



## Media Release

### Celebrating Brilliant Minds

#### Science Teachers Association NSW – Young Scientist Awards 2019

Science Teachers' Association NSW President Margaret Shepherd tonight congratulates the winners of our 2019 Young Scientist Awards. The highlight award going to the 2019 team of 9 students who will represent NSW and Australia at the prestigious International Science Engineering Fair in Anaheim US.

"With a staggering 920 outstanding submissions considered by the judges, we can feel confident that the future is in good hands" said Ms Shepherd.

2019 is the 27th year of celebrating excellence in scientific endeavour in students across NSW through the Young Scientist Awards. The program delivers a catalyst for students to carry out scientific or mathematical investigations and apply innovative engineering and critical thinking skills to the creation of electronic, mechanical or robotic inventions.

"Such brilliant minds - the Young Scientist Awards really shows off the best of our young people" said Ms Shepherd.

At the Awards, astrophysicist and inaugural Women in STEM ambassador, Professor Lisa Harvey-Smith inspired the students in her keynote address saying, "STEM skills are skills for life, and it's more important than ever with technology developing so quickly now. It's wonderful to see bright students engaged in STEM from a young age, and I look forward to how this will lead to their exciting STEM careers and studies ahead."

Anjali Rao, Coordinator of the Science Teachers Association NSW Young Scientist program said "The STANSW Young Scientist awards program is an amazing opportunity for science students and teachers to be involved in the fun and excitement of doing research that is interesting for them"

"This year projects ranged from kindergarten kids counting blueberries, to Science Extension students researching medical and environmental advances and measuring dark matter in distant galaxies.- This is truly authentic learning." said Ms Rao.

"So much excitement in the room - truly invigorating and so much hope in the future generations." said Ms Shepherd.

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## 2019 STANSW Young Scientist Winners

**Primary Young Scientist:** Emma Wood (Yr 6) Castle Cove Public School. Project – The Cost of a Winning Smile

**Budding Young Scientist:** Romilly Merani (Kindergarten) PLC Sydney. Project – My Big Berry Beautiful Blueberry Project. Kindergarten

**Young Scientist of the Year:** Angelina Arora (Yr12) Sydney Girls. Project - Stranger Danger; A novel approach to cancer research using phenotypic morphing – The correlation between intercellular transfer from cancer – associated fibroblasts and the area of osteosarcoma cells

### ISEF Delegates

Callum Taylor (Yr 11) The Kings School. Project – AgX; precision broadacre farming using nano-satellite technology

Emma Serisier (Yr 12) Bishop Druitt College. Project – The use of eggshell waste as a bio-absorbent of phosphate for water and soil quality

Emma Leggett-Budden (Yr 12) Barker College. Project – EzyLift

Eleanor Clifton-Bligh (Yr 12) PLC Sydney. Project – The effect of concentration of surfactant (TTAB) on the morphology of calcium carbonate precipitates

Judd Katz (Yr 12) Moriah College. Project – Calculation of dark matter mass in SO galaxy MGC3115-G Mass discrepancy and escape velocity analysis

John Holz (Yr 10) Kildare Catholic College. Project – The thawing temperatures of cryopreserved semen and its effects on spermatozoal and motility in equine

Molly Dixon (Yr 12) Wenona School. Project – Vinnie; solar-powered talking clothing donation bank

Jordan Salmon (Yr 12) Clancy College. Project – MobiPark

Angelina Arora (Yr 12) Sydney Girls Project - Stranger Danger; A novel approach to cancer research using phenotypic morphing – The correlation between intercellular transfer from cancer – associated fibroblasts and the area of osteosarcoma cells

### Broadcom Masters Delegate

Akira Naumovski (Yr 8) Smiths Hill High School. Project – D-I-Y Facial Recognition System

