

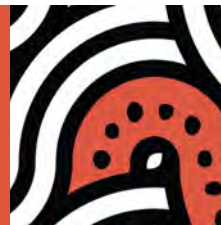


# Polly Farmer Foundation

## 2025 PFF Follow the Dream Alumni Scholarship Recipients



# Polly Farmer Foundation Scholarships



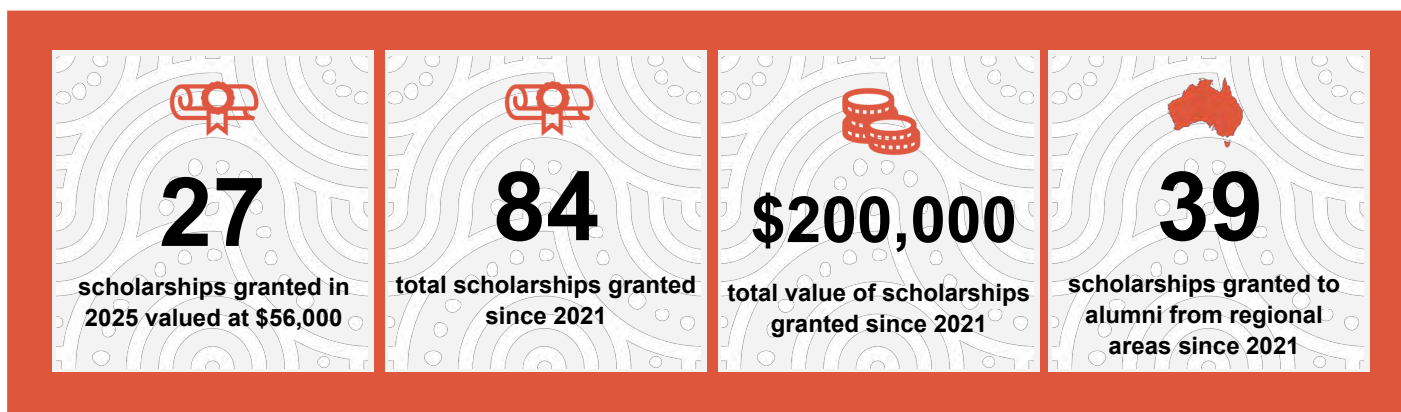
The Polly Farmer Foundation Scholarships support Follow the Dream alumni who are enrolled in full-time tertiary courses across Australia and are registered alumni of the Foundation's Follow the Dream program.

In 2025, a record \$56,000 in scholarship funding has been awarded to 27 recipients, with individual scholarships valued at up to \$3,000. The scholarship program is proudly supported by BHP, Worley, Monadelphous, Mitsui Iron Ore Development, and Rio Tinto, along with three new partners in 2025: Jalbi, Green Values, and Pacific Energy.

Scholarship allocations are determined by a dedicated committee and are awarded based on course of study, financial circumstances, the need to relocate from regional areas, and whether the applicant has previously received support.

Of the 27 recipients this year, 17 are from regional areas and are studying away from home. Fields of study include Education, Psychology, Biomedical Science, Medicine, Social and Community Work, Commerce, Agriculture, Science, the Aboriginal Orientation Course, and various Certificate III programs.

Since the scholarship program's inception in 2021, the Polly Farmer Foundation and its alumni partners have awarded a total of 84 scholarships, valued at \$200,000.





## 2025 Scholarship recipients

Student	FTD Program (School)	Institution	Course
Amy Gribble	Mt Barker Community College	Curtin	Education (Primary)
Georgia Gribble	Albany Senior High School	ECU	Psychology, Criminology & Justice
Imogen John	Broome Senior High School	UWA	Biological Science
Keisha Molyneux	Broome Senior High School	ECU	Education (Early Childhood)
Larnie Williams	Manea Senior College (Bunbury)	ECU	Social Work
Matthew Rundle	Eastern Goldfields College (Kalgoorlie)	UWA	Biomedical Science
Teylan Rogers	Denmark Senior High School	Murdoch	Agricultural Science
Robin Lyndon	Karratha Senior High School	Curtin	Psychology
Jayda Key	Duncraig Senior High School	ECU	Biomedical Science
Cayden McDermott	Mindarie Senior College	USC	Prosthetics and Orthotics
Kyle Hill-McNally	Swan View Senior High School	UWA	Biomedical Science
Ethan Bedford-Van Parreren	Northern Bay College (Geelong)	Gordon TAFE (Geelong)	Cert III Plumbing
Shelby Brookes	Gilmore College	South Metro TAFE	Cert III Community Services
Matilda Harris	Gilmore College	North Metro TAFE	Cert III Screen & Media (Animation)
Charlize Manado	Geraldton Senior High School	CQU (Geraldton)	Education (Secondary)
Aprile Narrier	Sevenoaks Senior College	Curtin	ITEC S1 & Education S2
Mackenzie Wallam	Katanning Senior High School	Training Alliance RTO	Cert III Civil Construction
Jai Spencer	Esperance Senior High School	UWA	Sport Science
Jasmine John	Broome Senior High School	Curtin	Science (Occupational Therapy)
Jasmin Bentink	Albany Senior High School	UWA	Environmental Science
Talia Cook	Champion Bay Senior High School	Curtin	Commerce
Claudia Walton-McDermott	Perth Modern	UWA	Medicine
Brittney Andrews	Mt Lawley Senior High School	Uni Melbourne	Medicine
Taleah Ugle	Albany Senior High School	UWA	Science (Anatomy & Human Biology)
Kirby Hobbs	Como Secondary College	UWA	Biomedical Science
Matilda Moore	Centralian Senior College (Alice Springs)	USQ	Biomedical Science
Kirana Lockyer	Broome Senior High School	UWA	Medicine



Monadelphous



## Amy Gribble

**Mt Barker Community College**

**Bachelor of Education (Primary), Curtin University**

I am currently enrolled in a Bachelor of Education (Primary Education) at Curtin University and have been enrolled since Semester 2, 2024. I started Follow the Dream in 2017 (Year 7) and continued in Follow the Dream until my final year in 2022. Follow the Dream helped me with all of my studies in high school. They provided me with support for my specific studies, study habits, networking opportunities, and a chance to connect with my community outside of the classroom.

The program provided me with opportunities to attend camps such as University Camps, the Indigenous Australian Engineering School and other local Follow the Dream events to meet more of my community and network externally. During Follow the Dream, I worked closely with Mt Barker FTD Champion Sarah Taylor, who also did her teaching degree through Curtin University. She would encourage me to help the younger students with their schoolwork in Follow the Dream, as well as to volunteer for tutoring with younger Indigenous kids and to be part of the student council. Her guidance led me towards a teaching pathway and I still look to her as a mentor even past graduation. I still keep in contact with people I met in Follow the Dream, at camps and some of the tutors and volunteers who devoted their time to this program.

I would use the funds towards my current degree costs. Primarily, technology, textbooks, course fees and other resources that are required for my course. I currently fund all of my own resources for my studies, and the combined costs can become costly each semester. This scholarship would help to ease some of the financial pressure with studying, and would put me in a position to focus solely on my education and completing my degree.



## Georgia Gribble

**Albany Senior High School**

**Bachelor of Psychology (Criminology and Justice), ECU**

I will be engaging in a Bachelor of Psychology, Criminology and Justice course full time at ECU starting Semester 1 2025. Follow the Dream was a huge part of my teenage and high school years. With the program, I was able to get 1:1 tutoring with teachers who catered to my learning style, which improved my grades and helped me get into university. Follow the Dream also provided opportunities to attend camps with UWA, where I connected with other Aboriginal students, created a community, and formed lifelong friendships. Career camps helped me explore university options and broaden my perspective.

Follow the Dream changed my life for the better, providing support and opportunities that I will always cherish. A portion of this funding would go towards a new laptop, allowing me to study outside of a library and home environment. I currently borrow laptops and keep everything on USB drives.

Funding would also cover study materials like printers and textbooks, enhancing my studies. This degree would enhance my skillset and knowledge around people in the justice system. With this degree, I would like to continue my work in the social services sector in a more frontline role and helping kids - specifically young Aboriginal kids - to achieve positive outcomes and help to keep them out of the justice system.





## Imogen John

**Broome Senior High School**

**Bachelor of Biomedical Science, UWA**

In 2025 I will be undertaking my first year of undergraduate study towards a Bachelor of Biological Sciences (Biodiversity and Evolutionary Development). The Follow the Dream program was a huge part of me achieving my ATAR score of 95.7. As a junior at Broome Senior, I attended this afterschool program for the feed and to muck around after school with my mates. At the time, I lived out on a bush block with no aircon, this program provided an extra hour in comfort during hot days. By year 11, I was attending the program nearly every day. My non-ATAR friends attended sometimes but for me it was crucial to go as I was able to keep my study load down. I was able to keep up to date with my studies whilst fostering

relationships with my teachers. The coordinator Mr Gray's influence made me go out and use my initiative to ask my teachers for support in my work, an action I would not have normally done. Year 12 came and I was attending religiously. If I wasn't there, it generally meant that I wasn't even at school that day. This program was a quiet, safe place where I could focus on my studies without the distractions at home.

I also attended many camps for Follow the Dream. Including the junior, 'Whistle Creek Camp,' which served as my first impression of the program and helped me foster friendships that have lasted till today. I also went to Perth for the Aspire Camp and another camp in which we explored our opportunities as young Indigenous people entering the world of university. This experience helped me in making my decision to further my studies at UWA. This scholarship will help me fund my tertiary studies. During high school, I found out just how much I truly love biology and aspire to make it my future. This scholarship will break the financial barriers I experience, such as buying required equipment, transport, etc. thus allowing me to focus on my studies and opportunities. I want to have a career in the biological science field. Through my tertiary studies I will further explore my interests in ecology, zoology, genetics, etc. Enhanced by years of living on a bush block the biological aspect of life excites me. In my future I can see myself working out on the field, revealing the secrets present in nature or further developing my understanding of life in a lab.

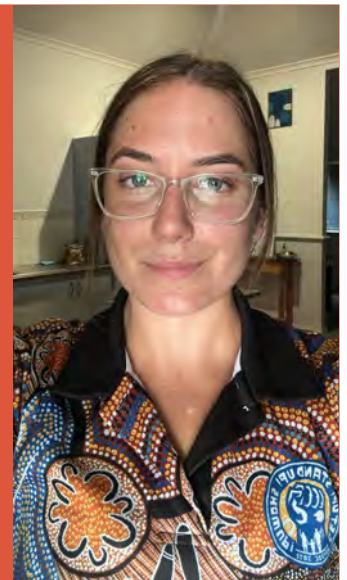
## Keisha Molyneux

**Broome Senior High School**

**Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood), ECU**

Throughout the duration of 2025 I will be undertaking the second year of my Bachelor of Education in Early childhood studies at ECU. I am currently enrolled as a full-time online student as I live rurally in Broome. While completing high school particularly years 11 and 12, I regularly used the Follow the Dream program to seek help, guidance and support which allowed me to successfully graduate. When needing help with specific subjects teachers would come along to the program to assist and help me with assignments and content taught in class. Follow the Dream taught me that it is okay to ask for help and seek it when you need to. Through the knowledge and study habits of attending the program it has allowed me to continue onto tertiary studies.

By receiving the Follow the Dream alumni scholarship I will be able to purchase items such as the university polo shirts to wear during my practical placements and textbooks that are needed throughout my degree. Most importantly the scholarship will help me with purchasing certain technology, as a fulltime online student it is important that I constantly have a working laptop so that I am able to listen to my lectures, join live tutorials and complete assignments. I would also be able to access software's such as Grammarly to help me with finalising drafts to submit. I believe the Follow the Dream alumni scholarship will ensure that I have constant drive and motivation to persevere and keep going when I am faced with challenges over the duration of completing my Bachelor of Education.





## Larnie Williams

**Manea Senior College (Bunbury)**

**Bachelor of Social Work, ECU (Southwest Campus)**

I am extremely excited to start my study of social work this year as I am passionate about helping others and giving back to my community. Upon completion of my studies, I aim to move up north and undertake work in a remote Aboriginal community as a youth program manager, encouraging kids to pursue their learning and play, as well as providing the upcoming youth with age-appropriate activities to encourage them to find a wider purpose in life. Attending high school on an ATAR pathway as a child to a single parent, Follow the Dream was immensely helpful for my studies and I am so grateful I was able to be a part of the program. In 2023 Follow the Dream sponsored me to go on a cultural trip to Yandeyarra remote Aboriginal community through school. Through this sponsorship, the trip opened my eyes to my future career aspirations, working with Aboriginal children in remote communities, giving me a sense of purpose in my teenage years, as I had discovered what I wanted to do in my future.



As well as inspiring my future, Follow the Dream career camps I attended allowed me to understand what I did and did not want to do as a full-time job. By providing us with immense career opportunities through exhibition days, and camps which we were privileged to tour and immerse ourselves with places such as Rio Tinto, BHP and Monadelphous. The help tutors throughout years 11 and 12 allowed me to excel in high school, contributing to my graduation of year 12 with merit and being top of the class in geography. Due to the continued support I received, I now tutor through Follow the Dream, to help kids to achieve their full potential, just as I was encouraged the past two years. The scholarship will help to alleviate the financial burden of my course fees for my university degree. Extra financial help will aid to cover costs of fuel and general living expenses while studying, allowing me to work my casual job less, giving me more time to focus on my studies to achieve a greater result.



## Robin Lyndon

**Karratha Senior High School**

**Bachelor of Psychology, Curtin**

I am enrolled in a bachelor of psychology at Curtin University in Bentley. This course will take a minimum of 4 years to complete and up to 6 years if I decide to pursue masters degree. The Gumala Mirnuwarni program was the biggest support I had throughout high school. When I first joined in year 7 I met my greatest supporter and mentor, in year 9 is when I started to attend frequently after a year long break. Every afternoon I was met with staff that I was able to unwind with and that would tirelessly help me with whatever work I needed to complete. Karratha Senior Highschool's follow the dream wasn't just a tutoring program for me, it offered me a family outside of my own. It taught me how to grow as a person not

only academically but emotionally, I developed study skills as well as interpersonal skills that helped me create life long bonds between myself and my educators. Karratha's Gumala Mirnuwarni program has helped me become the person I am today, allowing me to become the first person in my family to attend university while still holding that amazing support system.

If I am to receive funding from this scholarship I would use it to help pay for my tuition and accommodation. Having to move away from my family has been a huge challenge for me. I've had to figure out how to live for myself which I have found doesn't come overnight. I would hope to pay off my tuition to help relieve some of the financial strain that has been put on not only myself but my family members. This scholarship is my financial stability throughout my degree. I plan on using it to pay of my tuition fees in order to ensure I'm able to continue to be enrolled in my current course without risking my enrolment



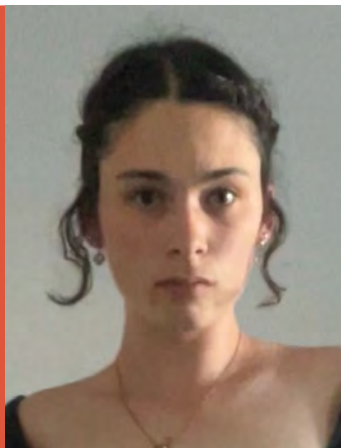
## **Teylan Rogers**

**Denmark Senior High School**

**Bachelor of Agricultural Science (Animal Science), Murdoch**

I've chosen to study this course to further my education next year into a Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine, as I have a passion for helping animals and Wildlife of all kinds and want to be able to give back to the environment. Follow the Dream has been an amazing impact on me all throughout high school. I had a safe space to study with amazing students and very helpful staff. Follow the Dream has given me many opportunities and experience which were limitless. Follow the dream was the drive for me to go to University, and where I found my love to learn. If the scholarship were to be awarded, I would utilise the funding to essentially 'survive' whilst attending University. The degree I have chosen needs all of my focus and attention and to have some money to buy some food, equipment for tertiary education, and living away from home would help me substantially.

I will gain educational experience with this scholarship, by finishing my degree to then be able to travel and learn about different treatments and how to help any and all animals across the world. The scholarship will enable this success as I cannot financially sustain myself at university in this economy, I'm living away from home so the scholarship will help with living costs and enable me a little bit of sustainability with finance to be able to get through this year. I am also looking for a casual or part time jobs just for a little bit of saving money.



## **Matthew Rundle**

**Eastern Goldfields College (Kalgoorlie)**

**Bachelor of Biomedical Science, UWA**

In 2025 I will be engaged in University at UWA. I am enrolled full time, 4 units per semester in Bachelor of Biomedical Science and I am majoring in Biochemistry for Semesters 1 and 2. In Follow the dream I would often practise studying my maths methods, chemistry, and human biology subjects. there were really knowledgeable tutors in those areas, including medical students coming from the hospital after work. I made the most out of it there to study early and score high grades in my exams. a few minutes before starting the session we would have a feed and get the chance to talk with the other

students or even the tutors if they were there about our day and make new friends that I still have to this day. At follow the dream the tutors would often talk about their careers since I was still deciding what I wanted to do in the future and the medical students there inspired me about their good and bad stories of helping people and what it was like to study at university and that's when I realised I wanted to study at UWA since it sounded amazing to use such advanced technology that applied any chemistry or biology knowledge I had to the real world.

I will use the funding provided to go towards course fees, equipment and resources such as textbooks, printing and notebooks pens, laboratory equipment such as a lab coat, and transport to and from the city or shops whenever I am in need of anything. The scholarship will enable me to get the right equipment I need to complete by bachelor's degree and with that I will want to use that knowledge in the future to apply for and study medicine to become a doctor.



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## Jayda Key

**Duncraig Senior High School**  
**Bachelor of Biomedical Science, ECU**

Having been a part of the Follow the Dream program has been invaluable to my experience at high school and has eased my transition into my tertiary education. The program enabled me to excel academically through engaging with the tutoring services provided which was instrumental in assisting with and understanding my ATAR courses. Furthermore, the program allowed me to connect and interact with my peers and culture which built a strong community and network to support me and my needs that I otherwise wouldn't have had. Additionally, the university campus tours and camps I attended were extremely beneficial in making an informed decision regarding which university best suited my needs and where I would like to complete my studies, as well as giving valuable insights into the support each university provides to their Indigenous students.

The funding will be allocated to my course's unit fees, textbooks, essential laboratory equipment (such as lab coats, glasses and safety materials), stationery and transport costs travelling to and from university. The scholarship will provide crucial financial support, allowing me to focus on my studies and develop a deeper understanding of my unit coursework. With a long-term goal of being accepted into a postgraduate program to complete my masters, this funding will ensure I have adequate access to the necessary resources I need to succeed. With this financial support, I could undertake unpaid internships, research projects, or volunteer opportunities, deepening my understanding of niche aspects of my degree that I may not have had the financial security to partake in without. These opportunities would enhance my resume and provide me with hands-on experiences in specialised fields of study that I would not have otherwise been able to explore.



## Cayden McDermott

**Mindarie Senior College**  
**Bachelor of Prosthetics and Orthotics, Uni of Sunshine Coast**

The Follow the Dream program helped me significantly through my final high school years. I joined the program when I was in Year 11 and was unable to walk due to having had a below-knee amputation during Year 10. During this period, I met Tina (Follow the Dream coordinator), who went above and beyond to help me. Tina first helped me find a fitting school pathway, connecting me to an online schooling program where I could complete year 11 whilst attending multiple

hospital appointments each week. After completing year 11, I was able to go back to attending a local school, where I met up with Tina again and discussed my future career pathway. She assisted me in contacting multiple WA universities and inter-state universities, encouraging me to explore my options and then find the course and pathway to get into my future line of work, which I'm still following to this day.

To complete my degree, I have had to move interstate as my course is only offered in two universities Australia-wide. This has come with a significant financial burden from moving interstate and setting up in Queensland. The funds provided by this scholarship will be used to cover the cost of rent, food, and university supplies such as books, PPE, and uniforms. It will also contribute to the running cost of my car, which is vital to attending my classes and medical appointments as an amputee. This scholarship will assist me in completing my studies and ultimately becoming a prosthetist. The financial burden of moving interstate and supporting myself through university is significant. In this course, there is also the added burden of completing placements. Placements require full-time hours, making working in a paid job difficult. Also, due to the specialised nature of this job, placements require travel to other areas of the state or country and, consequently, additional travel and accommodation costs. This scholarship will assist in these costs, as well as living costs, and potentially prevent me from deferring a semester due to financial strain, a common occurrence for students in this course. In turn, this allows me to pursue my career sooner and achieve my goal of helping Indigenous people in remote areas get access to prosthetics and orthotics and contributing to improving their quality of life and healthcare experience.



## Kyle Hill-McNally

Swan View Senior High School

Bachelor of Biomedical Sciences, UWA

My time in Follow the Dream has assisted and guided me in many ways. I attended the after school program for all of my years in secondary education, from year 7 to 12, reaching the highest attendance in it across the majority of my years. Follow the Dream set me a foundation of consistency regarding my studies, allowing me to approach high school work with an air of enjoyment. This was due to two main reasons: the program granted me close friends and mentor-like staff members, and it provided me with the resources required to achieve the best grades I could. The effects of the program can be seen today, not only with its ability to greatly assist me in the pursuit of monetary assistance in tertiary education via the means of scholarship applications, but also as a result of the "foundation of consistency" being now so deep-rooted within my personality that I continue my studious behaviour within every facet of life. The program has constructed me to be a person who will be invariably dedicated to his education, his professional life, and his personal wellbeing.

I will use this scholarship funding to cover a range of amenities, necessary products, and resources during my time at university. This includes tuition costs, transport costs, resources for extra reading within my studies, reducing my HECS debt after I graduate, stationery, technology for studies (including a tablet due to its mobile/easily-transportable mobile nature, this was a recommended purchase by unit coordinators), as well as professional development (e.g. career-building excursions such as career expos, networking opportunities, worksite visits). Costs associated with my accommodation at St. Catherine's College (Crawley campus). Access to scholarships would greatly benefit my educational and professional opportunities. For my education, it would allow me to purchase technology for study purposes (e.g. a tablet, as mentioned earlier), I could purchase reading resources such as textbooks and relevant film studies, and it would permit a reduction in my HECS debt once I graduate. For my career and professional life, it would allow me to attend professional development events and opportunities. I would become a more-rounded person as a result of attending a wider range of events, allowing me to connect with more people in a more deep-seated fashion. Networking opportunities, such as worksite visits and career expo events, would be far more accessible with scholarship funds to gain entry and transport to any events.



## Ethan Bedford-Van Parreren

Northern Bay College (Geelong)

Certificate III in Plumbing, Eastern Geelong) TAFE

I am currently studying a Certificate III in Plumbing. I am a first year apprentice plumber, this is a 4 year program with a requirement to spend a full week once a month on campus. This schooling includes both practical application work (covering learning to use correct tools and safe work practices) as well as theory class learning.

FTD program coordinator Kylie Clarke came to our school in 2024 and I was welcomed as the first student into the Poly Farmer Foundation program at Northern Bay College Goldsworthy Campus. Kylie asked what I was interested in

- both in and out of school. Kylie offered to support my classes as I was struggling in english and maths, she then arranged tutors to assist me to catch up and work through class assignments. Kylie was also very good just being there to listen and offer some well thought out advice. This was very helpful and gave me the confidence I needed to apply for a job opportunity. Kylie then reached out to her local network of contacts when I applied, so my application wasn't missed. This was initially to gain a certificate 4 traineeship in construction but after 3 weeks of doing this training I was offered the opportunity to be an apprentice plumber which was my chosen dream job! I am currently working at the Nyaal Banyul Geelong Convention and Event Centre as a First Year mechanical Plumber with a host company A.G Coombs. The funding will replace some of the money I have already spent to purchase all the tools I need for trade school as well as covering some transport costs to get there, the scholarship will assist me to begin my trade school journey to becoming a qualified licensed plumber.

## Shelby Brookes

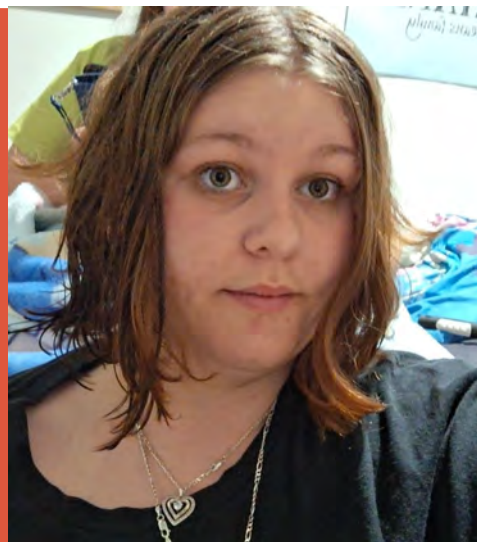
**Gilmore College**

**Certificate III Community Services, South Metro TAFE**

I will be studying Community Services Certificate III in Semester 1, and I intend to continue on to complete a Cert IV in Community Services or Cert III in Childcare. Eventually, I would like to pursue a career in Youth Work and achieve my qualifications for that field when I am old enough.

I started Follow the Dream at Gilmore College in year 7, and I don't believe I would've completed most of my assessments without the help of the program. While I didn't necessarily always need extra help, I was glad to always have the extra support when I needed it. Follow the Dream helped me to connect to my school community as well as my Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peers. I feel that I would not have made friends with a lot of the people I have without the program. Follow the Dream gave me lots of additional opportunities and experiences that allowed me to chase my goals and craft my career path.

The funds I receive from this scholarship will go towards paying for my course fees as I continue through TAFE. Any extra funds will go towards school items such as stationery, books, and transport. The scholarship will allow me to gain the education I need to pursue my final career goal of becoming a youth worker, which is a dream I discovered through my time at Follow the Dream. The funds for the scholarship will allow me to seek out extra courses that will get me ahead before I study a certificate in Youth Work, making me more qualified for the job. As I will also be studying Childcare, this will give me an alternate career path that I can utilise in the meantime. This scholarship will make my time studying much easier and decrease the financial strain I would feel otherwise.



## Matilda Harris

**Gilmore College**

**Certificate III in Screen and Media (Animation & Game Art), North Metro TAFE**

My end goal is to complete my Diploma of Screen and Media (Animation and Game Art) to become a professional character designer for video games or other media. I chose to study this course as it's been a long term dream of mine to study Art and this course contains everything I want to learn and all the skills I wish to develop. I have been in Gilmore College's Follow the

Dream program since year 7, where I attended the program alongside both my older siblings. Later, my younger sister also joined us in the program. My family is heavily involved in Follow the Dream at the school, and my Mum is on the POG committee helping contribute to the student learning experiences. I feel that I would not have passed many of my classes without the support of Follow the Dream, and they gave me so many opportunities to grow and follow my chosen career path. Follow the Dream helped me pass year 12 by providing extra tutoring sessions for Human Biology, and also helped me feel more like I belonged to the school community by strengthening my bond with the youth workers, EAs and teachers.

I will use a chunk of the money to pay for my Diploma. Other uses for the funds would be to upgrade my computer and hard drive, allowing me to create more high-quality art and practice to refine my skills and with the materials and equipment I need to be successful in my field. These courses will progress my learning about character art and design, and will allow me to refine my skills to pursue the job I want.



## Charlize Manado

**Geraldton Senior High School**

**Bachelor of Education (Secondary), CQ University**

In 2025, I am studying for my Bachelor of Education (Secondary) with CQ University at the Geraldton Universities Centre. My time at Follow the Dream was great. I had terrific tutors who helped me thrive throughout high school. I was lucky to have gone on many trips and had the opportunity to work with a scientist to do a presentation at Hamelin Pool, which gave me more insight into other career paths. Now that I am studying to become a teacher, I would also love to have a full circle moment where I become a tutor for Follow the Dream to help young kids like myself. I will gain a Bachelor of Education (Secondary), which I have always wanted to achieve. A teaching degree will give me many more career development opportunities than just teaching, such as leadership development/roles and opportunities to volunteer with programs such as Follow the Dream.

I am based at GUC in Geraldton, and we study through CQ University in Queensland. For my Bachelor of Education (Secondary), I must travel to Queensland every term for residential school, which means I will need to pay for flights, accommodation, and food. The funding will help me with all those things. I have also changed my full-time job to a casual one, so the funds will help with living costs and HECS.



## Mackenzie Wallam

**Katanning Senior High School**

**Cert III civil Construction plant operations,  
Training Alliance RTO**

I will be engaged in full time Tafe doing the Cert III civil Construction plant operations course [through the ABV]. Throughout this course, skills I will gain:

- Planning, communicating and organising work
- Reading and interpreting plans and specifications
- First Aid, worksite health and safety, hazard identification and risk management
- Working at heights
- Operating a skid steer, excavator and front-end loader
- Using hand and power tools
- Preparing, excavating and maintaining civil construction sites
- Resource and infrastructure management

I want to study and complete this course to better myself and find job opportunities such as in the mining industry, Perth construction employment/apprenticeships etc. Follow the Dream has supported me throughout high school, helping me with assessments, classes and career opportunities, they helped me graduate yr 11 and yr 12, alongside my classmates, the in-school tutors and program coordinator helped me to achieve as much as I possibly could which has created awesome opportunities for me in and out of high school. Even after school Follow the Dream continues to support me. I've enjoyed my time at Follow the Dream, I felt connected and supported with my fellow students, tutors and coordinator. I really enjoyed the fun and educational camps I've been on that helped me see my different 'after school' options. I will use the scholarship funding for the course costs, uniform costs, PPE costs and transport/fuel costs.





## **Aprile Narrier**

### **Sevenoaks Senior College**

### **Aboriginal Bridging Course, Curtin University**

This year I will start my bridging course at Curtin University for 6 months to get the requirements to officially start a full time degree in primary education. Follow the Dream has helped me become a more confident and empowered young woman. I was part of the Follow the Dream program at Northam SHS with Joe Manning and finished off at Sevenoaks Senior College with Dr Jennet Hansen. Jennet helped me prepare for the role of head girl at Sevenoaks senior college and I worked hard as one of the students council committee and became one of the two girls who got accepted into the head girl role. Joe and Jennet have helped me work through the good and bad times of high school and keep pushing me to the end, and I couldn't have been more grateful to be part of programs such as Follow the Dream where I thrived and embraced myself culturally and mentally.

This scholarship will help me get the resources required to get through my time at university, including new and approved equipment and resources like pen, pencils and many more to help me thrive in university as well as my transport throughout my duration. With the supported scholarship from the Follow the Dream program I will thrive and accomplish the degree of primary education and become an educator for younger ones so they can have the knowledge and support to thrive throughout their primary years of education.

## **Jasmin Bentink**

### **Albany Senior High School**

### **Bachelor of Environmental Science, UWA**

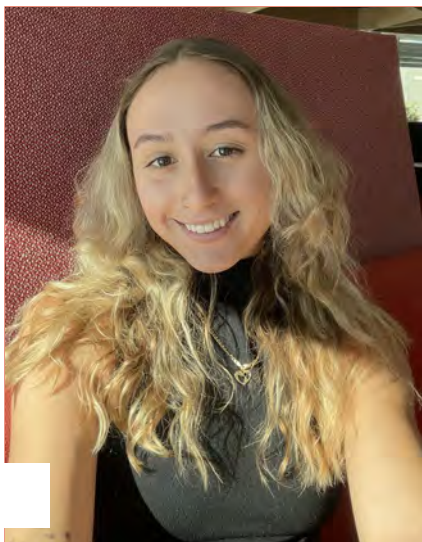
My journey into tertiary education was shaped by my participation in the Follow the Dream program, which provided me with vital academic support and personal encouragement throughout my high school years. One of the most impactful experiences in this program was attending the Careers Camp in year 8, where I visited the University of Western Australia and learned about pursuing environmental science as a career. This opportunity gave me a sense of direction and a clear goal for my future. Additionally, the program fostered a culturally safe learning environment that helped me build confidence, motivated me to set ambitious goals, and provided me with tools to excel academically. It also exposed me to mentors and peers who inspired me to persevere and explore opportunities beyond my comfort zone. In many ways, Follow the Dream laid the foundation for my academic achievements and career aspirations, instilling in me the belief that I could succeed in higher education and beyond.



Receiving this scholarship would be helpful in supporting my academic progress and professional development. The funding would help cover essential costs, including course fees, living expenses, and professional development opportunities. I have been selected as one of 200 participants for this year's National Youth Leadership Forum in Canberra, which has a registration fee of \$2,190 in addition to travel and accommodation expenses. Furthermore, I have been invited to attend key industry events such as the AusIMM Life of Mine Conference in Brisbane and the Goldfields Environmental Management Group Conference in Kalgoorlie. These conferences will require funding to cover flights, and accommodation. Participation in such events will enhance my leadership skills, industry knowledge, and professional network, all of which are crucial to securing future employment in my chosen field.







## Jasmine John

**Broome Senior High School**

**Bachelor of Science (Occupational Therapy), Curtin**

During high school Follow the Dream was a sanctuary of support, it provided me with the resources and guidance required to get to university. The teachers and tutors were very helpful in supporting my education, and the comfort of knowing I would have food available while I studied after school was amazing. Coming from a family of 5 children my home was very chaotic, further we lived on a bush block out of town. I lived in a caravan and during the hot days of Broome weather, I faced sitting at my small table in humid heat with only a fan. This environment made it extremely difficult to study and so the Follow the Dream program provided a cool, comforting space for me to study. Without the Follow the Dream program at Broome Senior High school, I don't know if my ATAR results would have provided me with so many opportunities that I have

had. Further, when I moved down for university studies in 2021, I began FTD tutoring at Shenton and Fremantle College. At Shenton I ended up tutoring two students from Broome, which comforted me in being so far from home. The opportunity to provide the same support I received was very fulfilling. Overall, Follow the Dream has been an amazing source of support and comfort and assisted me in a range of different areas.

Through receiving this scholarship, I will be able to ensure I attend all placements and have the correct documentation and uniform. This will expand my experience and knowledge of clinical Occupational Therapy practice, further improving my abilities professionally and personally. Paying for transport costs, textbooks and notebooks with this scholarship would remove any financial stress and allow me to focus on my education. The opportunity to attend class and placements with no stress about paying for the required resources would support my overall education and career development. It would allow me to focus purely on my study and I know financials is something that has hindered my learning opportunities in the past.

## Jai Spencer

**Esperance Senior High School**

**Bachelor of Sports and Exercise Sciences, UWA**

In 2025, I'll be studying a Bachelor of Sports and Exercise Sciences at the University of Western Australia, enrolled full-time for my 3rd year. I chose this course because I've always been passionate about sports, human movement, and how the body works. I love the idea of helping people improve their performance, recover from injuries, and stay active. This degree is the first step toward a career where I can make a real difference in people's lives through sports science. Follow the Dream played a huge role in shaping my education and personal growth. The program provided me with invaluable guidance, academic support, and encouragement, which motivated me to push myself and strive for success. It helped me develop better study habits, stay focused on my goals, and gain confidence in my abilities. The mentors and resources available through the program made a real difference during high school, ensuring I stayed on track even when things felt challenging. Beyond academics, Follow the Dream also showed me the possibilities that higher education could offer, inspiring me to aim higher. Without that support, I may have never considered university as an option.

I'll use the scholarship funds to help cover important study costs like textbooks, learning materials, and equipment. It would also help with transportation expenses, making it easier for me to get to and from university, and contribute to living costs so I can focus more on my studies without financial stress. This support would make a big difference in allowing me to fully commit to my education and future career. This scholarship would take off a lot of financial pressure and allow me to put more energy into my studies and career development.





## Talia Cook

**Champion Bay Senior High School**  
**Bachelor of Commerce (Business and Law), Curtin**

My time with Follow the Dream began in year 9 at John Willcock College now known as Champion Bay Senior High School. I was pre-extension in every other subject except for math's, where I was already in extension class. Follow the Dream helped me move into an extension stream of all subjects within a term's time, with the support and with the guidance of my program coordinator and tutors they helped me through an ATAR pathway during the COVID Pandemic. It also helped me develop skills such as public speaking, teaching, self guided study - which was a skill I heavily lacked. After graduation Follow the Dream also helped me, by offering a tutor position during my bridging course in 2022, giving me the

opportunity to give back to the amazing program that helped support me during my high school experience.

The scholarship will be used for living expenses, such as food, clothes and for the laundry machines at my accommodation as the weekly cost of washing and drying one load is \$10! It will also be used to pay for my data plan to help me keep in contact with my family as I am a regional student who relocated to Perth. The scholarship will help me focus on my studies as the support will relieve financial stresses, I can focus on my studies, college engagement, internship opportunities, volunteering, and maintaining a work-life balance. The college that I live at takes college participation into account when considering reapplication for the next year.



## Kirana Lockyer

**Broome Senior High School**  
**Doctor of Medicine, UWA**

I'm currently in my 3<sup>rd</sup> year of medicine studying at UWA and I've been given the opportunity to do my placement down south in Bunbury. It has been an absolute privilege and a pleasure to be able to study rurally and do my placement in a hospital that is outside of the city. I have really enjoyed the experience and I'm learning a lot from this year so far. I would say this is the first time while studying in medicine that I feel like I'm doing well. It's definitely challenging but I've been putting in a lot of hours and hard work into making the most out of the year.

Once again, I appreciate the ongoing support from FTD and hope to stay involved as much as I can. I am a proud Ngarluma and Kariyarra man born in the town of Port Hedland. My aim is to become a Rural GP so that I can make a difference in the outcomes for my people. Follow the Dream has been with me every step of the way in my journey, from high school to now in my tertiary studies. At Broome Senior High School I used to just go everyday after school because I had friends that would also go (and the food wasn't bad either). During my final years it helped me to study my ATAR subject after class, which I probably wouldn't have done at home. The continued support throughout my journey has helped to provide opportunity for learning, financial support, connecting me with the FTD community by networking with potential employers, sponsors and other uni students in the same boat as me.

With the help of this scholarship I am able to pay for text books, online resources, stationery that is essential for study. While also allowing me to do overseas travel through volunteer programs where I can develop my skills as a future health expert. I hope to engage in more overseas travel to countries with less favourable health outcomes, allowing me to gain insights beyond Australia and acquire skills that I can bring back into my practise. I also plan to do some conferences during the year which may involve travel interstate.





## Brittney Andrews

**Mt Lawley Senior High School**

**Doctor of Medicine, University of Melbourne**

I am a 3rd year Doctor of Medicine student at the University of Melbourne. Follow the Dream played a pivotal role in motivating and encouraging me to pursue tertiary education, even when I didn't believe it was an option for me. Thanks to FTD I was the first person in my family to graduate from high school, attend university and earn a Bachelors degree. I am now studying at what is considered to be one the most prestigious medical schools in Australia, and I owe much of that to the opportunities FTD opened up for me. Tina Deegan, my Follow the Dream coordinator, was like a second mother to me. She guided me

through the challenges of high school and was there for me when I needed support. She encouraged me to step out of my comfort zone by helping me apply for science camps, where I gained knowledge of other opportunities available to me, which I later made use of. FTD provided me with more than just academic support; it gave me the confidence, resources, and guidance to realise my potential and make my dreams of further education a reality. Without FTD, I would not be where I am today, and I will forever be grateful for the program's impact on my life.

Receiving this scholarship will provide me with educational development opportunities by alleviating some financial pressures, allowing me to fully focus on my medical studies. It will also allow me greater access to professional opportunities by providing me with the option of attending workshops, networking events or conferences that peak my interest. It would also allow me to purchase additional educational content and materials which will assist me in ensuring I am learning the necessary content effectively.

## Claudia Walton-McDermott

**Perth Modern**

**Doctor of Medicine, UWA**

I am enrolled in my final year of the Doctor of Medicine at the University of Western Australia. I have recently returned from my year at Broome Hospital studying with the rural clinical school. I began Follow the Dream at the end of Year 10. Perth Modern was a strong academic school, but with little to no cultural support and very few First Nations students it could be very isolating. Tina my Follow the Dream coordinator became one of my biggest supporters and helped me mentally and emotionally to achieve my ATAR in a very competitive and high-pressure environment. She helped me persevere in the tough times and guided me through the pathways to tertiary education. She also linked me into many tertiary supports that have continued to help as I have progressed through university. From Follow the Dream, as both a student and an alumni, I have continually been able to connect with mob and one of my favourite things is having done the camps as a student, and doing them as a mentor as well. Talking with the kids and forming connections is so rewarding, especially when I see their names at SIS or Dandjoo down the track and is so exciting for our future.

The help this scholarship provides is immense. The funds help me attend my placements which is the crux of my learning. Without attending I would learn neither the practical skills or theory required to be a good doctor and would not meet attendance requirements. The aid of this scholarship will allow me to complete my degree and return to the country to practice regional and remote medicine. I want to help mob on country and help people to stay in community while receiving high quality, culturally appropriate healthcare. Health is so much more than medications and with the support of this scholarship I can provide holistic healthcare that accounts for physical,





## **Kirby Hobbs**

**Como Secondary College**

**Bachelor of Biomedical Science, UWA**

I am studying a Bachelor of Biomedical Science majoring in Integrated Medical Science and Clinical Practice with direct entry into Doctor of Medicine. My time in Follow the Dream was an incredibly positive experience. I participated in the Follow the Dream program from year 7 until year 12 at Como Secondary College. Starting in the program at a young age helped me develop strong study habits and fostered a passion for learning, which motivated me to pursue university studies. Without Follow the Dream I would not have pursued ATAR studies and followed my passion for medicine. Learning with like-minded Indigenous students

created an environment where we encouraged and pushed each other throughout tutoring and also creating a safe space for learning opportunities outside of mainstream classes. I am currently a tutor for Follow the Dream at Bob Hawke and Belmont, where I focus on supporting ATAR students and assisting another student with their UniReady course. Having benefited from the program myself, I was inspired to return as a tutor to give back and help other students succeed.

I will use the scholarship funds to invest in medical textbooks and subscriptions to platforms like Osmosis and AMBOSS. As a visual learner, I find these resources invaluable for understanding anatomy concepts and improving my overall understanding of medicine. These tools detailed explanations, and clinical applications, which will enhance my learning and better prepare me for my future studies in healthcare. I would also use this scholarship to buy a stethoscope, tendon hammer, pen light and scrubs for in the future which we currently need for our clinical skill classes.

## **Matilda Moore**

**Centralian Senior College (Alice Springs)**

**Bachelor of Biomedical Science, Uni of Southern QLD**

The Follow the Dream program helped me continue my education to a tertiary level and allowed coming to school be enjoyable, and interaction with other likeminded students within the program. The scholarship will assist with living costs, including accommodation, food, and utilities, ensuring I can focus on my coursework and professional development without the added pressure of financial stress. Some funds will be used to purchase textbooks and other course-specific resources that are necessary for my laboratory residential schools.

By alleviating financial concerns, I will be able to devote more time and energy to my academic pursuits. This will allow me to excel in my studies, engage more deeply with course material, and participate in extracurricular academic activities that can broaden my learning and leadership experience. Being a recipient of this scholarship will allow me to have less financial stress and focus on my studies more. With this being my final year, my academic stress levels are higher than last year so lowering financial stress will be a huge benefit for me. The scholarship will not only ease financial burdens but also serve as a recognition of my potential, motivating me to continue striving for excellence in my academic and professional endeavours.





# Taleah Ugle

Albany Senior High School

Bachelor of Science (Anatomy & Human Biology), UWA

Follow the Dream helped me significantly throughout my secondary education. I found it extremely difficult to complete my work at home due to distractions as well as not having extra help from parents or older siblings due to barriers of level in education. I was the first to pursue the ATAR path in my family.

FTD also helped me establish connections to attend university through university camps such as Health UWA and Curtin Engineering camps. FTD also helped me interact with Indigenous people from the wider community by allowing all great southern schools to attend camps together as well as Indigenous leaders in the community to talk to us. Cultivating a thriving network of future Indigenous leaders with exceptional networks.

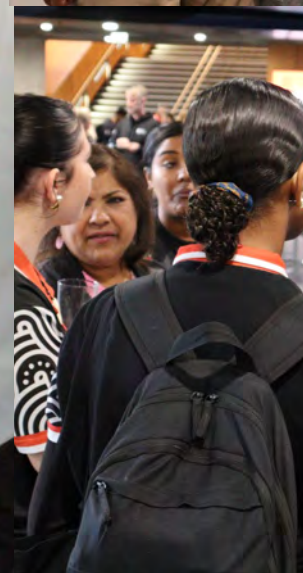
Having received this scholarship throughout my university studies has helped me significantly financially. Having financial freedom has eased the mind of not only myself but my family in which I'm the only person who has left Albany. Equipment and resources has also been a large expense. In the middle of 2023 my laptop was damaged and could not be repaired. It was assessment and exam season and all of my documents were on this computer. Thankfully the scholarship had come in a couple week prior and I was able to pay for a new laptop as well as to transfer all data from the old to new laptop.

Indirectly, this scholarship has also helped me to be more leadership and education inclined rather than focusing constantly on my financial situation. I have had multiple leadership roles such as co-chair of referendum working group, Women's officer (both as part of the UWA Guild), as well as Indigenous Nationals captain, where we competed in Melbourne against 38 universities coming 6th overall (FTD scholarship also helped pay for fares). Equipment and resources has also been a large expense. It has consistently paid my bills and has gotten me out of rough situations.





Current and former Follow the Dream alumni scholarship recipients giving back over the last 12 months











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