

# NEWSLETTER

1 - 2011

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## Who we are

**Nyaarla Projects Pty Ltd** specialises in consulting and project management in the areas of Training and Employment, Youth Services, Education, Public Participation and Community Consultation. Our aim is to support sustainable outcomes for indigenous Australians.

**MADALAH Limited** is a not-for-profit organisation whose mission is to empower youth to achieve excellence in life by **Making A Difference And Looking Ahead**.

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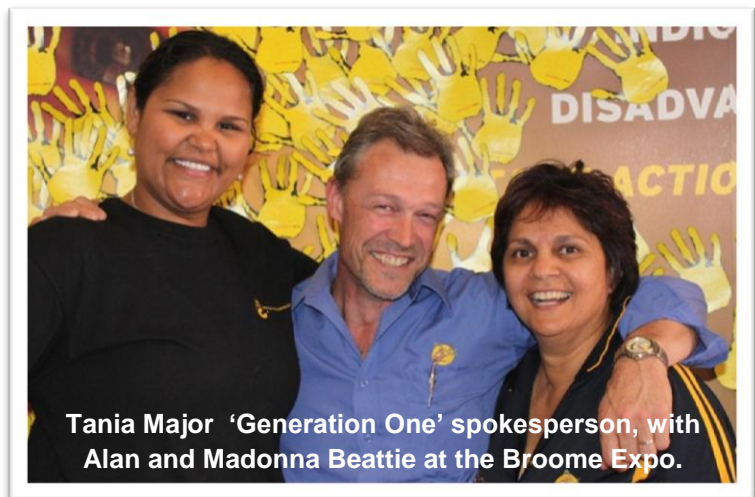
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## NW EXPO and PARENT EVENING

Another successful North West Expo was held in Broome on the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> May. The Expo provides an opportunity for business, education and industry to showcase their products, services and achievements. This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> year that Nyaarla Projects and MADALAH have participated. During the Expo our staff spoke to potential participants, parents and employers about the opportunities provided by our education and training programs.



This year Madonna Beattie, the Director of Nyaarla Projects and MADALAH was also a panel member in a Discussion Forum on the topic of 'Skills and Training for a Career'. The Forum was organised by Generation One, an organisation aiming to end the disparity between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians. Such was the interest in the forum that the scheduled allocation of one and half hours turned into nearly double this time!

Parents of our participants from both Programs were also able to meet Nyaarla and MADALAH staff from Perth and Broome at a BBQ on the lawn at our Broome office.

Over 40 people shared information and stories. A parent whose daughter is an IYMP participant in Perth spoke about the support provided to her daughter and their family, and the regular contact with Nyaarla staff. An IYMP participant and an IYLP secondary scholarship student highlighted opportunities they now have to achieve their goals and experience living away from their home communities.



Thanks to the staff who contributed to the success of these activities.

## What are they doing now?

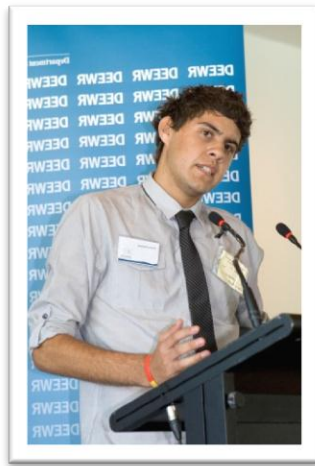
Eleven students from Year 12 graduated from the Indigenous Youth Leadership Program (IYLP) in 2010. These students are now either continuing their education, some through the support of the IYLP tertiary program, or have successfully found employment and pursuing their interests.

Marlee Hutton is now studying Marine Science at Murdoch University and Kamsani Bin Sallah is studying engineering at the University of Western Australia. Alisha Dark is studying Social Work at Curtin University.



Gabrielle Gregory is studying for a Bachelor of Policing and Criminology at the University of Western Sydney. She attended the DEEWR Graduation Ceremony in Canberra, where students were congratulated by Peter Garrett, the Minister for School Education, Early Childhood and Youth.

Charles Mallard is completing an Orientation Course at the University of Western Australia. Charles spoke at the Graduation Ceremony in Canberra.



Acacia Lewis is working in a Primary School and plans to start her University studies in 2012.

Tori Oakley works part time, and plays violin and sings in an Indigenous choir. Gabriella Evans is working in Geraldton, and Jarrod Rodney has joined the Royal Military College in Canberra, while Cedric Taylor is an Apprentice with Argyle Diamond mines.

Forty Five new students in IYLP secondary are attending the following partner schools:

Aquinas College, Christ Church Grammar School, Guildford Grammar School, Scotch College, Trinity College, Wesley College, Ursula Frayne Catholic College, Iona Presentation, College Methodist Ladies College, Perth College and St. Brigid's College.

**The Indigenous Youth Leadership Program funded through the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) provides scholarships and other support to eligible students from Year 8 to Year 12 and to students studying either at University or TAFE.**

**Tertiary Students on IYLP scholarships have and continue to achieve personal milestones. The following students graduated in 2010:**

- Jade Horsley (Bachelor of Engineering - Environmental)
- Leigh Johnson (Master of Teaching)
- Breanna Pinner (Bachelor of Arts)
- Trilby Ryan (Bachelor of Social Science - Criminal Justice)
- Sherry-Kaye Savage (Bachelor of Human Movement Science)
- Daniell Snow (Bachelor of Science)

*(Below) Minda Murray graduated with a Bachelor of Environmental Science receiving the Dean's Award 2010 presented by Dr Nick Klomp, Dean of the Faculty of Science, Charles Sturt University.*



**The following students have been on IYLP for 3 years and are continuing their studies:**

- Narelle Long (Bachelor of Exercise Science & Human Recreation Management)
- Krista McMeeken (Bachelor of Law)
- Tegan Morris (Bachelor of Business/Bachelor of Law)
- Kira Parsons (Bachelor of Education)
- Philip Brodie (Bachelor of Teaching/Bachelor of Arts)
- Hannah Donnelly (Bachelor of Global Studies/Bachelor of International Studies)

## IN PROFILE

### Aaron Collins

is from Kempsey in NSW. He belongs to the Dunghutti tribe. This is his first year as an IYLP Tertiary student and he is doing a double degree in Social Work and Arts - Indigenous Studies at the University of New South Wales.



‘This program is helping me immensely, as I am able to afford all the material for my studies and work placement. I want to excel in my studies and graduate. I also want to make a better life for my family, my community and myself, and become a role model. I want to make all my people proud’.

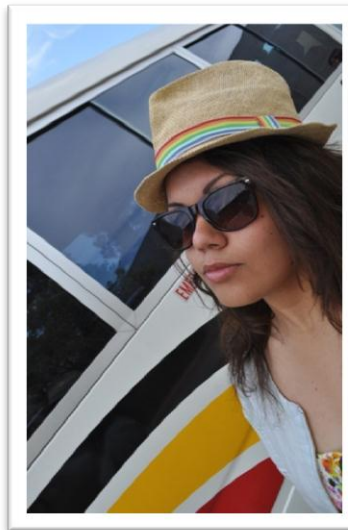
Aaron says, ‘Chika Dixon inspired me and gave me the courage to speak up about the fact that Indigenous people have to fight to achieve equality in this nation’.

Aaron’s hobbies are music, art and culture. His interest in art comes from his uncles who paint, and he admires artists like Robert Campbell Jnr, Clifford Possum Tjapaltjarri and Gordon Bennett. ‘Music is also a big part of who I am. I am a lover of Reggae, Motown and Blues’.

**Emma Garlett** is a Year 11 student attending Perth College with the support of an IYLP Secondary scholarship. The 17 year old from Geraldton says the scholarship is helping her achieve her goals and gives her the confidence to encourage others to study, especially young people in her community.

Emma has been busy with her studies and her leadership training. She has attended the Assets C21 Indigenous Science Program in Adelaide, the UWA Health and Science Careers Program and completed work experience at Sir Charles Gardiner Hospital in the Cardiothoracic Unit.

‘I want to get outstanding results in my exams, get a high ATAR, and study at an international University either in Europe or America. I also want to ultimately give back to my community’ said Emma.



‘People who inspire me are John Maxwell a Christian leader, American Paediatric Neurosurgeon Ben Carson, and artist Shaun Tan. These people show me that you can overcome difficulties, achieve your goals and become someone even if you are from a small town’

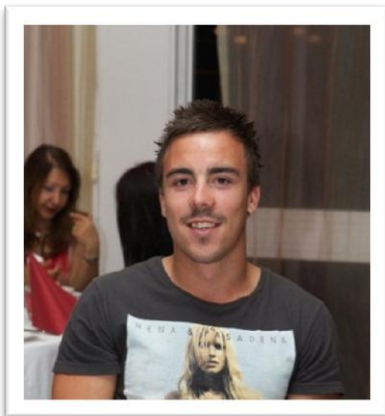
**Aquinas College** is a Madalah IYLP Partner School and is one of Western Australia's oldest boys' colleges. The mission of the College is to provide a holistic Catholic education based on Faith, Justice, Service, Respect and Excellence based on the teachings of Edmund Rice, the founder of the Christian Brothers. The school also has an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education Policy.

There are approximately 1151 Students from Year 4 to Year 12. There are 14 Indigenous students at the school, supported by Derek Hunter the Indigenous Liaison Officer. Derek runs a tuition program after school and spends time with students and teachers on cultural issues which impact on the lives and education of the students. The Indigenous students are involved in various activities including Sorry Day celebrations and NAIDOC events at the school. Year 10 and 11 students also have the opportunity to study a Certificate III in Indigenous Leadership through the SMYL program at the school. Madalah has two IYLP students at Aquinas College.

## ***Mobility provides greater opportunities***

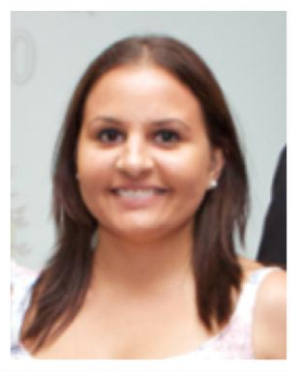
The Indigenous Youth Mobility Program funded by DEEWR provides young indigenous people with opportunities to live, study and work away from their regional and remote communities.

The program provides young people between 16-24 years of age, with a training plan, mentoring support, leadership activities and accommodation. Madalah and Nyaarla Projects have been successful in running this program in WA for over four years.



**Scottie Ugle** from Narrogin is the first person on our IYMP to complete an Apprenticeship. He was based at Skill Hire while doing a Certificate III in Carpentry and Joinery at Regional Training Services.

**Tahnee Roe** from Darwin NT, completed a Bachelor of Commerce at Curtin University. She now works at Ngarda Civil and Mining as a Graduate Accountant.



**Katherine Glass** completed a Diploma of Screen and Media at the WA Film and Television Institute and was awarded their Indigenous Media Internship. She has since worked on the filming of 'Red Dog', a major feature movie due to be released in August 2011.



We currently have 48 IYMP places in Perth and 16 participants studying in Broome. Participants are either studying full time and/or completing apprenticeships or traineeships. Their study and career choices range from Engineering and Music to Health Sciences.

## **Sport gives Girls a Chance**

**The Sporting Chance Program** funded by DEEWR is a program which uses sport and recreation as a way to increase participation and achieve positive outcomes in education and training for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

Activities delivered during and after school include health and positive lifestyles, mentoring and leadership, and exposure to community and sports role models.



The Fitzroy Valley Girls Sporting Academy based in Fitzroy Crossing is run by Madalah Limited in association with Gurnduwa Amboorny Wirnan Aboriginal Corporation and the Fitzroy Valley District High School. Students involved in the Academy from across the Fitzroy Valley are participating in Basketball, Dance and Swimming.

Some of the girls recently participated at the North West Expo Basketball competition in Broome in the U18's female division. The team was undefeated and won the Grand Final against the Hostel Heats.





Seventeen year old **Johnnice Divilli** is a participant on the Indigenous Youth Mobility Program. Johnnice is from the Mowanjum and Pandanus people of Mt Barnett. She is a young woman breaking career stereotypes by doing a Traineeship as a Fitter in Diesel Mechanics. She says, ‘The program is helping me get my qualifications and to be prepared for full time employment. I want to get through my traineeship and start my apprenticeship next year. Once I am fully qualified as a Tradesman I want to travel the world’.

Johnnice is inspired by her father and wants to be just like him. When not working she spends her time playing Basketball, fishing and of course looking at cars. She supports Collingwood and the Wallabies.

## A NEW FACE AT MADALAH

Rachel Burns is a *Gamilaraay* and *Yuwaalaraay Murri* from NSW but spent all her life in Melbourne. She recently moved to Perth to take up the position of Career and Transition Officer for the IYMP program.



After completing Year 12 Rachel moved to Broome where she worked as a receptionist. In 2008 she moved back to Melbourne to start a Traineeship and worked as a Receptionist at RMIT University in Ngarara Willim the Indigenous Centre where she also assisted with organising activities for students. While working at RMIT she commenced a Certificate IV at the Kangan Institute.

Rachel says, ‘My greatest achievement at that time was moving away from home at the age of 18. I am now in Perth and really enjoying being able to relate to the IYMP participants who are around my age. I understand what they are going through, being away from family and relocating to a new city. I also love helping them with their career and work decisions’.

Rachel wants to achieve a lot in her life but her main aim is working with her people and helping them achieve their goals. ‘My Elders inspire me, because they fought to make my life and the lives of the younger generations better’, says Rachel. In her spare time she loves to cook, watch movies and hang out with mates. She loves watching AFL and as she says ‘I can’t get enough of the Ultimate Fighting Championship and my favourite fighter is Gerores St-Pierre’

## IYMP participants out and about



Cycling trip around the Swan River



Nyaarla Perth Women’s Basketball Team



Nyaarla Broome Men’s Basketball Team

## **NYAARLA SUCCESSFUL WITH CIT CONTRACT**

In April of this year Nyaarla Projects began work on a contract which was awarded to us by the Central Institute of Technology (CIT) in Perth. The contract is to assist CIT in providing additional support to its indigenous students.

Our staff member Cherie Sibosado now spends part of her time at CIT as an Aboriginal Student Support Officer case managing the North Metropolitan region (West Coast and Swan Districts). Her office is located at the Nyoongar Kadadjiny Kulark Kart (Aboriginal Support Unit) and Cherie works with the Manager of the Unit Tahn Donovan and another Aboriginal Student Support Officer, Alisha Nelson.

Cherie provides ongoing mentoring and support to Indigenous students, promotes the CIT services and assists with the development and implementation of CIT's Indigenous Engagement Strategy. Her role also includes increasing Indigenous student numbers undertaking and completing mainstream courses in Certificate IV to Advanced Diplomas, and where possible transitioning to further study at University or full-time employment.

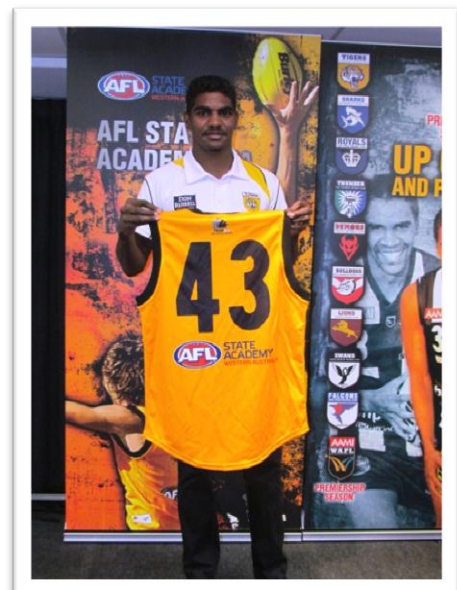
'I believe that because of my past experience I can contribute my leadership ability, good communication, my family networks, cultural understanding, passion and motivation for positive change' Cherie said. Her extensive work experience and knowledge in various areas, professional networks, understanding of various government agencies, services, policies and initiatives, strategic mapping, and promoting and referring Indigenous students to Nyaarla Projects, made Cherie the perfect choice to undertake this role.

There are currently 139 Indigenous students enrolled and undertaking courses at CIT, ranging from Certificate IV Sport and Fitness to Certificate II in Business Administration. Some of the students enrolled in courses at CIT are current IYMP participants with Nyaarla Projects.

The partnership formed through this contract allows us to strengthen the links between IYMP participants and Central Institute's courses, on-going promotion of Nyaarla Projects services and programs, and strengthening networks within the education and training industry, and the wider community.



**Cherie Sibosado works on Madalah's IYLP and IYMP, and works three days a week at CIT.**



**Angelo Thomas, an IYMP participant from Bidyadanga Community in WA is now part of the State Football Academy.**

## **NEWS FLASH.....**

Another Nyaarla Projects IYMP participant has achieved, not only academically but on the sporting field. Angelo Thomas has just been selected into the under 18 WA State Football Academy squad. His football playing days started in Darwin where he was born. Since then he has played in Broome and moved to Perth in 2011 to play with the Claremont Football Club Colts.

Academically since commencing with IYMP in February this year Angelo has completed a Certificate I in Automotive and Certificate I in Community Recreation. He is currently in a ten week course in Construction at Polytechnic West - Balga Campus.