

ganbina focus

DECEMBER 2021

2021 Youth Achievement Awards



Education Awards
Above, Year 7, from left:
Logan Falla
Rhianna Ward
Shady Scott
Tyler Stokoe



Year 8:
Gretel Peters (left)
and Mia Cameron



Year 9, from left:
Ella Morgan
Lincoln Atkinson
Milana Best and
overleaf Brock Scott

Congratulations 2021 Award winners!

Our virtual Awards ceremony last month was hosted by some of Ganbina's Youth Leadership Program participants including Frances Atkinson, Byron Newton-King, Hariyett Peters and Rae-nee Roberts.

Our thanks to Local Yorta Yorta Elder, Djeta (Aunty) Merle Miller, who delivered the Welcome to Country; to Suzanna Sheed MP for her encouraging words to the winners; and to everyone who supports Ganbina's work including our families, the community, and our philanthropic, education and employment partners.

As CEO Anthony Cavanagh said:

"You are all instrumental in changing the futures of our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and youth."

Education Awards (continued from page 1)



Year 10:
*Hariyett Peters (left)
and Kaidee Cooke*



Year 11, from left:
*Kaitlyn Crowhurst
Rae-nee Roberts
Jake Zerbato*



Year 12, from left:
*Chrystal Chapman
Nerrissa Leitch
Talia Trimboli*



Fourteen year old Brock Scott is determined to make the most of every opportunity that comes his way.

Brock is in Year 9 at Kyabram P-12 College. He is doing very well at school and has jumped ahead to Year 10 level in Digital Studies. He particularly enjoys woodwork and metalwork and plans to study building and construction. Eventually, he would like to become a farmer. Brock plays with the Ky Valley Tennis Club and is a coach for the Club's ANZ Hot Shots Community Play Training Sessions. He also works part-time on a dairy farm.

"Brock is an extremely valued member of the College," said his Year 9 Co-ordinator Brad Mellington. "He is always striving to be better, academically at school, but more importantly, striving to be a better person."

His employer, Mark Mullins, said: "Brock is a bright and helpful individual who shows great potential to be a leader. He displays empathy for others, is trustworthy and has excellent morals."

Adrian Appo Youth of the Year Award winner



Twenty-three year old Ameer Henningsen enrolled with Ganbina in Year 7. After graduating from Wanganui Secondary College, she completed her Certificate I in Business and a Certificate II in Business Management. In 2018, she joined the Shepparton law firm, Dawes & Vary Riordan, as a junior Legal Assistant. Today, she is studying for an Associate Degree in Law (Paralegal Studies) and has set her sights on becoming a Law Clerk.

Ameer is actively involved in community leadership. She is a mentor with the Lighthouse Group's Sister Program; belongs to her firm's breakfast club program for young children; and runs her company's fundraising events.

Lesley Hart, a Director at Dawes & Vary Riordan, said: "Ameer is a wonderful example for younger people. She can show them how, with determination, compassion and a willingness to learn, you can grow as a person, grow your career and make a difference to your community."

Ameer said: *"Never think any less of yourself, and give everything a go, because you never know what you are capable of. I am doing things today that I would never have imagined I would be doing when I was younger."*

Training Awards (Certificate III & higher)



From left:
Jarrara Atkinson
Shaelyn Crowhurst
Shaneka Dooly

Shaneka Dooly enrolled with Ganbina in Year 7. "All the experiences I have had with Ganbina have been so valuable. They gave me confidence in who I am and what I can do," she said.

Shaneka is studying full-time for her Bachelor of Human Services/Master of Social Work at La Trobe University. She regularly delivers Welcome to Country and Acknowledgement of Country speeches at major university events; and has worked within the University's Accommodation Services team helping students with accommodation supports.

When she graduates in 2022, Shaneka wants to work in the family services sector with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people.

Cora Best, the Indigenous Academic Enrichment Coordinator at La Trobe University Shepparton, said: "Shaneka is a role model for her student peers and will be a great advocate for Aboriginal children and her community."

Employment Awards



Twenty-one year old Chloe Jones is passionate about Aboriginal culture, community and art, and has combined these in her career.

After graduating from Mooroopna Secondary College, Chloe undertook VET business studies and launched her own online business, Dungala Creations. The business features Chloe's own artworks as well as a range of ceramics and homewares. She also works at Kaiela Arts Shepparton where she runs cultural and arts sessions.

Chloe volunteers with The Healing Foundation and she is a mentor to young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander teenage girls at Rumbalara. Chloe said that Ganbina's Leadership Program had given her a huge boost. "Ganbina has given me incredible opportunities. If it wasn't for them, there's no way I'd be where I am today."

Next year, Chloe hopes to study at university in Melbourne and complete an undergraduate degree in Indigenous and cultural studies as well as marketing and communications. Her dream is to open her own art gallery.



From left:
Ameer Henningsen
Dayna Seymour
Klarindah Hudson

On the radar

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| 10 January | Melbourne Office Opens |
| 24 January | Shepparton Office Opens |
| 24 January | Education, Employment and Training Program – Enrolments Open |
| 1 February | Primary School Scholarships – Applications Open |
| 21 February | Youth Leadership Program – Applications Open |
| 21 February | Youth Leadership Program – Information Session |
| 25 February | Primary School Scholarships – Applications Close |
| 28 February | Youth Leadership – Year 12 Goal Setting |
| 4 March | Youth Leadership Program – Applications Close |
| 11 March | Youth Leadership Program – Year 10 Induction |
| 12 March | Youth Leadership Program – Year 10 Team Building |
| 15 March | Youth Leadership Program – Year 11 Goal Setting |
| 21 March | Youth Leadership Program – Year 10 Kicking Goals |
| 26 March | Youth Leadership Program – Year 11 & 12 Team Building |
| 28 March | Youth Leadership Program – Year 12 Travel Prep |