

# Award winners share their stories

## QCE Achievement Awards

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### Transcript of video

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**Dominic Previterra**

St Joseph's College, Gregory Terrace

I'm Dominic Previterra and I went to St Joseph's, Gregory Terrace.

**Adelene Luong**

Brisbane State High School

My name is Adelene Luong and I attended Brisbane State High School in Year 12.

**Maya Lamont**

Indooroopilly State High School

My name is Maya Lamont and I attended Indooroopilly State High School in Year 12.

**Samuel Wong**

Brisbane Grammar School

My name is Samuel Wong and I attended Brisbane Grammar School in Year 12.

**Phoebe McAuliffe**

St Aidan's Anglican Girls' School

My name is Phoebe McAuliffe and I attended St Aidan's Anglican Girls' School.

**Grace Nakamura**

Lourdes Hill College

I'm Grace Nakamura and I went to Lourdes Hill College.

**Jayden Webster**

Mount Gravatt State High School

I'm Jayden Webster and I went to Mt Gravatt State High School.

**Alec Walsh**

Kilcoy State High School

I'm Alec Walsh and I went to Kilcoy State High School.

**Max Orchard**

Grace Lutheran College

My name is Max Orchard and I attended Grace Lutheran College in Year 12.

**Ava Disney**

St Rita's College

My name is Ava Disney and I attended St Rita's College in Year 12.

### 2019 plans

**Dominic Previterra**

St Joseph's College, Gregory Terrace

In 2019 I plan to study a Bachelor of Biomedical Science at The University of Queensland.

**Adelene Luong**

Brisbane State High School

I plan to start studying a Bachelor of Medical Science at Griffith University.

**Maya Lamont**

My plans for 2019 are to study a Bachelor of

Indooroopilly State High School

Arts and a Bachelor of Laws at The University of Queensland, within the Arts component, studying Politics and Spanish.

**Samuel Wong**

Brisbane Grammar School

For 2019 I plan to study a Bachelor of Medical Science at Griffith University.

**Phoebe McAuliffe**

St Aidan's Anglican Girls' School

In 2019 I'm moving down to Sydney to study a Bachelor of Mining Engineering at UNSW. I'm doing this on an industry scholarship.

**Grace Nakamura**

Lourdes Hill College

I'm planning on studying a Bachelor of Journalism/Bachelor of Arts at The University of Queensland.

**Jayden Webster**

Mount Gravatt State High School

In 2019 I plan on studying the Bachelor of Advanced Science at UQ, either majoring in Chemistry or Physics.

**Alec Walsh**

Kilcoy State High School

My plans for 2019 are to just study my Bachelor of Engineering at QUT.

**Max Orchard**

Grace Lutheran College

In 2019 I'm planning to study a Bachelor of Advanced Science at The University of Queensland.

**Ava Disney**

St Rita's College

My plans for 2019 are to start my Bachelor of Science at The University of Queensland.

## Anticipation

**Dominic Previtera**

St Joseph's College, Gregory Terrace

I'm looking forward to the challenges that uni will pose.

**Adelene Luong**

Brisbane State High School

I'm looking forward to university and the new challenges that it will bring.

**Samuel Wong**

Brisbane Grammar School

I'm most looking forward to the independent lifestyle of university.

**Maya Lamont**

Indooroopilly State High School

The thing I'm looking forward to the most about this year is simply having a different timetable and all the different opportunities that I will be able to have within university life.

**Phoebe McAuliffe**

St Aidan's Anglican Girls' School

What I'm most looking forward to is moving into college and the social opportunities that will afford me.

Grace Nakamura  
Lourdes Hill College

I'm looking forward to just expanding my horizons, meeting new people and the uni social life.

Jayden Webster  
Mount Gravatt State High School

I look forward mostly to just studying science and getting back into the groove of working academically again as that's what I enjoyed most in high school.

Alec Walsh  
Kilcoy State High School

I'm most looking forward to the city lifestyle.

Max Orchard  
Grace Lutheran College

I'm looking forward to expanding my horizons and getting to meet new people that have similar interests to me.

Ava Disney  
St Rita's College

I'm most looking forward to university life and being able to experience a broad range of subjects and finding something I'm passionate about.

## Career goals

Dominic Previtera  
St Joseph's College, Gregory Terrace

My career goals are to study Medicine, in what particular field I'm not entirely sure, but [I'm] excited to see where it takes me.

Adelene Luong  
Brisbane State High School

My career goals are to continue studying the Bachelor of Medical Science and then progress into the Doctor of Medicine where I can specialise and hopefully become a surgeon.

Maya Lamont  
Indooroopilly State High School

I'm not entirely sure but currently my career goals are to work in law or in government, possibly in some sector of government with an environmental focus because I'd really like to make a difference in that area.

Samuel Wong  
Brisbane Grammar School

My career goal is to find a specialisation of medicine that will challenge me daily.

Phoebe McAuliffe  
St Aidan's Anglican Girls' School

My career goal is to work in one of the really big mining companies like BHP or Rio Tinto. I think that the resources that they will have will be absolutely wonderful and I'm really excited for that opportunity.

Grace Nakamura  
Lourdes Hill College

My career goals ... I'm not quite sure at the moment, but I do hope one day to have my own television or radio show and be someone

**Jayden Webster**

Mount Gravatt State High School

along the lines of Aussie icon Tim Minchin.

Hopefully as a career goal by the end of university I plan on getting into research science in either chemistry or physics again as that's probably in my preferred career goal, but I don't really know what I'll do apart from that.

**Alec Walsh**

Kilcoy State High School

My career goals are to eventually work in the medical engineering field developing bionics, prosthetic limbs and organs.

**Max Orchard**

Grace Lutheran College

My career goals are I'd love to become an academic in the future and that would require completing a higher research degree, so after I do that I'll just see where that takes me.

**Ava Disney**

St Rita's College

At the moment I don't have any specific career goals, but my goal for this year at university is to find something I'm passionate about in a specific field and hopefully a career can stem from there.

## Inspiration

**Dominic Previtera**

St Joseph's College, Gregory Terrace

The person who inspires me most would probably have to be my grandfather who was a general physician up in North Queensland, highly respected and worked there for nearly all his career, and then once he'd retired, became a teacher for medical students at JCU.

**Adelene Luong**

Brisbane State High School

I'm inspired by my church youth leaders who are dedicated to helping others who are really passionate for helping others and show that they have a big heart.

**Maya Lamont**

Indooroopilly State High School

I'm inspired by a lot of people, but recently I've been really inspired by the young people of my generation around the world who are really fighting for positive change. Particularly those students who have organised the school strike for climate action because I think that's a very important cause.

**Samuel Wong**

Brisbane Grammar School

My Chemistry teacher [Mrs] Grice has always been a great source of inspiration for me. She's been teaching since the Stone Age and has never once considered retirement.

**Phoebe McAuliffe**

St Aidan's Anglican Girls' School

My little brother died from cancer when he was three and he is my biggest inspiration. He's taught me what is important in life — family over material possessions, or achievements even, and that relationships with other people are incredibly important. He has mantras like 'brave me' that he would say before he got needles and I used those to help me through tough times.

**Grace Nakamura**

Lourdes Hill College

I'm inspired by my friends. They're so supportive, compassionate and just such wonderful people that inspire me to be a better person myself.

**Jayden Webster**

Mount Gravatt State High School

I'm probably inspired most by my friends, family and teachers, but all three as they all inspire me in each of their own separate ways based on how I interact with them [when] I'm around with them.

**Alec Walsh**

Kilcoy State High School

I'm inspired by innovators such as Elon Musk and Steve Jobs who have built their companies from the ground up and have made an actual difference in this world.

**Max Orchard**

Grace Lutheran College

I'm inspired by my parents because they are hardworking, they persevere, and they're motivated in their occupations.

**Ava Disney**

St Rita's College

I'm inspired by anyone, whether I know them or not, who I can see is striving towards their goals and dreams.

## **Challenges**

**Dominic Previtara**

St Joseph's College, Gregory Terrace

The greatest challenge that faces me at the moment is getting into my degree in Medicine because I was unable to get direct entry, so I'll have to work hard over the next few years to actually get in and then impact over the next 10 years I'm not entirely sure, but excited.

**Adelene Luong**

Brisbane State High School

I think the greatest challenges in my chosen profession would be dealing with people because people are all different. But I also hope that in the next 10 years I'll be able to go on some medical missions trips to help people in impoverished nations.

**Maya Lamont**

Indooroopilly State High School

Well I think there'll probably be a lot of challenges in my chosen profession, but I think the main one for me will be just maintaining a good work–life balance and making sure that I still take time for myself outside of my career. And I want to have a really positive impact on the world over the next 10 years, hopefully, and be able to make a difference in people's lives.

**Samuel Wong**

Brisbane Grammar School

I think the greatest challenge in a profession like medicine is staying relevant in a technologically dependent society.

**Phoebe McAuliffe**

St Aidan's Anglican Girls' School

I think one of the greatest challenges in the mining industry is the misinformation and misunderstanding that surrounds it. People are pushing for renewable energy, and while I completely understand that, mining isn't the enemy. If we want to make solar panels, we need to dig up the metals, and so one of the ways I'd like to have an impact on my industry is to approach that misunderstanding and better the public's education surrounding it.

**Grace Nakamura**

Lourdes Hill College

The greatest challenge in journalism, I find, will be finding a job. But I think as a profession it's always evolving and there will always be a need for storytellers and entertainers. In 10 years I hope to be someone who creates stories that people will enjoy and hopefully use my position to help others.

**Jayden Webster**

Mount Gravatt State High School

I'm hoping to try and finish uni with a PhD and that might be a challenge in itself getting that far and completing all that. And then after that another challenge might also be finding a job in research science and all that kind of stuff. But I'm not really sure what impact I'd make in the next 10 years.

**Alec Walsh**

Kilcoy State High School

The greatest challenge in my profession I think will be to actually find a job or, failing that, starting my own company. And long term, I just want to help people improve their own lives.

**Max Orchard**

Grace Lutheran College

There are many great unsolved problems in mathematics, which is my field of interest. For example, the Clay [Mathematics] Institute Millennium Problems, and I hope that in the next 10 years I can help contribute to a solution to one of these problems.

**Ava Disney**  
St Rita's College

My greatest challenge at the moment is finding a career path that I would like to take. However, wherever my career path lies, I would like to hope that in 10 years I'm making a difference in the world.

## The Awards

**Dominic Previtera**  
St Joseph's College, Gregory Terrace

When I found out that I'd won a QCE Achievement Award I was at a concert with my sister and it was really exciting to get the news from mum.

**Adelene Luong**  
Brisbane State High School

When I found out I'd won a QCE Achievement Award I was quite surprised because I'd looked through the requirements beforehand and didn't think I would get one.

**Maya Lamont**  
Indooroopilly State High School

When I found out I'd won a QCE Achievement Award at first I was a little confused, but once I'd read about it and I found out what it was and how few people had received one, I was very excited and it was definitely a good feeling.

**Samuel Wong**  
Brisbane Grammar School

When I found out I'd won a QCE Achievement Award I was taken completely by surprise, but I was privileged to have won such an award.

**Phoebe McAuliffe**  
St Aidan's Anglican Girls' School

When I found out I'd won a QCE Achievement Award I was extremely excited. The dux of my school last year also won one, so I did know about this prestigious award and it was a wonderful feeling.

**Grace Nakamura**  
Lourdes Hill College

When I found out I'd won a QCE Achievement Award, I was pleasantly surprised. I'd been on holiday and I came back to a stack of mail and it was like early Christmas.

**Jayden Webster**  
Mount Gravatt State High School

When I first found out I'd won I was confused at first as to what it was and what it had inside, but when I opened it and read it I was pretty excited to be receiving the award that I got.

**Alec Walsh**  
Kilcoy State High School

When I found out I'd won a QCE Achievement Award I was very surprised because I didn't think I had a chance of receiving such a prestigious award.

**Max Orchard**  
Grace Lutheran College

When I first found out I'd won a QCE Achievement Award I was quite shocked. I was just happy that I got a good OP and I wasn't really expecting anything else in the mail.

**Ava Disney**  
St Rita's College

When I found out I'd won a QCE Achievement Award I was in a state of disbelief, but I was also very excited and honoured.