QUEENSLAND ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER FOUNDATION



• NEWSLETTER

TERM 1 2024



QATSIF's Term 1 Wrap Up

Dear QATSIF students, schools, families, and supporters,

Term 1 has started well with many successful events and activities including our New Recipients and Student Leaders celebrations, Student Leaders' Online Forum and the launch of our 7th annual **QATSIF Creative Arts Competition**.

This term we heard the exciting new that Ethan Naylor (QATSIF student from Mountain Creek State High School had been named as the *Highest Achieving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student in Queensland*. Ethan is the 8th QATSIF student to receive this award over its 10-year history.

Our past QATSIF students have also made a clean sweep as finalists in the **2024 7News Young Achiever awards**.

In 2024, we welcome 2,255 new QATSIF students. We are currently supporting around 4,290 QATSIF students across 400 Queensland schools.

We welcome our new schools that have joined us this round, and a few returning schools including: Assisi Catholic College, Australian Industry Trade College (Brisbane), Baringa State Secondary College, Brisbane Christian College, Calliope State High School, Fortitude Valley State Secondary College, Foxwell State Secondary College, King's Christian College - Reedy Creek, Lee Street State Special School, MacKillop Catholic College (Mount Peter), Matthew Flinders Anglican College, Redcliffe Special School, Rockhampton Special School, Rosella Park School, St Andrews Lutheran College (Tallebudgera), St Luke's Anglican School (Bundaberg), Tara Shire State College, Tec-NQ, The Rockhampton Grammar School, Villanova College (Coorparoo) and YMCA Vocational School - Ipswich.

On behalf of our QATSIF Patrons, Board, team, students, schools, families and community, I would like to thank Jane Ceolin (our Deputy Chairperson) for her 7 years of passionate and dedicated service to Queensland's Aboriginal and Torres Strait young people. Jane will finish with our QATSIF Board at the end of this term.

She is passionate about seeing our First Nations young people achieve their dreams and has seen over 12,300 students receive QATSIF scholarships during her time with our Board

We thank Jane for the incredible gift she has been to us all and wish her the brightest of futures.

I am looking forward to an exciting year ahead. On behalf of our QATSIF Patrons, Chairperson, Board and staff, I wish everyone a deadly year ahead.

Michael Nayler

QATSIF Director



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PLEASE FORWARD THIS NEWSLETTER ON TO YOUR OATSIF STUDENTS AND FAMILIES.

QATSIF New Recipients and Student Leaders' Celebrations











QATSIF celebrated some of our 2,255 new QATSIF Scholarship Recipients and 290 School Leaders with events at the Australian Catholic University (Banyo), University of Southern Queensland (Springfield) and Griffith University (Logan).

Around 900 people joined us for our three ceremonies including Her Excellency the Honourable Dr Jeannette Young AC PSM, Governor of Queensland, many Elders, and special guests.

Across Queensland, many of QATSIF's current 4,290 students had certificate presentations within their own communities.

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. In a beautiful tradition, QATSIF students then use the flame from the Elders' candle to light the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander candles as a sign of their commitment to carry on Culture handed down since the Dreaming.

Outstanding student MCs from our QATSIF schools led each of the ceremonies – ACU: Jacob Grant (Padua College) & Siann Gilsenan (Lourdes Hill College); Griffith University: Rhys Rylance (Rochedale SHS) & Ella O'Neil Emmaus College); UniSQ - Jayden Allie (Yeronga SHS) & Ava Smits (Springfield Central SHS).

During the ceremonies, the students heard from either Professor Cindy Shannon AM (QATSIF Co-Patron) or Mrs Jane Ceolin (QATSIF Deputy Chair) who both reminded our students that they needed to work hard to achieve their dreams and that they should learn from the incredible strength and resilience of Elders and Ancestors on whose shoulders we stand.

The talented students from Kedron SHS, Woodridge SHS and Bremer SHS demonstrated their incredible cultural pride through outstanding First Nations dance performances.

Our students listened to past QATSIF students and other First Nations speakers who shared their inspirational educational journeys, challenges and triumphs. We are very grateful to Logan Walsh (*B. Physiotherapy*), Charlie Hazelton (*B. Health Sciences*) and Tyson Knapp (*Post-Graduate Engineering researcher*) and all the students and staff who helped with our ceremonies.

During the ceremony, some of QATSIF's 292 school leaders including a record **35 School Captains** were presented with their leadership badges and certificates in front of their proud families and schools.

Our *QAS, Transurban, Barry Doyle and Gold Coast Health School-based Scholarship* students and all new Round 15 QATSIF students were also presented with their scholarship certificates.

Toward the end of the ceremony, our new QATSIF students were blessed by an Elder with Aunty Betty Pike's "Australian Blessing" to send them out to lead their schools and work hard to achieve their future dreams.

QATSIF is very grateful to ACU, UniSQ and Griffith University for supporting students both now and into the future.













Round 15 Recipients' Celebrations shared by our QATSIF schools

MACGREGOR STATE HIGH SCHOOL

Congratulations to our deadly new QATSIF students and student leaders from MacGregor State High School who received a special visit from our much-loved QATSIF Patron, Aunty Ruth Hegarty.













Queensland Ambulance Service School-based Scholarship

QATSIF thanks the deadly **Queensland Ambulance Service** (**QAS**) team for supporting 20 QATSIF students who are interested in becoming Paramedics.

This year, we welcome and congratulate the following new *QAS Scholarship* students:

SCHOOL
Murrumba State Secondary College
Lighthouse Christian School
Dalby State High School
Cavendish Road State High School
Spinifex State College
Men of Business Academy
Holy Spirit College (Mount Pleasant)
Benowa State High School
Innisfail State College
Innisfail State College

As well as providing their QATSIF Scholarship, the QAS also provides opportunities for the students to connect with First Nations Paramedics and gain a First Aid Certificate and driver's licence.



Transurban Paiabun Karumba STEM Scholarship

QATSIF congratulates the following deadly students who have been awarded a 2024 Transurban Paiabun Karumba (Yuggera: Dream Big) STEM Scholarship

RECIPIENT SCHOOL Abby Lock Earnshaw State College Anika Jackson Varsity College Cleo Robson St James College Beenleigh State High School Faithe Cregan Jackson Green Ferny Grove State High School Kayley Renouf-St John's Lutheran School Kingaroy Dowdle Springfield Central State High School Layla Ross Springfield Central State High School Naima Pryor

As well as having **Transurban** contributing to their QATSIF scholarships, these students also receive an additional \$500 to spend on IT equipment and have the opportunity to work with Transurban's engineering and First Nations team members.





DASANI

The Barry Doyle School-based Scholarship

The Queensland Indigenous Violence Legal Service (QIFVLS) partners with QATSIF to offer the *Barry Doyle Scholarship* to QATSIF students with an interest in working in areas such as Law, Social Work, Psychology and other fields.

In addition to receiving their QATSIF Scholarship (funded by QIFVLS) students will also receive:

- ★ Opportunities to experience what a career in QIFVLS could look like by meeting with First Nations professional in their field of interest.
- ★ If possible, visits and work experience at a QIFVLS office.
- ★ Access to life readiness skills i.e. healthy relationship, keeping yourself safe etc.

We congratulate the following students on being awarded a **Barry Doyle School-based Scholarship**:

	Scholarship:		
	RECIPIENT	SCHOOL	
	Alannah Sheppard-Rix	Brisbane Christian College	
	Dasani Appoo	Bowen State High School	
	Emily McGrath	Xavier Catholic College	A !
	Frederick Body	Spinifex State College - Mount Isa - Senior Campu	ıs 👠 sı
	Kimberly Clemments	Ingham State High School	
	Madison Moloney	Nambour State College	
	Molly McIvor	Carmel College	
	Riley Johnson	MacGregor State High School	
	Troy Wylie	St James College	QIFVLS Queensland Indigenous
			Family Violence Legal Service
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Gold Coast Health First Nations School-based Scholarship

The 2024 Gold Coast Health First Nations School-based Scholarship is a partnership between the Gold Coast Hospital and Health Service (GCHHS) and QATSIF to provide students with the opportunity to build their professional capabilities and networks, and to assist with their transition into the workforce and/or tertiary education, to achieve their desired career.

This opportunity was open to all current QATSIF students in the Gold Coast and Logan regions. In addition to paying for these students' QATSIF scholarships, GCHHS will provide additional funding for driving licences and IT devices and opportunities

to meet with and learn from Gold Coast Health professionals.

Gold Coast Hospital and Health Service (GCHHS) and QATSIF would like to congratulate the following students who were awarded a 2024 scholarship.

RECIPIENT	SCHOOL
Anika Jackson	Varsity College
Jake Malone	Forest Lake State High School
Jordan Bellido	Elanora State High School
Jorja Sheehy	Queensland Academies Health Sciences Campus
Lachey Button-Wright	St James College
Morgan Nihot	Benowa State High School



2024 QATSIF School Leaders

Our Patrons Aunty Ruth & Professor Shannon AM, our QATSIF Board and staff congratulate our record **292** students (below) who have been elected to leadership positions within their schools so far this year.

This year, we also have a record 35 School Captains and 6 Vice Captains around Queensland.

Albany Creek State High School

Tilly-Jane Reading - First Nations Captain

Alexandra Hills State High School

Anna-Belle van Overbeek - First Nations Leader

All Souls St Gabriels School (Charters Towers)

Danni Eastaughffe – Indigenous Prefect Leader Darnelle Steedman – Indigenous Prefect Leader

Ambrose Treacy College

Trent Wylie – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leader

Australian Christian College - Moreton

Liam Niebling – House Captain

Babinda State School P-12

Adah Naawi – School Captain

Harley Webb - Sports Captain

Kiara Holani – Indigenous Ambassador

Raylee Lister - Indigenous Ambassador

Beaudesert State High School

Daniel Murtagh – Indigenous Leader

Mia Matthews – Indigenous Leader

Phoenix Brooks - School Captain

Beenleigh State High School

Aaliyah Oram – School Captain

Kai McQuire – Indigenous Cultural Leader

Violet Hudson – Indigenous Cultural Leader

Bellbird Park State Secondary College

Dante Sanchez - First Nations Prefect

Blackheath and Thornburgh College (Charters Towers)

Bayley Gibson – Girls Boarding Vice-Captain

Ferlyn Hunter – College Captain

Patrina Savage – Girls Boarding Captain

Tyrone Aliya – House Captain (Archie Black)

Blackwater State High School

Kenneth Weir – Senior Indigenous Captain

Regan Carsburg – Sports Captain

Shanae White - School Captain

Bribie Island State High School

Amos Harrop – House Leader

Jett Appleby - Deadly Leader (Indigenous Leader) &

House Leader

Kieran Maher - House Leader

Brigidine College

Tiah Kalaja – College Captain

Brisbane Bayside State College

Blaiz Duffy – First Nations Student Council Representative

& Duribang Ganjiyil Dance Group Captain

Erin Miller – First Nations Student Council Representative

& Duribang Ganjiyil Dance Group Captain

Brisbane School of Distance Education

Arabella Lang - First Nations Leader

Gabriel Devine – First Nations Leader

Browns Plains State High School

Jazmyn Simpson – First Nations School Leader

Bundaberg State High School

Charlie Kemble - Dreamtime Indigenous Leader

Emily Broome - Dreamtime Indigenous Leader

Kyjuan Tanna – Dreamtime Indigenous Leader

Liarah Tyger – Indigenous Captain

Lilly Gadsby – Dreamtime Indigenous Leader

Mya Patterson – Dreamtime Indigenous Leader

Bundamba State College

Jakeisha Lucas-Watego – Prefect First Nations

Burdekin Christian College

Ezra Henaway - House Captain

Calamvale Community College

Nikita Jones – First Nations Ambassador

Rickell Playle - First Nations Ambassador

Shanieka Sampson-Booth – College Captain

Calen District State College

Amy Bower – School Captain





Capalaba State College

Kya Munro – College Vice Captain

Cavendish Road State High School

Kameryn Bray – Sports Prefect Zaliyah Stoddart – Indigenous Prefect

Charleville State High School

Emmerson Mitchell – Indigenous Ambassador Rory Williams – Indigenous Ambassador

Tori Castles - School Captain

Charters Towers State High School

Denzel Epong – Senior Indigenous Leader Lochlan Dines – Senior Indigenous Leader

Chinchilla State High School

Natasha Mount – Cultural Captain

Clermont State High School

Eva Anderson – School Captain

Cloncurry State School P-12

Junior Heslin (Deon Callope) – Wills House Captain Chyanne Land – Burke House Captain

Columba Catholic College (Mount Carmel Campus)

Grace Kuhl – Girls Residential Captain Matthew Hewlett – Boys Residential Captain

Concordia Lutheran College

Khan Sturt-Cummings – Boys College Boarding Captain

Coolum State High School

Aston Chapman – Indigenous Captain

Corinda State High School

Sofie Corowa – Indigenous Captain Stella Sorgel – Indigenous Captain

Dalby State High School

Henry Jones – First Nations Captain Josephine Cooper – First Nations Captain Landon Tarrant – First Nations Captain

Earnshaw State College

Abby Lock – Cultural Captain Taryn Anno – Cultural Captain

Emmaus College (Jimboomba)

Ella O'Neil – College Captain

Emmaus College (Rockhampton)

Larni Walker – Indigenous Leader of Connecting Cultures Committee

Faith Lutheran College - Plainland

Dimity Hewitt – Student Leader Lachlan Harrison – House Captain

Flagstone State Community College

Amity Davies - Indigenous Captain

Forest Lake State High School

Alexandria Cuso – Student Leader

Gilroy Santa Maria College

Cash Ormonde – House Captain Ashleigh Smallwood – House Captain

Glasshouse Christian College

Jessi James – House Captain Ruby Ciantar – House Captain

Glenala State High School

Kiarna McDonough – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leader

Good Shepherd Catholic College

Cooper Munns – Indigenous Student Leader Darci Gillett – House Captain Rilee Webber – House Captain

Gordonvale State High School

Malachi D'Arcy – School Captain

Groves Christian College

Jacob Hartin – Prefect Orepa Davis – Prefect

Gympie State High School

Zander Kenny – Indigenous Ambassador

Heatley Secondary College

Irene Mari – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Captain Kenneth Brown – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Captain

Heights College

Ailia Dow – Music Captain Ava Prasad – Community Captain





Hymba Yumba Independent School

Allira Tilbrook – School Leader

Cheyenne Parker – Year 11 Respects Leader

Cienna Fuller-Chapman – School Leader

Tion Torrens – Year 11 Respects Leader

Innisfail State College

Aaron Ambrum - Year 12 Student Leader

Alice Sands – Year 12 Student Leader & Sustainability Captain

Dallas Rudken – Year 11 Student Leader

Jolene Martin – Year 11 Student Leader

Karien Mau (Meeks) – House Captain & Junior

Sustainability Officer

Romona Ramsay-Tanner – Year 12 Student Leader

Shakia Ambrum - Year 12 Student Leader

Violet Lawrence – Year 12 Student Leader

Ipswich Girls' Grammar School

Ava Bohan – Touch Football School Captain

Laquisha Nona - Dahdi School Captain

Lily Richardson - Prefect

James Nash State High School

Blake Catlin - First Nations Leader

Hayley Cummings – First Nations Leader

John Paul College

Lou (Aleisha) Cox – Boarding Captain

Steven Blanasi – Boarding Captain

Kedron State High School

Jorja McAlpine – School Prefect & Junior School Leader

Ma'ayan Michaelis-Thorpe – Indigenous Leader

Keebra Park State High School

Affrica-Jade Hippi – Senior Indigenous Leader

Okalani Compton – Year 11 Leader

Kingston State College

Calvin Cochrane - First Nations Representative

Emmanual Fletcher – First Nations Representative

Jayden Kelly - First Nations Representative

Kalan Fisher – First Nations Representative



Kirwan State High School

Ammon Phineasa – House Captain

Bella Wishart - House Captain

Emily Waters - School Captain

Jacinta Parsgaard – First Nations Captain

Jaheim Chong – First Nations Captain

Mahleena Hellyer – House Captain

Laidley State High School

Gloria Blake – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Senior Captain

Lee Street State Special School

Kaycee Goff – Cultural Leader

Lourdes Hill College

Audrey Higgins - Creative Portfolio Captain

Edwina Doyle - Hendriks House Service and Spirituality

Captain & Mirragin Co-Captain

Lola Higgins – STAR Service Group Co-Captain

Siann Gilsenan - Reconciliation Captain

Sienna Willmett – Lee House Service and Spirituality

Captain & Mirragin Co-Captain

Tara Hill – Hendriks House Captain

Mabel Park State High School

Madison Thomas – Vice Captain

MacGregor State High School

Lily Davis – First Nations Student Leader

Shanice Ware - Clan Captain

Mackay Northern Beaches State High School

Kassidy Davis - Cultural Ambassador

Mackay State High School

Belinda Towler - Cultural Representative

Ellie Hansen - Academic Prefect

Merrileen Towler – Cultural Prefect

Riley Armstrong – Sports Prefect

Mareeba State High School

Gillinga-Belle Willis – Indigenous Leader

Tulliah Slater – Indigenous Leader

Marsden State High School

Xavier Eliot - First Nations Captain

Mary Mackillop College

Trinity North - College Captain

Marymount College

Evie Corker - Mob Captain

Loki Gibson - Mob Captain

Rory Randall - House Captain

Tanya Woodger – House Captain

Mitchelton State High School

Byron Dau - First Nation School Leader

Moranbah State High School

Shari Pedersen – Indigenous Captain

Mount St Bernard College

Amora Krnjacki – Mercy Captain

Lataia Petersen – Sports Captain

Limferd Lui – School Captain

Lizikerah Luffman – Mercy Captain

Mary Kyle-Smith - Boarding Captain Morrissey

Shandrella Pilot – Boarding Captain Morrissey

Teri-Lee Shepherd – Student Representative Council

Captain

Tony Harry - Boarding Captain Bernard's

Mt Maria College (Mitchelton)

Emily Croker – Social Justice Leader

Nambour State College

Ruby Jones - Senior Indigenous Leader

Noosa District State High School

Carys Underwood - Year 11 Leader

Jasmine O'Neill - First Nations Leader

Noosa Pengari Steiner School

Stella Montgomery – First Nations Representative

North Lakes State College

Isaac Bullis – House Prefect (Kinsellas House)

Oakey State High School

Halle Slade – Indigenous Leader

Pacific Lutheran College

Olivia Boland - Academic College Captain

Palm Beach-Currumbin State High School

Shaylee Borg – Prefect

Will Mann - Prefect

Park Ridge State High School

Charlotte Jackson - Cultural Leader

Deagen Howard - Cultural Leader

Hope Dawe - Cultural Leader

Mikayla Maas – Cultural Leader

Willow Beard - Cultural Leader

Peace Lutheran College

Atlanta Escott – College Captain

Pimlico State High School

Bevan Kepa – Phoenix House Captain

Charlie David – First Nations Student Ambassador

Shemilla Undi – First Nations Student Ambassador

Pioneer State High School

Cornilious Henry – Sports Ambassador

Levi Fallon – Carlise Ambassador

Yasmin Johnston - Spirit Captain

Zara Muller - Indigenous Ambassador

Queensland Academy for Science Mathematics and Technology

Lachlan Peel – Sports Captain

Redbank Plains State High School

Mylecia Jackson – REAL Council Prefect

Redcliffe Special School

Jacinta Coolwell – Cultural Leader

Kyan Kirk - Cultural Leader

Thomas Melissari – Cultural Captain

Redcliffe State High School

Jessica Mitchell – First Nations Student Leader

Riverside Christian College

Kaiden Ratcliff - College Captain

Robina State High School

Airlee Lester – School Captain

Sarah Lyons - Indigenous Leader

Rochedale State High School

Daron Wynn - First Nations Student Leader

Isabella Dare - First Nations Student Leader

Rockhampton Special School

Anastasia Grimshaw – School Vice-Captain

Beau Daley - School Captain

Jack Raymond – School Captain

Oscar Struthers - School Prefect

Rosedale State School

Jack Daniells – O'Neill House Captain



Rosewood State High School

Ashanti Bessell - First Nations Cultural Captain

Runcorn State High School

Jai Bird-Baxter - Sports Captain

Shailer Park State High School

Gabrielle Hill – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
Ambassador

Joan James – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Ambassador

Zachariah Cooper – Cultural Captain

Southern Cross Catholic College

Connor Gleeson – Culture/Arts Captain

Spinifex State College - Mount Isa - Senior Campus Cooper Wyld-Hill – School Captain

Desanya Kirk – Indigenous Captain

St Andrew's Anglican College (Peregian Springs)

Bailey Coughlan – Indigenous Student Leader Jade Leaman – Indigenous Student Leader Tyler Coughlan – Indigenous Student Leader

St Anthony's Catholic College (Secondary Campus)

Hayley Holmberg – Indigenous College Leader Rhylee Price – Indigenous College Leader

St Augustine's College (Augustine Heights)

Brydie Barnbrook – First Nations Ambassador

St Brendan's College (Yeppoon)

Barry Hankin - College Captain

Bluey Kabai – Hayes House Captain Carter Ford – Tynan House Captain

Harvey Mahoney – Gettons House Captain

St Catherine's Catholic College (Proserpine)

Eleanor Baldock – Stewardship Captain Jack Kimlin – House Captain

St Columban's College (Caboolture)

Charlotte Ellis – First Nations Senior Ambassador Harley St John – First Nations Senior Ambassador

St Eugene College

Bella Moffatt - Dunlea Leader

St George State High School

Jacob Hiles – School Captain

St James College

Ella Bloomfield – College Indigenous Ambassador Mikahlia Saltner – College Indigenous Ambassador

St John Fisher College (Bracken Ridge)

Jorja Barlow - House Captain

St John's College (Nambour)

Aidan Forman – Academic School Captain

Ella Luton – Sports House Captain

Georgia Shuttleworth – Stewardship and Culture Committee Captain

Jarlo Dart – School Captain & Stewardship and Culture Committee Captain

Kirree Luton – Academic School Captain

St John's School (Roma)

Alexander Hayward – Marian House Prefect

St Joseph's College (Toowoomba)

Izabella Harch - Multi-Cultural Leader

St Margaret Mary's College (Hyde Park)

Delaney Phillips – Senior First Nations Awareness Leader Ebony Sotheren-Hatton – Senior First Nations Awareness Leader

Raven Taylor – Senior Health and Wellbeing Leader

Taya Bowie – School Captain

St Mary's Catholic College Woree

Eliana Richardson - Prefect

Joshua Rolland - Mentor

Quinn Go Sam - House Leader

William Toogood – House Leader

St Mary's College (Ipswich)

Eadie Thornely - Vice Captain

Georgia Riddock – Sports Vice Captain

St Monica's College

Alexis Dixon – College Captain

Alissa Dixon – First Nations SRC Representative Layla Broderick – First Nations SRC Representative Taylah Ung – Morrissey House Captain

St Patrick's College Townsville

Jusaray Maka – Boarding Prefect

Kenya Mari – House Captain Nancee-Rae Bowen – First Nations Prefect

Willimina Misi – Boarding Prefect

St Saviour's College

Juantae Bamaga – First Nations Leader

Kyomie Deemal – House Leader

Minnika Baird - Residential Captain

Xeroxia Nona-Poi Poi – House Leader

St Teresa's College Abergowrie

Bailey Gesa – Student Council Representative

Jahrahn Neal-Yeatman – College Captain

Marsat Newman – Student Council Representative Meshack David – Sport Captain

St Ursula's College (Toowoomba)

Dakota Weatherall - Cultural Group Captain

Stanthorpe State High School

Cooper Cubby Wenban - House Captain

Tagai State College

Jikidda Manuel - Prefect

Shontay Kelly – Cultural Leader

Sonrae Lui – School Captain

Udiwad Tapim – Vice Captain



Tamborine Mountain State High School Bronson Malezer – Vice Captain

Thuringowa State High School

Annabelle Ladyman – Senior Gouldian House Captain Florina Billy – Senior Riverway House Captain Latifah Evennett – Senior Gollogly House Captain

Lizzie Tabuai – School Captain

Phoenix Toby Mann – Student Representative Council President

Tylance Williams – Indigenous Leader

Toogoolawah State High School

Ava Young – Student Council Indigenous Leader Hunter Masters-Woods – Student Council Indigenous Leader

Toowoomba State High School

Benji Wenitong - School Captain

Grace McMahon – Indigenous Captain Koyop Whaleboat – Indigenous Captain

Trinity College (Gladstone)

Natalyne Cakau - Sports Captain

Tully State High School

Jamie Muriata – School Captain

Sipi Sipi – Indigenous Leader

Tanisha Roggensack – Indigenous Leader

Villanova College (Coorparoo)

Roman Dunne - House Captain of Adeodatus

Warwick State High School

Carge Martin-Brown - First Nations Leader

Wavell State High School

Quincy Afa - Prefect

Wellington Point State High School

Bella Chadburn - Warunggul Captain

Woodcrest State College

Kathrina Mollee – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Ambassador

Woodridge State High School

Georgina Dargin – School Captain

Woree State High School

Geena Nolan - Student Council President

Jasmin Gela – Arts Captain

Jeorjah Minniecon – Dumbul Sports House Captain

Romeo Knudsen – Dumbul Sports House Captain

Vanya Palmer-Geia – School Captain

Yeronga State High School

Patricia Watcho - First Nations Leader

YMCA Vocational School - Moreton Bay (Mango Hill)

Nate Singh - Y Senior Leader





QATSIF Round 16 Scholarships (2025–2026)

Our 16th Round of QATSIF Scholarships will open on Monday 20 May (Week 6, Term 2) and they will remain open for schools to lodge their students' applications until Monday 19 August (Week 7, Term 3).

All Queensland schools will receive application packs and instructions by mid-May. As usual, we will send application forms to schools well before the June holidays to assist our Boarding and Distance Education schools to get these forms out and back from their parents and carers.





QATSIF Student Leaders' Forum

Thank you to our deadly Student Leaders from around 30 schools who took part in our QATSIF Student Leaders' forum.

Some of our record 292 QATSIF Student Leaders, including our 35 School Captains joined us to share their ideas, plans and activities for the year ahead.

QATSIF thanks Amanda Martin (past QATSIF student and lawyer) for joining our forum to speak about her inspirational educational and career journey and challenging our young leaders to take up the challenge leadership.

The recording of this meeting and minutes was shared with all 400 QATSIF schools, so that leaders who were unable to attend due to other commitments can be inspired by the many deadly ideas.

QATSIF student named as Queensland's Highest Achieving First Nations student

Congratulations to the deadly Ethan Naylor, QATSIF student from Mountain Creek State High School who awarded the **2023** *Highest Achievement by an Aboriginal Student and Torres Strait Islander Student* in Queensland at the **QCAA Awards**.

Ethan is planning to join the Navy and study electrical engineering at the Australian Defence Force Academy at the University of New South Wales, Canberra. He is also a champion Lead Climber.

Eight QATSIF students have won this prestigious award over the award's ten years.

- **★ 2022: Jemima Bainbridge** (Coolum State High School) and **Lachlan Munns** (St Laurence's College)
- **★ 2021: Jasmine Armstrong** (Mt St Michael's College, Ashgrove)
- **★ 2020: Rani Carmichael** (Brisbane State High School)
- ★ 2017: Lucinda Colbert (Forest Lake State High School)
- **★ 2016: Kyle Ryan** (Glenala State High School) and 2021 *7News Young Achiever Queensland Award* Winner.
- ★ 2015: Aidan Train (Spinifex State College Mount Isa Senior Campus)

QATSIF congratulates Ethan, his family and school community on this outstanding achievement.

QATSIF celebrates Ethan and all our 2023 Graduates as they take the next steps after school and encourages all our current 4,290 QATSIF students to work hard to achieve their dreams.



7NEWS Young Achiever Awards Finalists

QATSIF would like to congratulate all our deadly past students who have made a clean sweep as finalists in the 2024 7NEWS Young Achiever Awards Queensland.

We are honoured to have been able to play a small part in supporting the education of all these deadly young leaders in the following awards:

Kennelly Constructions Pty Ltd Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Achievement Award Finalists:

- ★ Daniel Rosendale (past QATSIF student from Peace Lutheran College)
- ★ Gullara McInnes (past QATSIF student from Mareeba State High School)
- ★ Jessy Renouf (QATSIF Ambassador and past QATSIF student from Sandgate District State High Shool)
- ★ Mitchell Harrison-Currie (past QATSIF student from Glenala State High Shool)
- **★ Tahlulah Tillett** (past QATSIF student from St Mary's Catholic College, Woree)

Queensland Family and Child Commission First Nations Youth Advocacy Award Finalists:

- ★ Daniel Rosendale (past QATSIF student from Peace Lutheran College)
- ★ Kaiden Ratcliff (current QATSIF student from Riverside Christian College)
- ★ Kellie McDonald (past QATSIF Board Member and past QATSIF student from Alexandra Hills SHS)
- ★ Seleena Blackley (past QATSIF student from Spinifex State College)
- **★ Tahlulah Tillett** (past QATSIF student from St Mary's Catholic College, Woree)

We wish all these outstanding young people the best for the upcoming awards presentation. The judges will have a tough decision ahead with this exceptional line up of young achievers.



2024 Yarning With Our Elders Project

Each year, QATSIF invites all Queensland First Nations students to speak with an Elder and share their stories and wisdom.

We would like to congratulate Fletcher Griffin (Year 8 at Allora P-10 State School) for his interview with Aunty Flo Watson which won the *Junior School QATSIF Yarning With Our Elders Project award*.

QATSIF is very grateful to the **Australian Catholic University** for sponsoring our project and for assisting in preserving these important stories.

While we only ever receive a small amount of entries each year, we believe that our Elders deserve to be recognised and to have their powerful and important stories told and celebrated.



2024 QATSIF Coffee Mugs

Congratulations to our three talented student artists whose deadly artwork is featured on our 2024 QATSIF coffee mugs. These mugs will be presented as gifts to our Elders and guest speakers at our 2024 QATSIF celebrations.

The featured artworks are:



Our Elders Rotannah Joe-Gela MOUNT ST BERNARD COLLEGE



NaaroGia Country Taleisha Waistcoat ST CATHERINE'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE



Footprints LaShontae Owens-Edwards **BLACKHEATH &** THORNBURGH COLLEGE



These talented young artists entered our 2023 QATSIF Creative Arts Competition along with 189 other Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander secondary artists.

QATSIF congratulates Rotannah, Taleisha and LaShontae on their beautiful artwork and thanks them for allowing us to celebrate their incredible talent on our mugs.

Our 2024 QATSIF Creative Arts Competition is now open for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists from all Queensland secondary schools. The focus will be this year's Reconciliation and NAIDOC Week themes.

QATSIF is grateful to Jesse Green and the team at Yilay for producing these beautiful mugs.

2024 QATSIF Creative **Arts Competition**

Our 2024 QATSIF Creative Arts Competition is open until Friday 7 June for all Queensland secondary Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists. Please see your school for an entry form.

Last year we had a record 189 entries across the creative arts field - including visual arts, poetry, music, dance, performing arts, photography, videography, sculpture etc.

QATSIF thanks Griffith University who will be sponsoring our competition again this year. We are hoping that as well as providing trophies and prizes that our student artists may get opportunities to learn from professional Indigenous artists following the competition.

To be inspired by our deadly 2023 entries, please go





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:

Now More Than Ever.

RECONCILIATION WEEK **2024 THEME**

Keep the Fire Burning! Blak, Loud and Proud.

NAIDOC WEEK **2024 THEME**

Please email enquiries@qatsif.org.au your permission form and a high resolution image (not the original artwork) or audio / video recording (5 min max) of your artistic piece.

COMPETITION CLOSES FRIDAY 7 JUNE

Some of our 2023 graduates shared by our QATSIF schools



QATSIF Students in Focus

SIENNA WILMETT

Year 12 QATSIF student, Sienna Wilmett, of the *Kuku Yalanji* and *Waanyi* People, travelled to Canberra for five days as part of her work with the **First Nations Youth Advisory** team. This is her second year with the group and visit to Canberra where she even got to meet the PM.

Sienna will be working with the **Department of Education** and the **National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA)** to provide input into school engagement. Throughout the year, the First Nations Education Advisory Group will be focusing on four priority areas: the role of teachers, education policy settings, cultural capability and curriculum content and targeted program support for school engagement. They work with the Office for Youth and Ministers Dr Anne Aly (Minister for Early Childhood Education and Minister for Youth), Linda Burney (Minister for Indigenous Australians) and Jason Clare (Minister for Education). Too deadly Sienna!



RUBY BROWN

Year 12 Butchulla student Ruby Brown won Open Women's Age Champion at the St Mary's College (Maryborough) swimming carnival held early in Term 1. Ruby placed first in the 50m butterfly and freestyle events and second in the 50m breaststroke and backstroke events. Ruby had



the anchor leg for both the Open Women's medley and freestyle relay securing the wins for her team. *Galangoor yanggami* Ruby!

COOPER MUNNS

Good Shepherd Catholic College's Indigenous Student Leader, Cooper Munns, attended the NRL Youth Leadership Dialogue in Townsville as part of the All Stars game in February. Students had the opportunity to share



their voices on issues facing our young people in their own communities, and were also fortunate to meet and listen to very inspirational First Nations peoples.

RHYS BACHMANN



Rhys Bachmann (Year 12 Mt Maria College – Mitchelton) took up the challenge of ACU's Uni Step Up program that enables students to enrol in one subject toward a degree at ACU whilst studying Year 11 and another subject during Year 12. The timings of the units are designed for minimum impact on school studies as students attend the University campus during school holidays. Students have access to lecturers, group and individual tutors (through the Indigenous Higher Education Unit), as well as mentors to guide them through general university life.

Rhys has now passed both subjects and is guaranteed a place in a degree after he graduates Year 12 at Mt Maria College Mitchelton. He completed the Health Science stream and has chosen a dual degree, Paramedicine and Nursing.

QATSIF Young Achievers

ARABELLA-ANNE DAVIS

Congratulations to the deadly Arabella-Anne Davis (QATSIF Rnd 13 graduate) who was named the school dux of Mossman State High School for 2023.

At the Presentation Awards Ceremony last year, Arabella received a Distinction award, subject awards for English and Legal Studies, Year 12 Academic Excellence Award and the James Cook University Rising Star Award with a \$10,000 scholarship.



Arabella achieved the highest ATAR in her Year 12 cohort and is at James Cook University in Cairns studying a Degree in Social Work.

Well done Arabella!

JORJA TRIFFETT

Congratulations to Jorja Triffett (Rnd 13 QATSIF graduate) was named St Patrick's College Townsville's College Dux, achieving the highest ATAR out of her Year 12 cohort. You may recall Jorja was also the recipient of the 2023 Peter Doherty Award.

Jorja has accepted an offer to study a Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery at James Cook University and is also one of 100 national recipients of the



Puggy Hunter Memorial Scholarship Scheme (PMHSS). The PHMSS provides a scholarship to Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander undergraduate students who study a course in a health-related discipline.

Too deadly Jorja!

MAHALIA MAIRU

Mahalia Mairu is a Round 13 QATSIF graduate from Calamvale Community College and this year will begin her tertiary education at Griffith University studying a Bachelor of Contemporary Australian Indigenous Art.

Mahalia's art won awards in our QATSIF Creative Arts Competition over consecutive years.



Bailey Biondi-Odo Hallback INDIGENOUS ALL STARS Bailey Butler Prop

NRL INDIGENOUS ALL STARS

QATSIF congratulates our deadly past QATSIF students and school support staff who made the NRL Indigenous All Stars team for their game earlier this semester.

Men's Indigenous All Stars: Bailey Biondi-Odo (Innisfail State College) and Bailey Butler (St Brendan's College, Yeppoon). Women's Indigenous All Stars: Jasmine Peters (Mackay North State High School) and Tallisha Harden (Indigenous Community Engagement Officer, St Patrick's College Townsville).





Victorian Indigenous Engineering Winter School (VIEWS) Program

Applications for the 2024 Victorian Indigenous Engineering Winter School (VIEWS) program in Melbourne from 29 June to 6 July 2024 are now open.

The Victorian Indigenous Engineering Winter School (VIEWS) is an exciting program for Year 10, 11 and 12 Indigenous students from across Australia who are enrolled in Maths or Science subjects and will expand their perspective on all things engineering. Over 5 days, participants will get an insight into what it's like to study and work in engineering, information technology and tech – and it may not be what you think.

There is no cost to participate. All expenses are covered; flights, accommodation at University College, food during the camp and university led social nights. To apply or find out more, please go to:

www.eng.unimelb.edu.au/engage-with-us/indigenous/views



Fair Play Sports Vouchers

Do you know or support someone with children aged 5 to 17 years who has a Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card? They could be eligible to apply for FairPlay vouchers valued up to \$150 to put towards sport and active recreation membership, registration, or participation fees for their children.

If you're an organisation offering sports or active recreation activities, you can also find out how to become a FairPlay activity provider. For more information, see the attached flyers or visit FairPlay vouchers at:

www.qld.gov.au/recreation/sports/funding/fairplay





Link and Launch

Link and Launch officers are based at participating schools to connect with young people who have completed Year 12 but not yet transitioned to further study, training or work.

These officers assist young people to navigate a range of post-school study, training and work options in line with their individual goals, aspirations, skills and strengths and support them to make independent choices that will equip them to make a successful transition.

To find a list of Queensland schools were you can connect with a Link and Launch Officer, please go to:

www.wethedifferents.qld.edu.au/link-launch/

JCU Winter School

JCU's Winter School for Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students offers students in Year 8, 9, 10, 11 or 12 the chance to experience university life during the school holidays from 23 June to 28 June 2024.

Over five days, students live on campus and take part in academic lectures and team-building activities in an interactive program that provides opportunities to meet University staff and students and form bonds with other students in the program.



On-campus accommodation allows for a complete university experience. Accommodation is in the residential colleges on campus and catering is provided for all participants while students are on campus. JCU covers the cost of return travel, including flights, bus or train, for students outside of the Townsville region, within Australia.

Apply or find more information at: www.jcu.edu.au/ierc/experience-uni/winter-school

UQ's InspireU Camps

The **University of Queensland's** *InspireU program* has two camps for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander senior students coming up in the June/July school holidays.

YEAR 11 AND 12 HEALTH SCIENCES CAMP (23-28 JUNE)

A week-long university experience for Year 11 and 12 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to learn about health sciences. Participants will get to explore potential study options and gain practical insights into a range of disciplines. To learn more or apply, please go to: www.study.uq.edu.au/events/inspireu-health-science-camp



YEAR 12 CAMP (30 JUNE-5 JULY)

A week-long (residential camp for Year 12 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to learn more about preparing for university at The University of Queensland's (UQ) St Lucia campus. Participants will explore different study options plus learn about applying through QTAC, scholarships, financial assistance, admissions pathways, tutoring and accommodation. To learn more or apply, please go to: www.study.uq.edu.au/events/inspireu-year-12-camp

Fee Free TAFE

The career of your dreams is within reach thanks to Fee-Free TAFE.

Follow your passion with over 70 industry-recognised courses to choose from. Make a great decision for your future with in-demand skills in high-priority areas, including health and science, business, cyber security and IT, education and community, agriculture, and service industries. With a range of skill sets, certificates and diplomas available, now's the time to get job ready with Fee-Free TAFE.

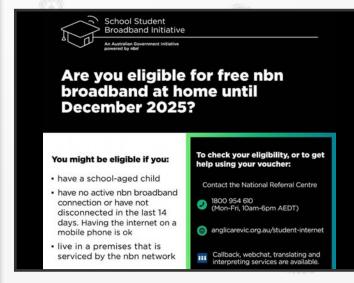
For more information or to apply visit: www.tafeqld.edu.au/fee-free



Free NBN for eligible students

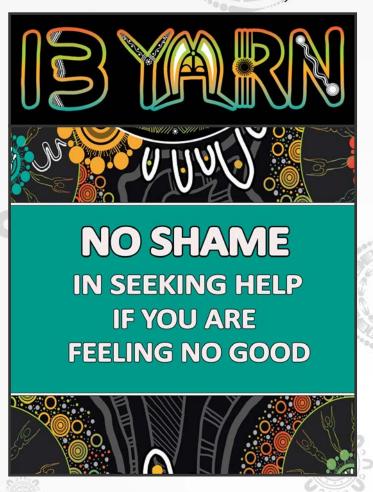
To ensure all students have equal opportunities for online learning, the **School Student Broadband Initiative (SSBI)** is providing free internet access for eligible families with school-aged children and no current internet access.

To find out more, call the **National Referral Centre** (Monday to Friday) 1800 954 610 or head to: https://www.anglicarevic.org.au/student-internet/



13YARN

If you're not coping, it doesn't mean that something is wrong with you, seeking help and being pointed in the right direction by one of our support workers is a great step and could help you get the right support you need. Give us a call on **13 92 76** for a yarn.



Ideas for class or school Reconciliation or NAIDOC Week celebrations

From QATSIF's website: www.qatsif.org.au/ideas-for-school-celebrations

If you are looking for ideas to celebrate **Reconciliation** and **NAIDOC Weeks** at you school, our QATSIF website has lots of great ideas.



Our 2024 QATSIF Team

QATSIF is very proud of our friendly, hardworking, and dedicated staff who oversee our 4,290 QATSIF scholarships.

Please call us on 3257 1777 for any assistance. Our office hours are Monday to Friday from 8am to 4pm.



Calling past QATSIF graduates to volunteer as QATSIF Ambassadors



Did you receive a **QATSIF Scholarship**? Are you keen to give back to your mob? Do you want to help to inspire the next generation of young leaders?

Then become a volunteer QATSIF Ambassador by emailing your contact details and current work, course or career to enquiries@gatsif.org.au.



Our QATSIF Ambassadors have the opportunity to share their inspirational stories through school visits, corporate talks, videoconferencing and social media.

We are looking for QATSIF Ambassadors from all fields – employment, tertiary studies, sports, arts etc.



Get Involved in 2024

Donate now to support QATSIF's vital work at: www.qatsif.org.au/get-involved

Your tax-deductible donation will directly assist our young people to complete their senior studies and gain a brighter future.

You can donate online or by cheque or Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT).

Thank you for your support!



2024 QATSIF CELEBRATION DATES

Friday 5 July <u>or</u> the Friday of your NAIDOC celebrations	Floral Friday Fundraiser — Wear your brightest floral clothes to raise money to support QATSIF. QATSIF will also send out Torres Strait Islander resources for schools.
Monday 15 July	QATSIF Graduation at JCU (Townsville) (NB* Ceremony starts at 11.30am due to room availability)
Tuesday	QATSIF Graduation at JCU
16 July	(Cairns)
Thursday	QATSIF Graduation at QUT
18 July	(Kelvin Grove)
Monday	QATSIF Graduation at Bond Uni
29 July	(Gold Coast)
Friday	QATSIF Graduation at CQU
2 August	(Bundaberg)

2 AV 1		AV 10
Friday 9 August	QATSIF Graduation at UQ (St Lucia)	
Monday 12 August	QATSIF Graduation at CQU (Rockhampton)	
Tuesday 13 August	QATSIF Graduation at CQU (Mackay)	
Thursday 15 August	QATSIF Graduation at UniSC (Sunshine Coast)	
Tuesday 20 August	QATSIF Graduation at UniSQ (Toowoomba)	
Thursday 22 August	QATSIF Graduation at Griffith (Logan)	
		-milin.

QATSIF is looking forward to celebrating with our students, their families and schools.

Celebrations (except Townsville) will run from 10:30am – midday + lunch afterwards.

We will be asking for students and schools to assist with providing MCs, readers, dance troupes and performers, ushers and parent speakers.

Invitations and more details will be sent out closer to our celebrations.

Our graduations occur in term 3 as schools are busy in term 4 with final preparations before their students' external exams.

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.

OFFICE CONTACTS





2/439 Lutwyche Road, Lutwyche QLD 4030 (07) 3257 1777 | Monday to Friday from 8:00am to 4:00pm



enquiries@qatsif.orq.au



www.qatsif.org.au

SECRETARIAT DIRECTOR

Michael Nayler (Full-time) michael.nayler@qatsif.org.au

PROJECT OFFICER

Shalana Uta (Full-time) shalana.uta@qatsif.org.au

PROJECT OFFICER

Sonia Norbido (Mon – Wed) sonia.norbido@qatsif.org.au

PROJECT OFFICER

Teagan Olssen (Wed – Fri) teagan.olssen@gatsif.org.au

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