



NEWS RELEASE

Premier of New South Wales

PREMIER ANNOUNCES ANZAC MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS TO HONOUR THE ANZAC SPIRIT

Monday 29 November, 2010

Twenty of the State's top History students will make a pilgrimage to memorials in Vietnam and Gallipoli next year as part of the Premier's ANZAC Memorial Scholarships.

During the two-week study tour, the students will visit sites where the ANZACs served, attending memorial services and laying wreaths in memory of the thousands of men and women who never returned.

Premier Kristina Keneally today announced the 20 students from across NSW schools who have been awarded the prestigious scholarships in 2011.

The scholarships are awarded to students in Year 9 and Year 10 who otherwise may not have the opportunity to travel overseas.

Premier Keneally and Minister Assisting the Premier on Veterans' Affairs, Frank Terenzini joined scholars today in releasing a 'Star of Remembrance' into the Well of Contemplation at the ANZAC Memorial at Hyde Park as a mark of respect to the fallen.

These stars will be cremated and the students will scatter the ashes at the ANZAC sites during their tours in memory of the great debt owed to our servicemen and women.

Ms Keneally said the scholarship recipients were selected from hundreds of students for their outstanding achievements in History and their active involvement in maintaining the ANZAC traditions.

"This will be a life-changing experience for these young scholars and will ensure the courage and sacrifice of our ANZAC service men and women is honoured by new generation of Australians," Ms Keneally said.

"The students will gain an appreciation of what our service men and women went through in the jungles and paddy fields of Vietnam and the fierce battles of the Gallipoli Campaign.

"There can be no greater experience for a student of history, nor any greater tribute to these brave men and women, than to stand on those hallowed grounds and reflect on the terrible realities of war."

Mr Terenzini said the scholarship program is growing more popular and has now been expanded to two tours every year until 2018, the ANZAC Centenary.

"The students will return with new knowledge to share with their schools and communities, ensuring the ANZAC legacy continues to be honoured and preserved," Mr Terenzini said.

"On their return, students will be able to share their unique experiences and personal reflections through art works, poetry, photographs, essays and blogs."

Recipients of the 2011 Premier's ANZAC Memorial Scholarships:

- Istiak Ahmed - Year 10 - Tempe High School
- Bridie Allen - Year 9 - Kiama High School
- Daniel Baldwin - Year 10 - Camden Haven High School
- Naomi Baxter - Year 10 - Henry Kendall High School
- Theresa Coyle - Year 10 - South Sydney High School
- William Degotardi - Year 10 - Gundagai High School
- Zali Gore - Year 10 - Hunter Performing Arts High School
- Mustafa Hbous - Year 10 - Birrong Boys High School
- Ryan Healey - Year 10 - Scone High School
- Brody Higgerson - Year 10 - Whitebridge High School
- Lachlan Kass - Year 10 - Condell Park High School
- Deniz Kayis - Year 10 - Sydney Girls High School
- Andrew Lee - Year 10 - Sydney Church of England Grammar School (Shore)
- Amelia Loughland - Year 10 - Northern Beaches Secondary College - Manly Selective Campus
- Ngoc Ai Lien Nguyen - Year 10 - Bonnyrigg High School
- Ryan Parker - Year 9 - Peel High School
- Callum Walker - Year 10 - Northmead High School
- Julia Walker - Year 10 - Lindisfarne Anglican Grammar School - Terranora
- Dean Wright - Year 10 - Plumpton High School
- Brittany Young - Year 10 - Turramurra High School