Leader

Kenmore State High School

Tayla Dunn – Allunga Sports House Captain

Kingston State College

Dylan Thomas – School Captain

Isabella Stuart – Indigenous Captain, Dance Captain

Brendan Williams – Indigenous Captain

Kirwan State High School

Tyrone Sonogan – Indigenous Captain

Mike Sailor – Indigenous Captain

Laidley State High School

Chloe Carr – Indigenous Captain

Destiny Pearce – Indigenous Captain

Lighthouse Christian School

Maddison Blucher – Vice Captain

Lourdes Hill College

Bella Hughes – 2021 Mirragin Captain

Mabel Park State High School

Bailey Howarth – Multicultural Leader

Kya Bob – Multicultural Leader

Riccardo Marius – Multicultural Leader

Ehla Little – Multicultural Leader

MacGregor State High School

Nakira Johnson – School Captain

Mackay Northern Beaches State High School

Natarsha McBrown – Cultural Ambassador

Marsden State High School

Junior Sims – Indigenous Captain

Danielle Harris – Indigenous Captain

Tayla Moore – Indigenous Captain

Meridan State College

Riley Young – Deadly Leader

Moranbah State High School

Venna Baggow – Indigenous Ambassador

Dustan Baggow – Indigenous Ambassador

Mossman State High School

Alexis Ryan – 2021 Student Council President and Jalbil House Captain

Mount St Bernard College

Stacey Edwards – College Captain

Mt Maria College (Mitchelton)

Grace Bachmann – School Captain

Taylor Andolfatto – Wellbeing Leader

Reilly Kenyon – Mackillop House Leader

Pacific Pines State High School

Angela Willoughby – School Captain

Palm Beach-Currumbin State High School

Myrisha Bartman – Senior Indigenous Leader

Ethan Fletcher – Senior Indigenous Leader

Peace Lutheran College

Dana Evans – House Captain

Lennik Yougie – House Captain

Pimpama State Secondary College

Jye Bazely – Vice Captain

Jorja Jeffery-Hore – Cultural Leader

Meiwap Nona – Cultural Leader

Kaleb Lillicrap – House Prefect

Aleah Trindall – House Prefect

Pine Rivers State High School

Bailey Dreise – Indigenous Captain

Proserpine State High School

Luke Handley – School Vice Captain & Indigenous Student Leader

Redbank Plains State High School

Keirah Springall – Bulls House Captain



Robina State High School

Jade Budden – Indigenous Leader

Rosedale State High School

Jade Maher – ATSI Leader

Taizy Holland – House Sports Captain

Layla West-Busch – House Sports Captain

Ryan Catholic College (Townsville)

Tenason Stark – College Community Captain

Seton College

Jorjah West – Reconciliation Leader

Jackson Ketley – College Sports Leader

Spinifex State College - Senior Campus

Jade King – Indigenous Captain

Keili Eggmolesse – Moondarra House Captain

St Anthony's Catholic College (Secondary Campus)

Ashleigh Kelvin – Indigenous Student Leader

Tyler Ive – Indigenous Student Leader

St Augustine's College (Augustine Heights)

Lily Morris – First Nations' Student Ambassador

St Brendan's College (Yeppoon)

Boronggai Young – College Captain

Kendrick Treadwell – Boarding Captain

St Columban's College (Caboolture)

Telisha Bushby – Senior Indigenous Ambassador

Nicholas Kermode-Lewsam – Senior Indigenous Ambassador

St George State High School

Rachael Von Gosliga

St James College

Colin Barney – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Ambassador

Cheyenne Pickering – House Captain and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Ambassador

St Laurence's College

Eli Gilsenan – Prefect for Solidarity and Culture

St Margaret Mary's College (Hyde Park)

Raezahn Sam – Senior House Captain

Annalisa Corney – Senior Indigenous Awareness Leader

St Patrick's College (Mackay)

Jordan Bliss – College Captain

Elliot McLeod – Rice House Captain

Eden Grigg – SRC Indigenous Committee Chair

St Patrick's College Townsville

Brianna Stanley – Sports Prefect

St Peter Claver College

Sapphire Brown – College Captain

Lucy Leehy – Cultural Captain

St Saviour's College

Georgia Bartlett – College Captain

Lanease Mooka – Residential Captain

Sophie Elara – McAuley House Captain

St Ursula's College (Yeppoon)

Dae-Shawna Row Row – House Captain

Tagai State College

Gideon Kris – School Captain

Giomi Tom – School Captain

Jalyn Ahmat – Vice Captain

Toowoomba State High School

Shakarna Roma-Johnson – Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Leader

Christian Brady – Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Leader

Zoe Charles – Vice House Captain

Trinity Bay State High School

Jennaya Zaro – Senior Indigenous Leader

Trinity College (Gladstone)

Rosharne Cakau – President of the Student Council

Upper Coomera State College

Azariah Wallace – Indigenous Student Leader

Wavell State High School

Ike Randall – Prefect

Scott Bruce – Prefect

Edward Pitt – Sports Captain

Makayla Walsh – Executive Student Council

Whites Hill State College

Kyella Maloney – Indigenous Captain

Jasmine Carroll – Indigenous Captain

Woodcrest State College

Tyreese Conlon – Indigenous Ambassador

Ciara Bell – Indigenous Ambassador

Xavier Catholic College

Lawson Proctor – Ministry Leader – Justice & Action



QATSIF Round 10 Acquittal Data

QATSIF is extremely proud of our deadly Round 10 Graduates and grateful to our schools for your dedication in helping these young people to achieve their dreams.

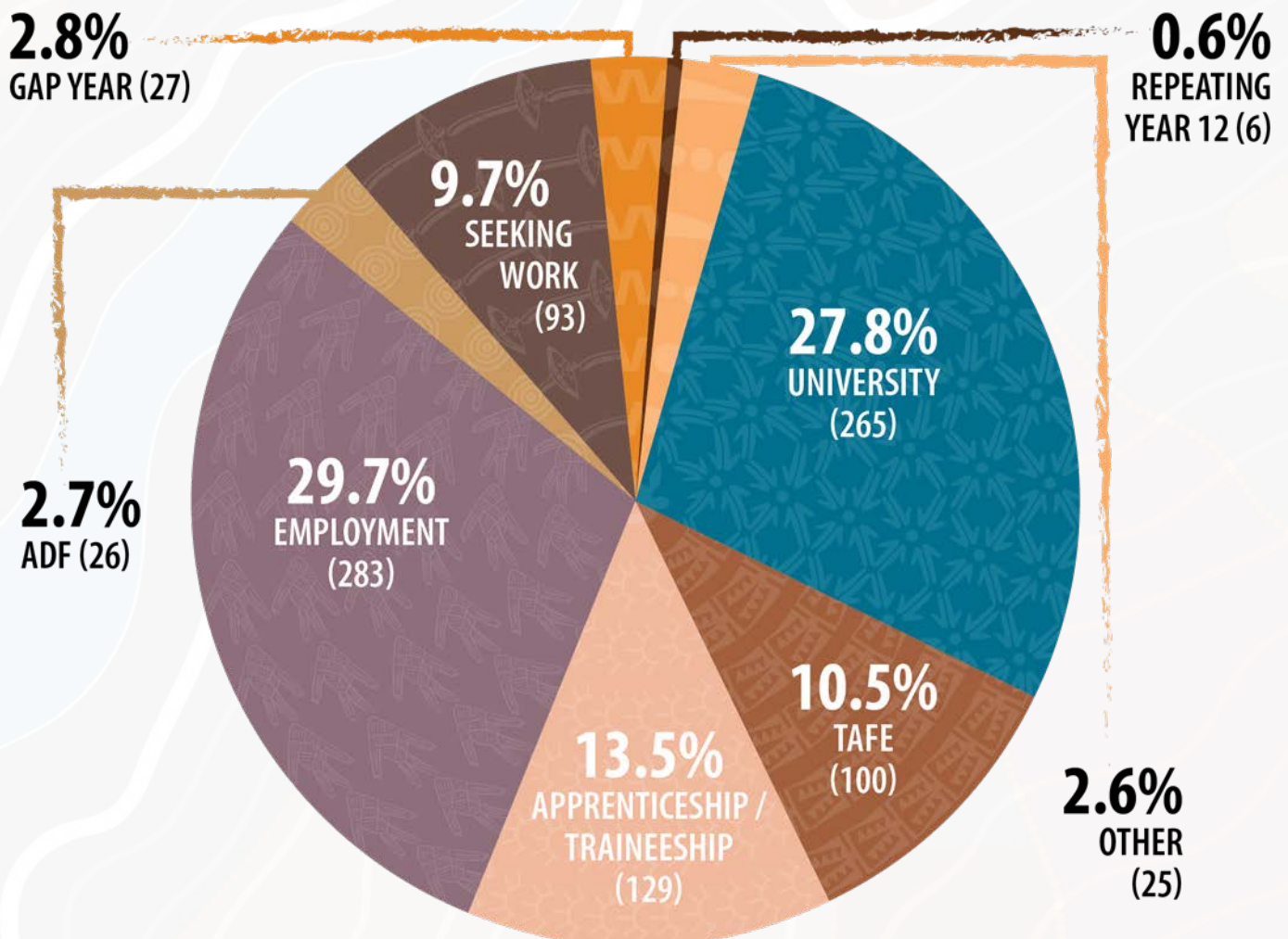
While we are still chasing a few schools for data, I would like to share our QATSIF students' outstanding achievements. These results are even more impressive when you realise that this data was collected in just the first three months following school, when many students are still trying to sort out their futures.

We encourage all schools to follow up with your students' post-school destinations. It is a good way to continue to support your students and to evaluate the work that you are doing.

Round 10 Outcomes (as @ 29/03/21)

Outcome	All Queensland students	All Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students	Round 10 QATSIF Students
Completed Year 12 (Source DATSIP 2018)	91.4% (Non-Indigenous students)	65.7%	97.8% (1098 / 1123)
Gained QCE (Queensland Certificate of Education) (Source QCAA 2020)	89%	88.9% (2019 data)	96% (1054 / 1098)

QATSIF Round 10 Student Destination Data (known destinations n = 954)



Other destinations

Training Course	Caring for family	Creative / Performing Arts	Professional Sports	Indigenous Youth Mobility Pathway	Medical Issues	Cultural Business	Pre-nursing	Working for church
6	4	4	4	3	2	1	1	1

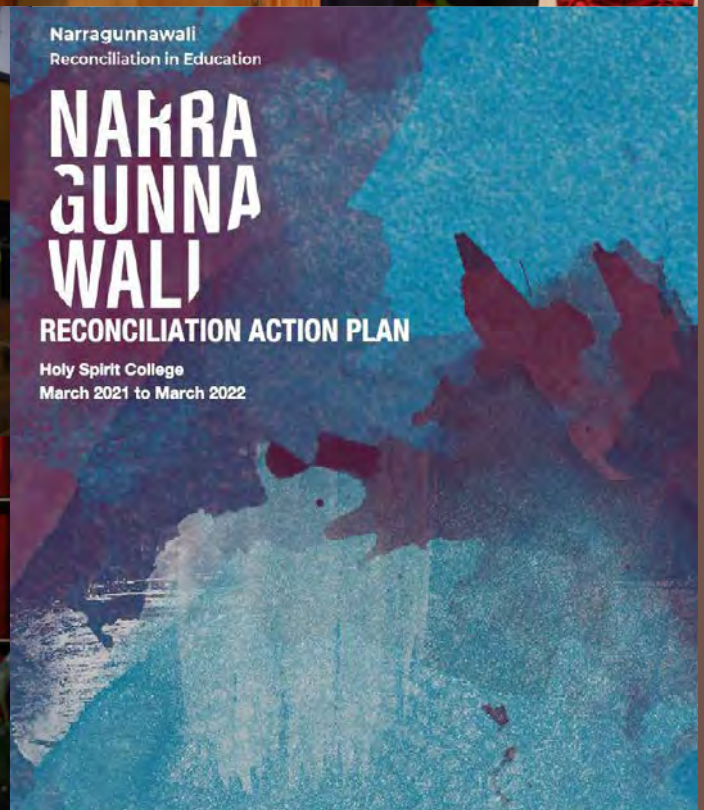
Holy Spirit College's Reconciliation Action Plan

Congratulations to Holy Spirit College (Mackay) on developing and launching your Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP).

In 2018, the Holy Spirit College Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group, which included the College Indigenous Education Liaison Officer, College Staff, Parents, Community Members, Community Elders, and the College Leadership was formed.

The working group met regularly over many months to develop the Holy Spirit College Reconciliation Action Plan.

On Friday 12 March, Holy Spirit College launched their Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) and were honoured to be joined by our invited guests, Aunty Veronica Ah-Wang, Mr Lindon Francis, Detective Senior Sargent Sam Bliss, Fiona Bobongie, and members of the Holy Spirit College Reconciliation Action Working Group.



Rocket Science and Aerospace Opportunities

In term 2, we are hoping to offer two opportunities for students with a passion for STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) to take part in a Rocket Science and Aerospace Day.

Numbers will be limited to around 15 students at each of the events to be held at:

- Emmaus College Jimboomba (11 May)
- Burpengary State Secondary College (1 June)

During the day, students will have the opportunity to learn about aerospace and rocket science from an ex-commercial pilot who was involved in Australia's first commercial rocket launch.

The day will feature practical opportunities including firing off of air powered water rockets which can fly the length of a football field and hopefully some visits to aviation facilities.

The day is being provided free of charge by *It's Rocket Science*. You can see some of the things that they do at: <https://itsrocketscience.com.au/>



2020 Indigenous Graduation Celebration, Marymount College

Each year, Marymount College celebrates the graduation of our Year 12 Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander students, with ceremonies conducted by both Brisbane Catholic Education, and the Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Foundation. The advent of COVID-19, however, meant that our usual celebrations would not be able to go ahead, and had us rethinking the best ways in which we could still commemorate this special occasion. Borrowing elements from both the BCE and QATSIF traditions, we devised our own special ceremony to be held on campus to honour Swai-Anne, Maddie and Jessica's successful completion of their high school education. An advantage of holding the event on site, was that our graduates could share this celebration not only with their parents, but with the rest of the Marymount Mob as well.

Marymount Mob Co-Captains Olivia and Taylor then presented the girls with the traditional gift from the Mob: a small cross, hand-painted by former student Amy Weatherall, and an album of photos commemorating their time as part of the Marymount Mob. Mischa Ford (Year 7) was also recognised for winning QATSIF Junior Poetry prize.

It was wonderful to be able to showcase the importance of the girls' achievements, and to share with them in celebrating this momentous occasion. We will miss the girls next year, as they have all played a role in strengthening the bonds between our Mob students, and all three are fine ambassadors for Marymount College's Indigenous Program. We wish them well on their new journeys, and encourage them to always remember their connection to us here.



150th Anniversary of The Coming of the Light

Torres Strait Islanders celebrate 1st July, as The Coming of the Light, a yearly holiday in the Torres Strait.

One Saturday evening, 1st July 1871, the Reverend Samuel MacFarlane of the London Missionary Society anchored at Erub (Darnley Island). The Society had been active in the Southwest Pacific since the 1840's converting people to Christianity.

Dabad, a Warrior Clan Elder on Erub, "defied his Tribal Law" and openly welcomed the London Missionary Society clergymen and South Sea Islander evangelists and teachers. Torres Strait Islanders acknowledgment of the missionaries was the acceptance of a change that would profoundly affect every aspect of life in the Torres Strait from that time onwards.

The Islanders acceptance of the missionaries and Christianity meant the end of inter-island conflict. Christian principles were partly compatible with traditional religion and the missionaries gave some protection and assistance to Islanders in their contact with foreigners in the maritime industry.

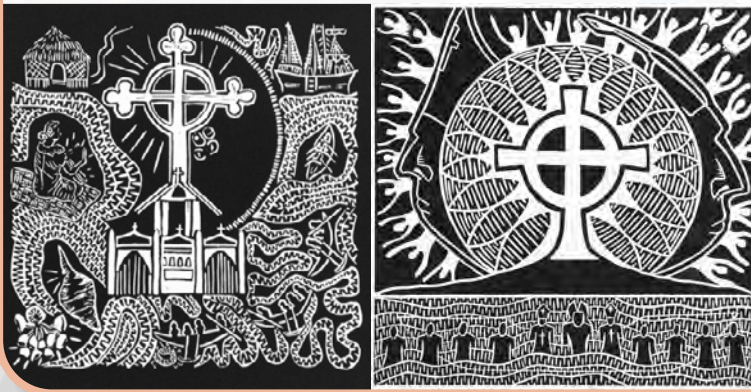
Today, Torres Strait Islanders of all denominations wherever they live, in the islands or on the mainland, come together to honour this anniversary. The Torres Strait Islander festival of the Coming of the Light is a day like no other in Australia.

Church services and a re-enactment of the landing at Kemus on Erub are central to the day's activities. Hymn singing, feasting and Ailan dans (Island dance) strengthen community and family ties.

On July 1, 2021, Torres Strait Islanders will celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the Coming of the Light.

Source - Queensland Museum article:

<https://www.qm.qld.gov.au/Events+and+Exhibitions/Exhibitions/2015/01/Dandiiri+Maiwar/Torres+Strait+Islander+resilience/Coming+of+the+light>



QATSIF Mabo Day and The Coming of the Light 150th Anniversary celebrations

QATSIF is working with Griffith University on a celebration of Mabo Day and The Coming of Light 150th Anniversary at their Logan Campus.

Our celebration is planned for 10.30am – midday on Mabo Day (June 3).

Schools that can assist with Torres Strait Islander dance, song and other cultural activities are invited to email michael.nayler@qatsif.org.au to offer your assistance.



Some ideas for class or school Reconciliation or NAIDOC Week celebrations (From QATSIF's website – School Resources)



Sea of hands

A strong symbol of Reconciliation dating back to ANTaR's *Sea of Hands* in 1997. Each student is invited to add their messages and symbols of Reconciliation to their paper hands which are then displayed in a prominent place.



Boomerang / Message Stick / Bark Canoes

A variation on the "Sea of Hands" theme using boomerangs, message sticks or bark canoes.

Paper flowers

Using a paper flower cutter available from a craft store (e.g. Lincraft), create flowers for each participant to write words, hopes or prayers on. These can either be:

- Added to form a display or
- Petals gently folded and placed into water. Petals should reopen due to capillary action to reveal the words.



Hand prints

Using a large piece of calico, over a period of time, students in each class are invited to add a hand print as a sign of Reconciliation.



Laying down the stones

Based on John 8:1-11 (for religious schools). Students can dramatise the story of the "Woman Caught in Adultery". Students are asked to bring forward a stone to symbolise their rejection of hate, bigotry and hurtful comments and actions.



The Story of the Black / White Warriors

A dramatised anti-racism story used across a number of schools. It tells the story of two peoples living on a distant planet – each has a different side of their body coloured black or white.

The two groups hate one another, until one day there is a chance meeting of two young warriors from the warring groups at a waterhole (mirror used in play).

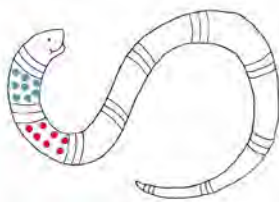
One warrior carefully approaches the waterhole behind a warrior from the other group who is drinking. They both see each other's reflections, but in a reflection left and right sides are swapped. Even though they are sworn enemies, because of the reflection they see the face of their own people. Seeing themselves in the other leads them to sit and talk and begin the Reconciliation process.

Religious schools may want to follow this with a blessing using the black and white paints.



Rainbow Serpent

Use butcher's paper to produce a long Rainbow Serpent with a section for each class or year level. Each class is given a different set of coloured dots to write or draw their messages on. In the week leading up to the ceremony, classes add their coloured dots to their section of the Rainbow Serpent. The multi-coloured Rainbow Serpent is used as the centre-piece of the celebration and displayed prominently afterwards.





QATSIF TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER FOUNDATION



2021 Creative Arts Competition

Calling all Queensland Year 7 - 12

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander

Artists Storytellers Performers Photographers

Videographers Poets Dancers Musicians

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 deadly creative arts piece that relates to either:

**More than a word.
Reconciliation takes action.**

RECONCILIATION WEEK 2021 THEME

OR

Heal Country!
NAIDOC WEEK 2021 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 or QATSIF 2/439 Lutwyche Road, Lutwyche QLD 4030.

COMPETITION CLOSING MONDAY 24 MAY.

Meet our QATSIF Board Members



Professor Cindy Shannon AM (QATSIF Chairperson) is a proud Ngugi woman and a descendant of the Quandamooka people. She has been QATSIF's chairperson from its inception.

Recently, Professor Shannon 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." 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.

Mrs Jane Ceolin (QATSIF Deputy Chairperson) is an Aboriginal woman with cultural and traditional connections to the Wulgurukaba and Yirrganydji peoples of Far North Queensland.

Mrs Ceolin has worked with a diverse range of teams across key stakeholder groups including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community members to build and sustain effective partnerships and networks. Mrs Ceolin is currently the Director, First Peoples and Equity Pathways Directorate at the Australian Catholic University (Banyo).



Mr Mark Brand (QATSIF Board Member) has worked with privately owned and publicly listed companies in Queensland, New South Wales and Victoria, as well as closely with Government for more than 20 years. He is a broadly experienced manager with strategic and operational experience in the technical, consulting, human resources and not-for-profit sectors.

Mr Brand is currently a Director and Principal Consultant at Turning Point Partners and RavenHouse Asia Pacific and is also QATSIF's second longest serving Board Member.

Mr Kenneth James (Jim) Walker (QATSIF Board Member) was born in Rockhampton and is a descendent of the Iman and Goreng Goreng peoples of Central Queensland. He has extensive experience in working for both Queensland and Australian government departments and agencies. He worked in the Office of Indigenous Engagement within CSIRO to increase the engagement of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander trainees, cadetships and internships in science. Mr Walker is currently a lecturer at the University of Queensland and has also lectured at the Australia Catholic University and the University of Canberra in Indigenous Studies



Miss Kellie McDonald (QATSIF Board Member) is a young Aboriginal woman whose Mob is Mandandanji from Roma. She is the first former QATSIF scholarship recipient to be appointed to the QATSIF Board of Advice. After graduating from Alexandra Hills State High School, Miss McDonald completed a Bachelor of Health, Sport and Physical Education degree at the University of Queensland. She was an Inclusive Education teacher and Indigenous Coordinator at Alexandra Hills State High School.

Miss McDonald now teaches young people in youth detention at the West Moreton Education and Training Centre.

Mr Brenton Bowen (QATSIF Board Member) was born in Cairns and raised in Hopevale, he is a proud Guugu Yimithirr man. He still has strong ties to his community and regularly visits his family who still live there.

At the age of 17, he signed his first contract with the North Queensland Cowboys and made his NRL First grade debut at the age of 19. His career in the NRL spanned 8 years and saw him play for North Queensland Cowboys and the Gold Coast Titans. After retirement from football, Mr Bowen worked for 10 years in the Department of Human Services. He is currently working for IUIH as a Deadly Choices Ambassador.



Meet our QATSIF team



QATSIF is very proud of our QATSIF Secretariat staff who work very hard behind the scenes to support over 330 schools and 3,600 young people.

As a charity that prides itself on getting every possible dollar out to support young people's education, we have just three full-time equivalent staff (2 x full-time and 2 x part-time).

Our deadly 2021 QATSIF Secretariat team are (L to R): Mike Naylor, Shalana Uta, Sonia Norbido and Rachel Stringfellow.

Student University Opportunities

Please see our Facebook and Instagram pages for the most up-to-date opportunities.

ACU Strongway into Uni Experience Day

Friday 23rd April 2021 from 10am – 2pm. Contact Melissa Riley on (07) 3861 6287 or melissa.riley@acu.edu.au

JCU Winter School (Year 10 – 12)

Visit https://www.jcu.edu.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0005/1275035/2021-Winter-School-Flyer.pdf

QUT Campus Tours (Year 6 – 12)

QUT invites Years 6 – 12 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander high school groups onto our campuses. Book your school campus tour now at:
<https://unihub.qut.edu.au/Form.aspx?id=4026103>

USC Murri Future Days (Year 7 – 10)

Visit <https://www.usc.edu.au/community/schools-engagement/outreach-programs-for-schools/secondary-outreach-programs/indigenous-services-engagement-activities/murri-futures>

InspireU Health Sciences Camp (Year 10-12)

For more info, please email insprieu@uq.edu.au.

2020 Tagai State College Awards Ceremony



QATSIF 2021 elected student leaders L to R: Gideon Kris (School Captain, Giomi Tom (School Captain, Jalyn Ahmat (Vice Captain) and fellow Vice Captain.



Rnd 10 Nakita David (School Captain 2020) and Laquisha Fell-Gela (Dux) with their awards.

Liam Garama (Rnd 10).



Some words of wisdom and hope to our QATSIF students from Aunty Ruth

Our QATSIF staff had the great honour and privilege to help to collate some of our much-loved QATSIF Patron, Aunty Ruth Hearty's speeches and wanted to share a little of her deadly wisdom:

“

How can we not be proud, you are us and we are with you! You are the power to take us to our rightful place.

”

“

We are a nation of people who believe in Dreaming. We are a nation of people that fully embraced Dreaming. This legacy is being passed on; over time the Dreams have changed, they have become more modern but the power of the Dream is still there. Don't let anybody tell you any different. You're responsible for passing on that Dreaming.

”

“

You are the recipients of the struggle. Young Aboriginals taking their place within the Dreaming. Our dreams are your vision. So set your goals, focus and work. St Pauls says, "press on towards the goal to win the prize."

”

“

You carry in your veins the blood of your Ancestors that is stronger than skin colour. Your anchor is your Culture. Be strong – shine on, you are the stars that will radiate as you excel. Get out and Lead.

”

“

The unfinished business of the Stolen Wages is tragic and regrettable however the legacy that is handed to you through QATSIF is your stepping-stone into a brighter future, not to be abused but treasured, so future generations will have a brighter and smarter future.

”

“

You are the recipients of a very rich and rewarding gift. You are now in the forefront of the changing face of our future.

”

“

The gift of these scholarships have enabled you to seize the opportunities not only to rise above the servant and labourers mode, but to go further.... Your own knowledge should be of pride, you are no longer servants and labourers by force, but you are free to be who you want to be.

”

QATSIF School Captains and Vice Captains Meeting

On Thursday 18 March, QATSIF held its inaugural meeting of our School Captains and Vice Captains. Ten deadly young leaders met to share their dreams for the year ahead.

Some of the many great ideas shared at the meeting included:

- ★ *Lunch time activities for younger students to assist with students' transition to high school e.g. running Indigenous games on the oval.*
- ★ *Increasing awareness of Torres Strait Islander Cultures especially with the 150th Anniversary of The Coming of the Light celebrations in 2021.*
- ★ *Volunteer recycling and re-using program. Students are helping to sort waste for recycling and food scraps for composting.*
- ★ *Didgeridoo lessons for younger boys.*
- ★ *Art project around school gardens with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artefacts and art to raise cultural awareness throughout the whole school community.*
- ★ *NAIDOC Week celebrations – trying different bush tucker, guest speakers & Indigenous games.*
- ★ *Developing a Yarning Circle or Indigenous Hub for younger Indigenous students to learn about culture.*
- ★ *Deadly Sistas group for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to come together and bond at lunch time - play games, learn dances, sort out events like Harmony Day.*
- ★ *Cooking "Kanga Banga Sangas" (Kangaroo Sausage Sandwiches) to raise money for a charity and to increase cultural awareness.*
- ★ *Getting staff and students to join in QATSIF's Floral Friday Fundraiser during the Friday of your school's NAIDOC Week.*
- ★ *Acknowledgement of Country – encouraging a roster of students (including non-Indigenous students) to lead the Acknowledgement at weekly assemblies.*
- ★ *Encourage your Year 7 - 12 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to take part in QATSIF's Creative Arts Competition.*

Next Leaders' Meeting: 9am, Thursday 29 April.



Date Claimer: QATSIF 2021 Events and Graduations

29 April 9am – 10:30am	QATSIF Student Leaders Teams Meeting
11 May	QATSIF Rocket Science and Aerospace Day (Emmaus College, Jimboomba)
1 June	QATSIF Rocket Science and Aerospace Day (Burpengary State High School)
3 June	QATSIF Mabo Day and Coming of the Light Celebrations (Griffith University – Logan Campus)
9 June	QATSIF's Floral Friday Fundraiser (or the Friday of your school's NAIDOC Week celebrations)
4 August	QATSIF Graduation at JCU (Townsville)
5 August	QATSIF Graduation at JCU (Cairns)
13 August	QATSIF Graduation at UQ (St Lucia)
20 August	QATSIF Graduation at QUT (Kelvin Grove)
25 August	QATSIF Graduation at Bond Uni (Gold Coast)
27 August	QATSIF Graduation at USQ (Toowoomba)
	QATSIF Graduation at USC (Sunshine Coast)
August (TBA)	QATSIF Graduation at Maryborough / Bundaberg
	QATSIF Graduation at CQU (Rockhampton)
	QATSIF Graduation at CQU (Mackay)



Floral Friday Fundraiser

Friday 9 July (or the Friday of your NAIDOC celebration)

Join our QATSIF team and wear your brightest floral shirts or dresses to celebrate Torres Strait Islander culture during your NAIDOC Week celebration.
QATSIF invites schools and organisations to collect a gold coin donation to support our vital work.

Thank you prizes for the best workplace organisers.

Donations to: Account Name: Public Trustee of Queensland
BSB: 064006 Account Number: 00090244
Identification/reference number: 20553754
enquiries@qatsif.org.au (or call 3257 1777) for more information or a tax deductible receipt

Cheques: Made out to Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Foundation and posted to:
QATSIF, 2/439 Lutwyche Rd, Lutwyche, QLD 4030.

Please email: enquiries@qatsif.org.au (or call 3257 1777) for more information or a tax deductible receipt.

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.

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Building tomorrow's leaders

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www.qatsif.org.au

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