



Thank
you





I ask the graduating students to take these words to their hearts and mind and remember them when things get tough. Nana Ruth has created a legacy for them and their future I hope they recognise the blessing we all have in knowing this extraordinary woman.

Don Bemrose, Facebook

I attended the Cairns State High School Awards night this week and I am honoured and grateful to have received the QATSIF Young Indigenous Leader Award. The medallion is beautiful and an important keepsake.

I would just like you to know that the QATSIF scholarship has assisted my education greatly and I hope to gain entry into University in 2020. Thank you once again.

Garvina Lui, Cairns State High School



On behalf of Justine Omeenyo, Tabatha Levi and myself, Zoe Mavromatis, I am writing a letter to thank you for the ongoing support of us girls.

We are so grateful for your support which helped us to subsidise our schooling tuition. All three of us will be attending University next year, with Tabatha wanting to study International Hotel Management, Justine wanting to study a Bachelor of Contemporary Australian Indigenous Art and I want to study a Bachelor of Law with a double degree in a Bachelor of Arts (Political Science).

We all know and acknowledge this opportunity would not be possible without the injustices that our people incurred in regards to stolen wages. This is something that all of us recognise and appreciate whilst completing our secondary schooling. Thank you again.

From Zoe Mavromatis, Justine Omeenyo and Tabatha Levi

I'd like to thank the QATSIF board for giving me a scholarship. I have used it well and am graduating with my QCE as well as my 3 cert II in Electrotechnology. I will do my best in my future career to demonstrate that Aboriginal young people have so much to share with their community/s

Kaide Uhlmann



John Paul College
Unity | Christ | Learning





Dear Qatsif team,

My name is Lydia Oppermann, I'm a proud Yuggera/Ugarapul women. Thank you for supporting my grade 11 and future grade 12 journey.

I have made a massive difference at my school Groves Christian College. We have established 72 indigenous students from prep to year 12 and have a committee team with Uncle Barry that sponsors the student events and excursions.

I was the first Indigenous student to do an acknowledgement at GCC awards night and encouraged my school to recognise Indigenous culture. Thank you for the QATSIF Young Indigenous Leader award.

Lydia Oppermann
Groves Christian College



Thank you Aunty Ruth for you inspirational, encouraging and heartfelt words. We all are blessed that you have been an inspiring woman who has been through your own challenges in life. I wish to acknowledge you, Aunty Ruth as an Elder, mentor and an advocate for our young people and their families, extended families and community. God Bless!

Aunty Rita Moore, Beaudesert State High School

To Aunty Ruth,

I would just like to say thank you so much for giving such a big helping hand during my last 2 years of high school. It helped me and my sister out a lot financially by helping me get a full new uniform every year. Being able to get my senior jersey and to be able to go to formal with my friends and have my final memories of high school. I am very grateful for all the opportunities that were given to me in the past 2 years. Thank you so much for giving students like me an easier and more clear start on our pathways for our future with the opportunity of QATSIF.

Thanks, McKenzie



I would like to thank you for the amazing privilege of this award and medal. It has been an honour to be to an Indigenous leader and to receive this recognition.

Yours sincerely, Sara Barnes

S Barnes



JINGI WALA WITHA BAYAN – C'day, how you going? (Bundjalung Language).

My name is Jaeda Lenoy, I am sorry I am unable to attend due to my school base traineeship (CERT III in retailing) so that is why I am writing this letter to you. I would like to begin by talking about my ancestry:

Father's side: South Sea Islander (Tanna) – Ancestors are from Tanna; Torres Strait Islander, Vanuatu – From Vanuatu to work in the crane fields in Queensland; Aboriginal – Birriah (Kuburu (North Queensland): My Great-grandmother (Lightning) was born and raised on a workstation in Collinsville (Birri Land); French: Lenoy's are French and Aboriginal.

Mother's side: Aboriginal – Bundjalung and Gumbaynggir (North NSW); Moari (Great-grandfather's Mother came over by boat from Lake Wanaka, NZ in the early 1900's and changed her name so we don't know our Maori mob). My great father was Aboriginal and Maori. Scottish; Italian; Jewish; South African: My Nanna was non-Indigenous; she was an Australian.

I would like to thank you for giving me this chance with QATSIF, in order to support me financially during my senior schooling at Heatley Secondary College, it has been very helpful and reassuring to have that support in order for me to be able to achieve my future career dream – a Bachelor of Education with a major of Japanese and a minor Indigenous Studies. The support from the QATSIF has been very helpful for all of the Indigenous kids who have also gained or will gain this opportunity. It has also given me the chance to always know I can gain the resources I need such as; uniforms, books, and out of school activities like the upcoming Formal. I grew up in Townsville as it was the place I was born in and have been receiving my education here since kindy to grade 12 (excluding year 9). Every Christmas I would go down to Grafton, NSW to spend time with my Nanna and Aunty during the 6 week holidays and after my first year of high school at Pimlico State High School which was expensive for uniforms, excursions and other components, I moved down south to Grafton with my mother and little sister to be with my mother's family and so I studied at the central Grafton High School for one year. After that one year, I came back up to TSV and continued my studies at Heatley Secondary College, so QATSIF has been a great opportunity for me due to having to use a lot of money with moving, entering and gathering of resources for school.

I hope that this organisation is also helpful to the Indigenous kids in need in the future to come. QATSIF can be seen as an amazing supporting net for all Murri, Nyoongah, Koori(e), Goori, Yolngu, Anangu, Palawa, Nunga, Ngarrindjeri, Torres Strait Island, Murray Island and Mer Island Peoples of the country's islands, mainlands, creeks and seas.

Thank you very much, and have a wonderful day in TSV's James Cook University, NQ on Bindal and Wulgurukaba Land.

Jaeda Lenoy



Graduates from Longreach State High School



Dear Aunty Ruth and the QATSIF Board,

My name is Riley Hoskin and I am writing this letter in appreciation for all you have done for me and my grandparents. I was raised by my grandparents since I was a baby, and by the time I got to high school they were struggling financially to put me through school. If it was not for QATSIF, I do not know where I would have ended up, so we sincerely thank you for all of the financial assistance to keep me in school.

Sincerely, Riley J Hoskin

R Hoskin

Dear Aunty Ruth and the QATSIF Board,

I would like to give a big thank you for rewarding me and giving me the opportunity to receive the QATSIF scholarship. This scholarship has helped me a lot through my final two years of school. This scholarship has not just helped me but also helped my family. It has taken a lot of stress off both my parents who are supporting me and all my siblings. This scholarship has made school work and school events easier for me to attend and it has provided all the equipment and resources needed to get the best mark as possible for the last two years. I thank you greatly again for helping me get to this point in my secondary education studies. Thank you very, very much!

Sincerely, Daniella Mudu



Mh

Dear Aunty Ruth and the QATSIF Board

I would like to start off by thanking you for giving me the opportunity to receive this QATSIF scholarship. It has helped me out a lot in the last 2 years of my schooling. Without having to stress about money I was able to concentrate on my grades. This scholarship has also helped out my mum a great deal as we are a single income family. Mus has only had to worry about my sister, for that I thank you. It has had a great impact on my journey through grade 11 and 12 and has inspired me to continue to pursue a career in Business Administration. Stay deadly!

Sincerely, Tegan Glazier

TGlazier



Dear Aunty Ruth and QATSIF Board Members,

On behalf of William Ross State High School and our QATSIF Scholarship recipients we are grateful for the support QATSIF provide to our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students each year despite the injustice of Stolen Wages, which make these scholarships possible.

QATSIF do an incredible job to support our Queensland students and we thank you once again.

Yours sincerely,



Allan Evans, Principal



Gerry de la Cruz, CEC



Aunty Ruth is a national treasure. Keep doing the amazing work you are doing, you are making such a difference to our young Indigenous students throughout Qld.

Kind Regards, Brett Costin
Principal, Victory College



VICTORY COLLEGE



I am honoured to have received the QATSIF Young Indigenous Leader Award at the Wavell State High School speech night. My school put my name forward for the award, as they believe I am an excellent role model, display leadership attributes and am willing to participate. They believe I show an outstanding commitment across a wide range of academic, sporting and community activities.

I have recently been elected as a Prefect for 2020 which will give me many opportunities to show my leadership. I was also successful in being named as one of the House Captains and look forward to the opportunity of motivating and leading in the sporting arena.

Thank you for providing this prestigious award and also for giving me the opportunity to perform at the Year 12 QATSIF graduation held at QUT Kelvin Grove. I am very grateful to be recognized as a young Indigenous leader.

Yours sincerely,



Taleatha Wright-Morgan
Year 11 student, Wavell State High School



Thank you and all staff involved in the QATSIF Scholarship program. I will encourage the students to be thankful for their ancestors legacy and to use the funds wisely and productively.

Kind Regards,

Erica Buckley, Craigslea SHS



Dear Aunty Ruth and QATSIF Board Members,

Thank to you and your team for the support you have provided our students over the years.

We have seen an increased sense of confidence and a willingness to apply for scholarships and programs that take them out of their comfort zone. This has turned a "I could never do that" into a "I am going to apply because I think I can" attitude.

Whilst the views of some can be hurtful and make you shake your head ,the young people I see support each other no matter where they come from or their cultural heritage. Take care and again thanks on behalf of our school community.

Regards, Darren Fleming

Headmaster, All Souls St Gabriels School (Charters Towers)



To Aunty Ruth & QATSIF Board

I just wanted to say thank you so much Aunty Ruth & the QATSIF Board for allowing me to be a part of the scholarship as it has giving me confidence, pride in myself and my culture and courage.

Being the first year 12 Indigenous school leader here at Good Shepherd Catholic College, I have learnt so much this year and wherever my path takes me I will remember the great opportunity that I was lucky enough to be given. I also wanted to say thank you because without you or the QATSIF Scholarship students around QLD would not have this great opportunity to be able to follow their own dreams.

Best Wishes, Maddison Hegarty





Rockhampton Graduation



Brisbane South Graduation



Mackay Graduation



Toowoomba Graduation



Brisbane North Graduation



Cairns Graduation



Thank you
Aunty Ruth