

# NEWSLETTER

## ISSUE 4 – TERM 4 2020

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CulchaStik: Australian Indigenous Images.



## Welcome to QATSIF's Term 4 Newsletter

Dear QATSIF schools and supporters,

Term 4 has been another very busy term for our QATSIF office, students and schools. Despite COVID-19's many challenges, our deadly QATSIF schools have shaped, inspired and supported another 1,400 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander QATSIF graduates to complete their Year 12 studies and move forward to an even brighter future. On behalf of Aunty Ruth Hegarty, our QATSIF Board and staff, we would like to thank all of the passionate and dedicated school staff for their incredible work.

To our students' families, we share in your incredible pride in these young peoples' achievements. Thank you for your never ending encouragement, love and support which has carried these great young leaders through to this massive achievement. At one virtual graduation, many young people indicated that they were the first person in their families to graduate from high school. With up to 1/3rd of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people still not graduating secondary school in Australia, the support of our families should never be underestimated.

Finally, to our deadly Class of 2020. You have had arguably the most challenging year that any Year 12s have experienced. Between being the first Year 7s into high school, the COVID-19 school closures and new ATAR system you have faced many challenges, but rose to conquer them all. QATSIF believes that you will be the most resilient, adaptable and tech savvy group of QATSIF graduates ever.

QATSIF wishes you all the best for the brightest of futures and hopes that you will keep us updated with your many achievements. We are always looking for new QATSIF Ambassadors from across all fields to help to inspire the next generation of deadly young leaders.

Please take Aunty Ruth's challenge to heart and "Dream Big". Don't ever stop chasing your dreams and being proud of yourself, your family and your rich cultural heritage.



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

# QATSIF Round 12 Scholarships

QATSIF would like to congratulate our 2,030 new Round 12 QATSIF Scholarship recipients and thank our schools for assisting their students with their applications. In 2021, QATSIF is very excited to welcome students with a disability who are studying a QCIA to our QATSIF scholarship program.

The Public Trustee and DATSIP have approved \$3.66M which represents a very significant investment into our future leaders.

Across QATSIF's first 12 years, we have seen 12,454 scholarships approved worth \$25.27M in support of Queensland's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people.

Our QATSIF Scholarship program began on 25 November, 2008 with around \$26M in unallocated funds from the original Stolen Wages Reparations scheme. QATSIF's scholarships come from the interest on these preserved funds. Through careful management and investment, these funds currently sit at around \$42M.

QATSIF recognises that none of this would be possible with the hard work and sacrifices of our Elders and Ancestors who suffered the grave injustice of Stolen Wages. We pay tribute to their often unrecognised and unappreciated work and thank them for the opportunity they have provided for the current generations of young people.

## QATSIF Post-School destination data

As our Round 10 QATSIF students prepare for life beyond school, it is worth seeing the post-school destinations for QATSIF students in our first 9 Rounds.

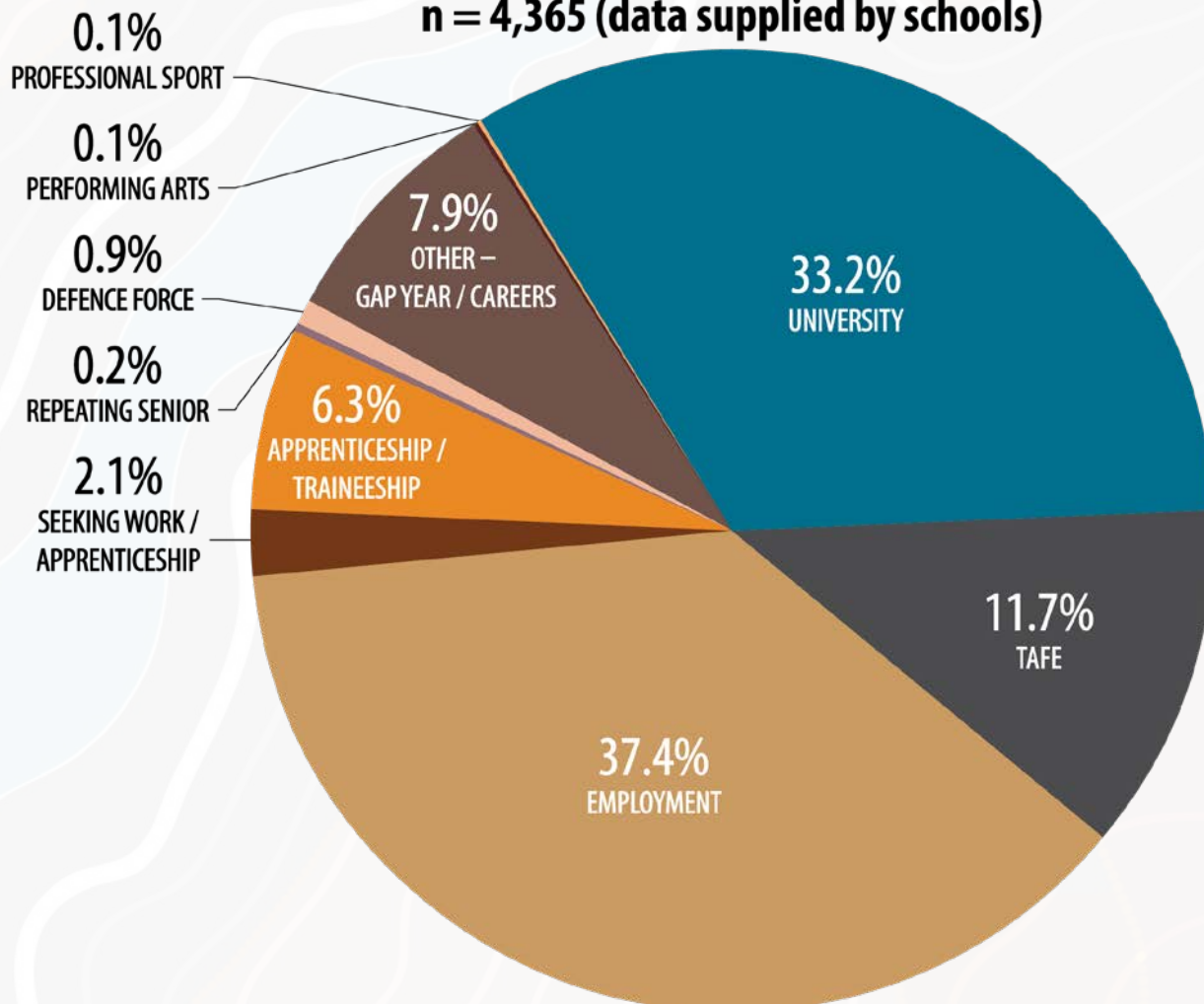
Each year, our QATSIF schools are asked to provide data on their students' post-school destinations. The data above shows the known destinations for 4365 of

our QATSIF Round 1- 9 graduates as reported by their schools.

*NB\* This data is currently collected in the February following our students' Year 12 graduation, so some students are still finding their future pathways.*

### Known QATSIF Student Destinations Rounds 1-9

n = 4,365 (data supplied by schools)



# Transurban's NAIDOC Week Celebrations

QATSIF joined with Transurban's staff as part of their NAIDOC Week celebrations.

Aunty Louisa Bonner shared a powerful Welcome to Country and Transurban officially opened their beautiful welcome and acknowledgement plaque recognising the Yuggera and Turrbal peoples.

Transurban's staff were treated to a deadly didgeridoo performance and heard about the significance of NAIDOC Week from some of Transurban's Indigenous staff members.

QATSIF also had the opportunity to thank Transurban

for creating the Transurban Paiabun Kurumba (Dream Big) STEM Scholarship to support our QATSIF students in Logan, Brisbane and Ipswich schools.

There are currently eleven Year 11 students who are part of Transurban's STEM Scholarship and they will be joined by the next round of successful applicants in 2021.

Transurban is offering students the opportunity to be mentored by their engineers, have a variety of experiences observing Transurban's work and providing an additional \$500 to spend on IT devices.



## QATSIF Ambassador Q&A Sessions

To celebrate NAIDOC Week, we offered Year 7–12 students an opportunity to be part of our 4th and 5th QATSIF Ambassador Q&A Sessions for this year.

Our four earlier Q&A Sessions were very popular with our schools both as live events and through viewing the recordings at a later time.

In the first of our NAIDOC Week Q&A Sessions, Samantha Watson (Nurse at Mackay Base Hospital) and Amanda Martin (Bachelor of Law and Bachelor of Commerce at Griffith University) shared their inspirational stories with staff and students from 15 schools across Queensland.

In the second session, Juliet Biemann (Bachelor of Laws Hons UQ) and Lachlan Ryan (Bachelor of Laws Hons / Bachelor of Arts – Political and International studies at Griffith University) challenged students to "Dream Big" and not allow others to stop them from achieving these dreams.



The links to all five of our Q&A Sessions are still available to schools. QATSIF will offer more of these inspirational Q&As in 2021.

# Boonah State High School's Yarning Circle

Congratulations to Boonah State High School which recently began constructing a 'Yarning Circle' (or dialogue circle) which is a very important process within Aboriginal cultures.

Boonah SHS wrote, "A yarning circle is a harmonious, creative and a collaborative way of communicating, to encourage responsible, respectful and honest interactions between participants, building trusting relationships, fostering accountability and providing a safe place to be heard and to respond.

A Yarning Circle also promotes student to student interactions and student-school-community connectedness, while at the same time promoting learning experiences for students.

By using Yarning Circles as a teaching and learning strategy, student understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander knowledge and ways of working are enhanced. This strategy is suitable for students across all phases of schooling."



## My Story – Alicia Smyth (QATSIF Ambassador)



My name is Alicia Smyth and I am a proud Torres Strait Islander woman. My family is from Badu Island, but I grew up in Central Queensland Rockhampton. I currently study a double degree in Law and Government and International Relations at Griffith University in Brisbane. When I was growing up in school there is no way that I thought I would be able to achieve the things that I have been able to do. However, I was fortunate

enough to be surrounded by a strong support system of family, friends and teachers who were always willing to help me and push me further.

While I was at school I was able to partake in an Indigenous program called WEX that enabled high achieving Indigenous students to undertake work experience in government departments in Canberra. I was also able to participate in a national mock court debate competition at Bond University, in which my team made the semi-finals. Upon undertaking these experiences and studying legal studies at school, I discovered that I had a passion for advancing Indigenous & minority groups rights. I realised that I had significant opportunities that our Indigenous ancestors were not privileged to. As a result, I want to use my voice and platform as a tool of

empowerment for those who have suffered injustices – both within the Indigenous community and broader international community. Thus, my current goal is to become a human rights lawyer and eventually work in the United Nations as a lawyer for the International Court of Justice.

When I realised my passion, the double degree in Law and International Relations was an easy choice. However, when I got to university I realised that I would need the same support there as I had when I was in high school. When I first started university, I was connected with the Gumurri unit, who provide financial, emotional and general support for Indigenous students at university. With their support I have been able to excel in university. I currently have a GPA of 6.5, have interned at the Australian Government's Trade and Investment Commission twice, am apart of the Griffith Academic Excellence Society, am an Internal Negotiations Convener at Griffith Law School and have received three academic scholarships.

My encouragement to high school students is to pursue your passion and to always surround yourself with people who will help you strive. Whether you are choosing a course to study, an apprenticeship to undertake or simply deciding what to do next year – follow your passion. You can be taught how to do a job, but you will never be taught to love it. Once you find your passion, align it with your strengths and pursue a career where you can outwork it. Oh and have fun! University is a great time to make new friends, create new experiences and just enjoy life. Don't be too hard on yourself and enjoy these next few years.

## Toolooa State High School's Academic Awards

Congratulations to three Year 12 QATSIF Recipients' from Toolooa State High School, Gladstone, collecting nine Academic Awards between them.

Emily received the overall Academic Excellence Award for Dance and was also acknowledged as the Apprentice of the Year.

Alana received the overall Academic Excellence Awards for Accounting, Digital Solutions and Specialist Mathematics, also receiving the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student of the Year Award and Toolooa State High School's Outstanding Academic Achievement Award for 2020.

Indiana received the overall Academic Excellence Awards for both Essential Mathematics and Certificate II Skills for Work and Vocational Pathways.

These are prestigious Awards presented to the highest

rated student in each subject. The girls future plans include following careers in Dance and Hairdressing, Secondary Teaching specialising in Mathematics, Retail and Business Administration.



**L-R: Justin Harrison (Principal), Michelle Eggmolesse (Indigenous Senior Support), QATSIF Recipients Emily Ibbotson, Alana Dwyer, Indiana Cowburn-Oakey, Mark Thomas (DP and Indigenous Line Manager) and Ambrose Coolwell (CEC).**

## Morning Tea with Aunty Ruth

Aunty Ruth joined our entire QATSIF Staff for Morning Tea and shared many powerful and moving stories of her life as a Dormitory Girl.

QATSIF is thankful to Aunty Ruth and all those who suffered the grave injustice of Stolen Wages because it was their unrecognised and often unappreciated hard work that has made our scholarships possible.

Our QATSIF students appreciate this incredible gift and dedicate themselves to working hard to thank our Elders and Ancestors.

In 2021, QATSIF will be supporting a record 3600 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Year 11 and 12 students to complete their senior studies. Aunty Ruth's simple message to all of our young people is "Dream Big".



*L to R: Mike Naylor, Rachel Stringfellow, Aunty Ruth Hegarty, Sonia Norbido and Shalana Uta.*

## Elder's Visit – Uncle David Miller

QATSIF was honoured to have Uncle David Miller visit our QATSIF office to share lunch and a yarn with our staff. Our QATSIF staff was humbled by Uncle David's gentle presence and deep wisdom.

Uncle David has worked hard all his life and even in retirement continues to volunteer his time with Murri Ministries, on various boards and committees and at his granddaughters' school.

Life has not always been easy for Uncle David, but he does not see it like that. When he was asked his life, his response was simple – "I have been blessed".

Uncle David's inspirational story was recently featured in Brisbane Catholic Education's Deadly Yarns:

<https://www.bne.catholic.edu.au/news/Pages/Deadly-Yarns---Uncle-David-Miller.aspx>



# Peter Doherty Outstanding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander STEM Student Awards

Did you know that QATSIF students have been awarded 18 of the 22 Peter Doherty Outstanding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Senior STEM Student Awards? STEM = Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.

**2020:** Katie Butterfield (Glenala SHS), Rani Carmichael (Brisbane SHS), Lilly Halloran (Pimpama State Secondary College) Jordan McGrath (Coomababah SHS)

**2019:** Ethan Briggs (Beaudesert SHS), Annaleise Krause (Wilsonton SHS), Holly Summers (Pacific Pines SHS)

**2018:** Braith Gausden (Palm Beach-Currumbin SHS), Ebony Pearson (Pimlico SHS), Keely Perry (Longreach SHS)

**2017:** Wayne Cawthorne (Townsville SHS), Lucinda Colbert (Forest Lake SHS), Jordan Hall (Springfield Central State High) School

**2016:** Alexandra Bainbridge-Brook (Immanuel Lutheran College), Sahamar Ruben (St Peter Claver College), Aleisha Thomas (Isis District SHS)

**2015:** Miranda Mahoney (Lourdes Hill College)

QATSIF congratulates all of the winners of this prestigious award.



*Wayne Cawthorne (studying a B. Advanced Science at JCU).*



*Lucinda Colbert (studying medicine) pictured with fellow medical student Kyle Ryan at QATSIF's 10th Anniversary.*

## QATSIF Community Meeting Space

A huge thank you to the Australian Trade College North Brisbane Year 11 students and staff for using their impressive skills to manufacture some deadly outdoor tables for our QATSIF office.

QATSIF is very grateful to the Australian Trade College North Brisbane and MRAEL for generously donating their time, materials and labour for this important project.

Our QATSIF office, situated in Lutwyche, is available for

use by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community groups. We have a Boardroom / meeting space (classroom sized) and now thanks to Australian Trade College - North Brisbane and MRAEL, a beautiful outdoor dining and break out area.

Community organisations can contact our QATSIF office on 3257 1777 to book in to use these spaces.



# QATSIF Creative Arts Competition update

The very talented Kaiden Ratcliff from Riverside Christian College presented his beautiful artwork to be displayed at Sano Cafe, Lutwyche (next door to our QATSIF office).

Sano owner, Lisa had visited QATSIF to check out the 53 art pieces from our QATSIF Creative Arts Competition which are on display and fell in love with Kaiden's work.

Kaiden's artwork entitled "My Story" depicts the stories that he grew up with and our NAIDOC Week theme of "Always Was. Always Will Be". The painting featuring earthy tones shows rain, a waterhole and people at meeting places beside running water.

The middle of the painting is the Rainbow Serpent who is the creator. Then there is the night sky which is all about the Dreaming stories of spirits, the Southern Cross and other astrological signs that represent our protectors.



## QATSIF Young Leaders in Focus

### Shakira Ritson



Shakira is a proud Kalkadoon woman who has flourished since moving to Balmoral State High School in Year 10. Shakira was a grateful recipient of a QATSIF Scholarship for the last two years of her schooling. She successfully completed a Certificate III in Individual Support Work while working one day a week at a nursing home and attending school the other days. Shakira

was very honoured to be chosen as Balmoral State High School's 2020 Indigenous Leader and she has worked hard to be a role model and mentor for our younger students. She also received a QATSIF Young Indigenous Leader award recognising the work she has done in our school community.

Shakira has been awarded an Indigenous scholarship at TAFE to complete a Diploma in Nursing. Her goal is to better herself and gain skills that she can use to positively make a difference in her community. We are very proud of Shakira's achievements and wish her the very best for her future.

### Seleena Blackley



The deadly Seleena Blackley, an Indigenous Student Leader and QATSIF student from Spinifex State College - Mount Isa joined with other senior students from around Australia to speak with Four Corners about the effects that COVID-19 has had on their senior year.

Seleena's powerful section where she speaks about the effects of COVID-19 on her schooling and rich Cultural education starts at 30 minutes 10 seconds, but it is well worth hearing from all of these deadly young people. The full Class of 2020 ABC iView link is available at: <https://www.abc.net.au/4corners/the-class-of-2020/12840268>

Seleena and her fellow Seniors demonstrate the wisdom, resilience, adaptability and strength that hopefully will help to make the class of 2020 one of the most outstanding group of young leaders that our nation has seen.

As our much-loved Patron, Aunty Ruth says, "Dream Big". QATSIF wishes Seleena and all 2020 Seniors the brightest of futures.

# QATSIF Schools celebrates NAIDOC

## Redlynch State College



Uncle Carl, Uncle Trevor and Ronnee smoking ceremony at NAIDOC Parade.



QATSIF recipient Ronnee.



Indigenous Leaders with cultural artefacts.



Aboriginal game of snakes and ladders.



Indigenous Leaders with cultural artefacts.



Beadwork, rock painting, Indigenous games, chalk art, face painting with Aunty Helen.



Basket weaving, reflecting ATSI traditions, hunting, and the connections to family and Country.



Indigenous Mural of Leadership 'Spirit of Country'.



## Floral Friday Fundraiser

Each Friday, on Thursday Island and across the Torres Strait, bright floral shirts and dresses can be seen to celebrate Torres Strait Islander cultures.

Shalana, one of our deadly QATSIF Project Officers, has brought this beautiful Torres Strait Islander tradition with her to our QATSIF office.

In order to raise some much needed funds to support QATSIF and to help celebrate and promote greater understanding of Torres Strait Islander cultures, we decided to start an annual Floral Friday Fundraiser on Friday during NAIDOC Week.

Shalana and our QATSIF team collated Torres Strait Islander resources for our schools to use as part of a special Floral Friday program.

Many schools, businesses and organisations including Hutchies Builders, Australian Unity, Public Trustee of Queensland, James Cook University, QUT, DATSIP, Education Queensland and Brisbane Catholic Education also got together to raise over \$5,000 to support QATSIF's vital work.



QATSIF is very grateful to all of our schools and supporters who got behind our Floral Friday Fundraiser. We are hoping that it will become an annual event.



**Carmel College Staff**



**Boonah SHS**



**JCU Townsville**



**Public Trustee (Mackay)**



**St Andrew's Catholic College (Redlynch)**



**Saint Mary's Catholic College Staff**



# 2020 QATSIF Young Indigenous Leader Award Winners

QATSIF is extremely proud of the **119 deadly young leaders** (below) who were recognised by their school communities for their outstanding leadership.

QATSIF's motto is **"Building tomorrow's leaders"**. We hope that this recognition will continue to inspire these young people to **"Dream Big"** as our Patron Aunty Ruth said at one of this year's graduations. QATSIF also hopes that these leaders' role-modelling to younger students will also help to inspire a whole new generation of leaders.

Congratulations and thank you for your outstanding efforts!



**Rani Carmichael, Brisbane SHS**

**Alycia Hyland**  
Year 12, Trinity College (Beenleigh)

**Amelia Hewett**  
Year 11, Clifton State High School

**Andrea Tehan**  
Year 11, Beaudesert State High School

**Angus Lindsay**  
Year 12, St Laurence's College

**Angus Loft**  
Year 12, Runcorn State High School

**Attaiyah Henricks-Fleiter**  
Year 12, Murgon Lake State High School

**Ava Sorgen**  
Year 12, Springfield Central State High School

**Blake Uhle**  
Year 12, Brisbane Bayside State College

**Brianna Olivares**  
Year 12, Elanora State High School

**Brooke Tongalea**  
Year 11, Tully State High School

**Cadance Stocks**  
Year 12, Dysart State High School

**Carly Johnson**  
Year 12, Pimlico State High School

**Carmen Brady**  
Year 12, Toowoomba State High School

**Carson Prior-Mead**  
Year 11, Oakey State High School

**Charli Muller**  
Year 11, Blackwater State High School

**Chelsea McEvoy**  
Year 12, Mt Maria College, Mitchelton

**Cheyenne Pickering**  
Year 11, St James College

**Chloe Levinge**  
Year 12, Southport State High School

**Claire Briggs**  
Year 12, Moura State High School

**Colby Coggan**  
Year 12, Australian Trade College North Brisbane

**Colin Barney**  
Year 11, St James College

**Connor Brooks**  
Year 11, Beaudesert State High School

**Eden Strickland**  
Year 12, Marist College, Emerald

**Edna Wuruki**  
Year 12, Woree State High School

**Elisabeth Matters**  
Year 12, St Margaret Mary's College

**Ella Fox**  
Year 11, Groves Christian College

**Ella Udowika**  
Year 12, Carmel College

**Ellah-Louisa Cassady**  
Year 11, Brigidine College

**Ella-Rae McCann**  
Year 11, Pacific Pines State High School

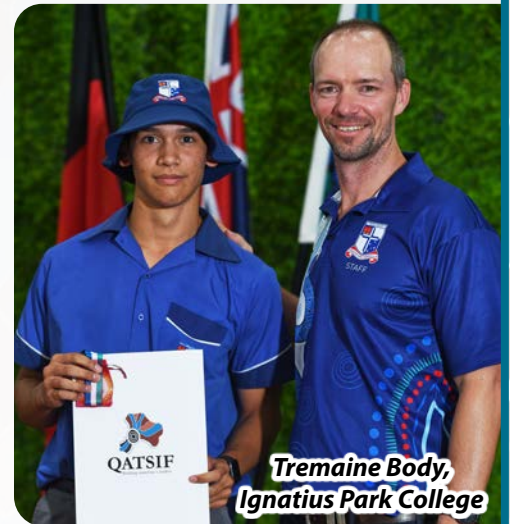
**Emerson Locke**  
Year 12, St Joseph's College Gregory Terrace

**Emilie Bevan**  
Year 12, Beenleigh State High School

**Emily Jose**  
Year 12, Cairns State High School



**Jeremiah and Chole, Southport SHS**



**Tremaine Body, Ignatius Park College**

**Emmett Butler**  
Year 12, North Rockhampton State High School

**Eva Heron**  
Year 12, Cavendish Road State High School

**Flynn Sinclair**  
Year 12, Sunshine Beach State High School

**Grace Bachmann**  
Year 11, Mt Maria College, Mitchelton

**Havannah Wacando**  
Year 11, Ingham State High School

**Hayley McMahon**  
Year 12, St Saviour's College

**Holly Morton**  
Year 12, Isis District State High School

**Ilesha Drahm**  
Year 12, Redbank Plains State High School

**Indi McKeown**  
Year 12, Ferny Grove State High School

**Indigo Malthouse**  
Year 12, Bracken Ridge State High School

**Isaiah Powell**  
Year 11, Arethusa College

**Izaac Watego-Morgan**  
Year 12, Bentley Park College

**Jaidah Jones**  
Year 12, Coolum State High School

**Jakhobi Moren**  
Year 12, Sarina State High School

**Jamison Allan**  
Year 11, Merrimac State High School



**Misharleigh Fogarty**  
Hervey Bay SHS



**Lydia Lawton & Jayden Barnes**  
Kingaroy SHS



**Zoe Paton**  
Earnshaw State College

**Jaslyn Smith**

Year 12, Yeppoon State High School

**Jay Warcon**

Year 11, Heights College

**Jayden Barnes**

Year 11, Kingaroy State High School

**Jenaya Ugle**

Year 12, Redcliffe State High School

**Jeremiah Thompson**

Year 12, Southport State High School

**Jesse Zammit**

Year 11, Shalom College

**Juliette Levinge**

Year 12, Queensland Academy for Health Sciences

**Kamiah Grigg**

Year 12, St Patrick's College, Mackay

**Karla Adidi**

Year 12, Kirwan State High School

**Kasey Knight**

Year 12, Cleveland District State High School

**Keneisha Coulthard**

Year 12, Ipswich State High School

**Kiah Luhrs**

Year 12, Bundaberg State High School

**Kimberley Pearce**

Year 12, Laidley State High School

**Kylie Strik**

Year 12, Gilroy Santa Maria College

**Lani Holland**

Year 12, Caloundra State High School

**Larson Dale-Doyle**

Year 12, Anglican Church Grammar School

**Latisha Brooker**

Year 11, Nambour State College

**Leah Offord**

Year 11, Moranbah State High School

**Lewanna Munro**

Year 12, Ipswich State High School

**Lexie Mitchell**

Year 12, Clifton State High School

**Lydia Lawton**

Year 11, Kingaroy State High School

**Luke Handley**

Year 11, Proserpine State High School

**Lydia Oppermann**

Year 12, Groves Christian College

**Mackenzie Ross**

Year 12, Charleville State High School

**Madison Corino**

Year 12, Rockhampton State High School

**Manny Guligo**

Year 11, Tully State High School

**Maurice Conway**

Year 12, Blackwater State High School

**Miah Williams**

Year 11, Benowa State High School

**Michael Boronggai Young**

Year 11, St Brendan's College

**Misharleigh Fogarty**

Year 11, Hervey Bay State High School

**Nar-Neekie Cohen**

Year 12, Keebra Park State High School

**Nikela Hyland**

Year 12, Trinity College (Beenleigh)

**Nikolaus Birch**

Year 12, Toowoomba State High School

**Noah Love**

Year 12, Forest Lake State High School

**Philip Schmidt**

Year 12, Burnett State College

**Rani Carmichael**

Year 12, Brisbane State High School

**Reilly Kenyon**

Year 11, Mt Maria College (Mitchelton)

**Rhys Daley**

Year 12, Iona College

**Riley Taylor**

Year 12, Narangba Valley State High School

**Ronald Henry-Monaei**

Year 12, Bray Park State High School

**Rosemary Holt**

Year 12, Bremer State High School

**Ryan St John**

Year 12, St Columban's College

**Sarah Higgins**

Year 12, Kilcoy State High School

**Sasha Grainer**

Year 12, Mareeba State High School

**Savannah Bell**

Year 11, Holy Spirit College (Mt Pleasant)

**Seleena Blackley**

Year 12, Spinifex State College

**Seth Bishop**

Year 12, St Edmund's College

**Shae Hall**

Year 12, St Thomas More College

**Shakira-Jane Ritson**

Year 12, Balmoral State High School

**Shaneeka Leedie Hill**

Year 12, Heatley Secondary College

**Shauna Fisher**

Year 12, St John's School, Roma

**Shay-lee Begnell**

Year 11, Bremer State High School

**Shelby Simpson**

Year 11, Noosa District State High School



**Miah Williams, Benowa SHS**



**Carly Johnson, Pimlico SHS**

**Shiloh Rea**

Year 11, Cairns State High School

**Sienna Domic**

Year 11, Bray Park State High School

**Simeon Mosby**

Year 11, Redlynch State College

**Sophie Shadford**

Year 12, Burnett State College

**Stacey Edwards**

Year 11, Mount St Bernard College

**Stella Davidson**

Year 12, Ipswich Girls' Grammar School

**Stella-May Charles**

Year 12, Concordia Lutheran College

**Taleesha Neville**

Year 11, Columba Catholic College

**Tammuz Fa'Aoso**

Year 12, Woree State High School

**Tareke Peach**

Year 12, Tully State High School

**Telisha Bushby**

Year 11, St Columban's College

**Temanu O'Brien-Schmidt**

Year 12, Lourdes Hill College

**Terell Anderson**

Year 11, Oakey State High School

**Tia Bartlett**

Year 12, Beaudesert State High School

**Tilona Ahmat**

Year 12, St Monica's College

**Tormisha Hankin-Muir**

Year 12, Good Shepherd Catholic College

**Tremaine Body**

Year 11, Ignatius Park College

**Troy Schrieber**

Year 11, Woree State High School

**Tyson Stevens**

Year 12, St Mary's College (Toowoomba)

**Zoe Paton**

Year 11, Earnshaw State College



**Temanu O'Brien Schmidt**  
Lourdes Hill College



**Simeon Mosby**, Redlynch State College



**Lani Holland**  
Caloundra SHS



**Stella-May Charles**  
Concordia College



**Ellah-Louisa Cassidy**, Brigidine College



**Tormisha Hankin-Muir**  
Good Shepherd Catholic College



**Kasey Knight**, Cleveland District SHS



**Jay Warcon**, Heights College



**Lydia Oppermann**  
Groves Christian College



**Ella-Rae McCann**  
Pacific Pines SHS



**Jakhobi Moren**, Sarina SHS



## Yarning With Our Elders

QATSIF in partnership with ACU (Australian Catholic University) is inviting all Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander secondary students to yarn with, learn from, and share the stories, wisdom and cultural heritage of our Elders.

Over the Christmas holidays, we are inviting students to yarn with an Elder and record one important aspect of their life. Some examples could be:

- What was it like growing up in their local community?
- Their Stolen Generations or Stolen Wages story.
- What is their advice for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people?
- Important local traditional language words, their meaning and pronunciation.
- Important local traditional stories, dances, technology or history.
- What did they learn from their own Elders?

Students are invited to share their Elder's story using any appropriate media eg. video, voice recordings, essay, poetry, music, interviews etc. Preferably, presentations should be less than 10 minutes or 5,000 words in length (or equivalent).

ACU will assist with collating and preserving these important stories for future generations and offer prizes for outstanding entries. All entries will be recognised with a certificate.

Entry forms have been emailed to schools. Entries close: Friday February 12, 2021.

**\*NB – Students need to adhere to COVID Safe practices if yarning in person with Elders and need to seek their Elder's permission to share any information.**



### Yarning With Our Elders



One of our greatest gifts is our Elders' incredible wealth of knowledge, wisdom, strength and experience.



Aunty Ruth Hegarty (QATSIF's Patron)

QATSIF (Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Foundation) in partnership with ACU (Australian Catholic University) is inviting all Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander secondary students to yarn with, learn from, and share the stories, wisdom and cultural heritage of our Elders.

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- Important local traditional language words, their meaning and pronunciation.
- Important local traditional stories, dances, technology or history.
- What did they learn from their own Elders?

Students are invited to share their Elder's story using any appropriate media eg. video, voice recordings, essay, poetry, music, interviews etc. Preferably, presentations should be less than 10 minutes or 5000 words in length (or equivalent).

ACU will assist with collating and preserving these important stories for future generations and offer prizes for outstanding entries. All entries will be recognised with a certificate.

Please see your school to get an entry form. Entries close: Friday February 12, 2021.

**\*NB - Students need to adhere to COVID Safe practices if yarning in person with Elders and need to seek their Elder's permission to share any information.**

# QATSIF Schools' Graduations



**Kilcoy SHS**



**Seton College**



**Wavell SHS**



**Staines  
Memorial College**



**Alexandra Hills SHS**

**Mackay Northern  
Beaches SHS**



**St Peter Claver College**

## Anglican Church Grammar School



2021 ISL Luke Handley (centre) did his first Welcome to Country speech for the ceremony.

Arthur Gabey (CEC) with graduates Zada Borghero, William Allan (ISL), Jack Abbott & Jasper Braun.

## Acknowledgement of Country plaque

Congratulations to Toowoomba State High School on creating this beautiful Acknowledgement of Country plaque.

The Toowoomba State High School community acknowledges our traditional custodians – the *Giabal* and *Jarowair* people.

These plaques will be hung in the Main Office, the Student Centre and in their soon to be completed Performing Arts Centre. Shakarna and Christian (pictured QATSIF students) are Toowoomba SHS's Indigenous Leaders.



# QATSIF Young Achievers

## Giselle Kilner-Parmenter

Congratulations to Giselle Kilner-Parmenter (past QATSIF student and Ambassador) who last week was admitted as a lawyer on the Supreme Court of Western Australia.

Giselle was a QATSIF student from Palm Beach – Currumbin SHS who went on to study Law at Bond University.

As a QATSIF Ambassador, Giselle spoke at QATSIF events and joined us for our 10th Anniversary celebrations and Cherbourg Ration Shed visit. In 2019, she was named as Queensland's Indigenous Law Student of the Year.

We wish Giselle all the best in her future career



## Leesa Mi Mi



QATSIF congratulates Leesa Mi Mi, a past QATSIF student from Camel College on being selected for the 21-Under Netball Australia Centre for Excellence squad who are training towards the 2021 World Youth Netball Cup.

Leesa and her older sister Jemma (Queensland Firebirds) were both past QATSIF students.

We wish Leesa all the best as she prepares for next year's World Cup. Go Leesa!

## Murrawah Johnson

Murrawah Johnson, who was a Round 2 QATSIF student from St Patrick's College Townsville has her inspirational story featured in a powerful three page article in the Koori Mail.

Murrawah is a spokesperson, community organiser and campaigner for the *Wangan* and *Jagalingou* Traditional Owners Family Council who are fighting to stop the Adani Carmichael coal mine proposed on their traditional country.

QATSIF is very proud to have helped to support Murrawah and to see her develop into such a deadly young leader.



## Lenique Lawson

Congratulations to the deadly Lenique Lawson, proud Torres Strait Islander & South Sea Islander woman, QATSIF and CQUniversity Australia graduate who was admitted to the legal profession on Friday, November 27 at Rockhampton's Supreme Court building.

Lenique has generously given her time to speak at a number of QATSIF CQU graduations to help to inspire our next generation of young leaders.

We wish Lenique all the best and pass on the deep pride of Aunty Ruth, our QATSIF Board and whole community.

Lenique's full story can be found at: <https://cqtoday.com.au/news/2020/11/26/bright-future-for-young-lawyer/>



# Opportunities for Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Young People

## **TAFE Queensland Indigenous Pathways Scholarships**

<https://scholarships.tafeqld.edu.au/>

## **ACU Scholarships**

<https://www.acu.edu.au/study-at-acu/fees-and-scholarships>

## **Griffith University Scholarships**

<https://www.griffith.edu.au/scholarships>

## **UQ Scholarships**

<https://scholarships.uq.edu.au/>

## **JCU Scholarships**

<https://www.jcu.edu.au/scholarships-@-jcu>

## **USQ Scholarships**

<https://www.usq.edu.au/scholarships>

## **USC Scholarships**

<https://www.usc.edu.au/study/scholarships/scholarships-for-indigenous-and-australian-south-sea-islander-students>

## **CQU Scholarships**

<https://www.cqu.edu.au/content-library/media/video/indigenous-scholarships>

## **QUT Scholarships**

<https://www.qut.edu.au/study/fees-and-scholarships/scholarships>

## **Headspace Work and Study Program**

<https://headspace.org.au/young-people/digital-work-and-study-program/>

## **Queensland Ambulance Service (QAS) Jamie Jackway Paramedic University Scholarship**

<https://www.qut.edu.au/study/fees-and-scholarships/scholarships/the-qas-jamie-jackway-paramedic-scholarship>

## **Deadly Indigenous Health Cadetship Program**

Search "Indigenous Cadetship" at [www.smartjobs.qld.gov.au](http://www.smartjobs.qld.gov.au)

## **Music Industry College (MIC)**

The Music Industry College (MIC) are offering two full scholarships for any current Year 10 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students who are passionate about pursuing a career in the music industry across Years 11 and 12. Interested applicants can contact MIC directly via: [info@mic.org.au](mailto:info@mic.org.au) or via (07) 3852 3074.

## **Teaching Scholarships**

<https://teach.qld.gov.au/scholarships-and-grants/>

## **7 News Young Indigenous Achiever Award**

<https://awardsaustralia.com/young-achiever-awards/qld>

## **Pearl Duncan Scholarships**

<http://bit.ly/PearlDuncan2020>

## **Busy at Work Apprenticeships and Traineeships**

<https://apprenticeshipcentral.com.au/vacancies/qld/>

## **Australian Federal Police Directions Program**

<https://www.afp.gov.au/careers/directions-program>

## Remote Area Teacher Education Program

RATEP (Remote Area Teacher Education Program) is a community-based teacher education program that provides a direct pathway for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in remote, rural and regional locations to become registered teachers or qualified teacher aides. The RATEP program is a partnership between TAFE Queensland North Region, Queensland Education Department and James Cook University.

Currently there are various RATEP sites throughout the state – providing teacher training at the Certificate III and Diploma levels. Students are also able to study via an offsite delivery model with teaching support using online technology and regular phone, email and SMS communications.

The course is offered to senior high school Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students over a two year period in Years 11 and 12 as an integral part of their subject selection studies towards their Queensland Certificate of Education

(QCE). Students must be timetabled for the equivalent of two subjects or released for the equivalent of two days per week to complete the course.

For more information about the RATEP program, contact TAFE Queensland north region and ask to speak to a RATEP Teacher Coordinator. 1300 308 233 (extension 5) or go to: <https://www.jcu.edu.au/college-of-arts-society-and-education/case-student-resources/Aboriginal-and-Torres-Strait-Islander-Teacher-Education/about-the-ratep-program>





**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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