

# Ynews

YWCA OF CANBERRA  AUTUMN 2014

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## INSPIRATIONAL YOUNG LEADERS

On Wednesday 26 February, the Australian Human Rights Commission, in partnership with YWCA Australia, hosted a special International Women's Day event called *Rights Talk*.

The event was launched by Senator Michaelia Cash, Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Women, with introductions by Sex Discrimination Commissioner, Elizabeth Broderick, National Children's Commissioner, Megan Mitchell and Anna Bligh, CEO of YWCA NSW.

The panel explored the challenges, issues and aspirations of young women today as they negotiate

equality in spaces such as leadership, financial independence, and career development.

Ella Cuthbert, a year six student from Majura Public School spoke on one of the panels about what gender equality means to her and why she likes being a girl.

Ella also talked about what it means to be a young leader as she was recently elected as the Sports Captain of her school house.

The YWCA of Canberra would like to take the opportunity to congratulate Ella on her wonderful speech.



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# WELCOME TO YNEWS

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## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Welcome to the first edition of YNews for 2014. This is an exciting time for the YWCA of Canberra as we expand our business and continue to deliver best practice programs and services across the ACT.

This month we were honoured to be invited to Government House as guests of the Governor-General for her farewell. The afternoon tea was attended by a number of community organisations that have enjoyed the patronage of the Governor General during her five year term. We have invited Her Excellency, Quentin Bryce to extend her patronage of the YWCA of Canberra and look forward to hearing from her in due course.

I'm excited to let you know that our She Leads program will be expanding this year to include the She Leads conference with the theme of creating pathways and opportunities for young women and celebrating intergenerational women's leadership.

This quarter the YWCA of Canberra team has been involved in roundtable discussions about the second National Plan to Reduce Violence Against Women and their Children. Respect Communicate Choose was recognised at the ACT Primary Prevention of Violence Awards, and is one of the only programs with gender analysis currently delivered to 9-12 year old young people in Australia. Schools have provided us with positive feedback on the program, which will assist us in seeking funding for the program as part of the Nation Action.

This year we continue to expand our work in Children's Services. We currently deliver four school holiday programs and 13 before and afterschool care programs.

Through our expertise in Children's Services we have made a substantive submission to the Productivity Commission on Child Care.

Our recommendations include:

- continued support for, and roll out of the Nation Quality Framework
- our employer based Family Day Care model, as a flexibility Model in childcare

- recognition for inclusive childcare for children with special needs in out of school care
- early childhood Educators are remunerated and recognised for their skills and qualifications in the Children Services sector.

We look forward to receiving the outcomes from the Commissioner's findings.

Frances Crimmins, Executive Director



## Acknowledgement of Country

*The YWCA of Canberra proudly recognises the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to own and control their cultures, and pays respect around these rights. The YWCA of Canberra acknowledges the need to respect and encourage the diversity of Indigenous cultures and aims to respect Indigenous worldviews, lifestyles and customary laws.*

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

This edition of Ynews finds us in the midst of International Women's Day celebrations. Our Board Directors and staff team will be attending a range of events this week, including the UN International Women's Day lunch. If you are celebrating International Women's Day make sure you connect with us on Twitter and Facebook, to share your wonderful stories, photos and experiences.

We recently held our Annual Strategic Planning Day with the YWCA of Canberra Board. One of the key agenda items at the meeting was to discuss our progress in relation to the milestones of our Road Map to 2022. It was a prime opportunity for the Board to discuss any issues and concerns in detail, with a focus on our strategic imperatives.

At the meeting we focused on our financial position, current investments, and prepared a new investment policy. We also received portfolio updates from Children's Services, Community Services and Corporate Relations and Communications, which are crucial to ensuring the Board is kept up to date on key risk areas, concerns and the Organisation's progress.

The day was also a great opportunity for new Board of Directors to get to know each other and become familiar with the YWCA of Canberra's operational structure.

As we go to press with this edition of Ynews, members of the YWCA of Canberra are departing for a trip of a lifetime to the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) meeting in New York. Members from the YWCA of Canberra, Julia Diprose and Melissa Burford, have been selected

to join Dr Caroline Lambert, Executive Director of YWCA Australia, as part of our official delegation. Held at the United Nations Headquarters, the theme for this year's CSW is "Challenges and achievements in the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals for women and girls." We wish Caroline and the team a successful and safe trip and look forward to hearing all about it on their return.

Jane Alver, President



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

27 March: She Leads launch - registrations open now on our website

4 April: Brumbies game raising funds for our *Respect, Communicate, Choose* program - volunteers needed!

16 April: Women Out Front Finance Workshops - watch this space

29 April: World YWCA Day and Round the World Breakfast - watch this space

## SOCIAL MEDIA

Join us on Facebook and Twitter to keep up to date with all our events, advocacy campaigns and latest news.



@YWCACanberra



Like

YWCACanberra

## WHAT'S YOUR GREAT YDEA?



Do you have a small business idea? An event you'd like to run to contribute to the Canberra community? A professional development opportunity you'd like to pursue? A project that you've always wanted to get up and running?

Applications for the 2014 Great Ydeas grants program will open on Saturday 8 March and close on Sunday 6 April at 5pm AEST.

Visit [www.ywac-canberra.org.au](http://www.ywca-canberra.org.au) for more information.

## ACCELERATING YOUR LEADERSHIP JOURNEY



She Leads is a YWCA of Canberra initiative that develops women's leadership to advancing gender equality.

The She Leads Diploma of Management offers a gender analysis of leadership and management, and provides a customised curriculum addressing the specific needs of women in the early stages of their career.

This year the YWCA of Canberra is expanding the reach of our highly successful program through the She Leads Conference. This one-day conference will provide women leaders, and those aspiring to leadership with the opportunity to acquire the skills, knowledge and networks to accelerate their leadership journey.

As an organisation at the forefront of leadership development in Australia, we have drawn on our expertise and networks to create a program that includes interactive practical skills and personal development sessions, and a line-up of outstanding

women leaders to challenge, entertain and share with our audience.

The 2014 She Leads program will be launched on Thursday 27 March at the National Portrait Gallery. Guests will have the opportunity to hear from distinguished women leaders such as award-winning journalist Sophie McNeill and Federal Member for Canberra Gai Brodtmann MP. Come along to learn about the She Leads program, and network with like-minded women.

Registrations for the launch event are now open. Register today to secure your place at [www.ywca-canberra.org.au](http://www.ywca-canberra.org.au)

## CONNECTING WITH STUDENTS AT THE ANU MARKET DAY



On Wednesday 12 February the YWCA of Canberra joined hundreds of not-for-profit organisations, community groups and student-led initiatives to participate in ANU's annual Market Day.

Held during O-Week, Market Day provides students with the opportunity to get a taste of uni life outside the classroom, connect with local organisations, and make some new friends.

This year we gave all new YWCA of Canberra members a chance to enter the draw to win a Samsung Galaxy Tab 3! Congratulations to the lucky prize winner Laura Kent! We wish you the best of luck with your studies this year.

A big shout out to all our new members, we look forward to seeing you at our future events and activities around town!

## HEALTHY FOOD & HAPPY FAMILIES

The YWCA of Canberra team would like to sincerely thank our corporate partners and friends, Board of Directors and members who supported the Lanyon Food Hub Appeal.

Together, we raised more than \$3,500 which enabled us to purchase fresh food to stock the Food Hub shelves. We also collected enough non-perishable food donations to make more than 40 large special Christmas hampers for families!

We'd like to particularly acknowledge the staff and customers

at the V Spot Cafe in Civic for all their hard work in raising food donations, and for offering to be our official ongoing food donation drop-off point throughout the year.

We would also like to extend a warm thanks to our members and the team at Ernst & Young Canberra who donated special Christmas gifts to more than 50 children at our Housing and Social Inclusion Unit. The positive impact your generosity has on the families and children we work with is huge. Thank you!

## NATIONAL APOLOGY EVENTS

Thursday, 13 February 2014 marked the anniversary of the National Apology.

The YWCA of Canberra acknowledged this important occasion participating in a number of events around town. One of the highlights was the National Apology Anniversary Morning Tea, hosted by Australian Capital Territory Council of Social Services.

During the morning tea attendees were honoured to listen to the life stories of two amazing Aboriginal women, Coral King and Bonnie Booth.



Coral and Bonnie were born in Woorabinda, Queensland, and now reside in Canberra, where they have contributed significantly to our community for many years. The women spoke openly and passionately about their experiences of being part of the Stolen Generation and the impact this has had on their lives and families.

The anniversary events acknowledged the importance of the Apology, recognising Australia's First Nations Peoples, particular Members of the Stolen Generation.

## MULTICULTURAL FESTIVAL: FUN IN THE SUN

On Sunday 9 February the YWCA of Canberra participated in the annual National Multicultural Festival.

Our wonderful Board of Directors and Executive Director volunteered their time to chat to festival goers about who we are, what we do, and how to get involved.



On the day an event called 'Martial Arts from Around the Globe' was held by one of our 2013 Great Ydeas Grant recipients. These 30-minute martial arts workshops for beginners aimed to introduce people to a range of art forms in a safe and inclusive environment and raised money for our Respect Communicate Choose program.

Thanks to everyone who participated and donated!

## BUILDING OUR COMPUTER CLUBHOUSE

An initiative of global IT company, Intel, the first Computer Clubhouse was established in 1993 at the Computer Museum (now a part of the Museum of Science) in Boston.

Computer Clubhouses empower young people from underserved communities to work with adult mentors to explore their own ideas, develop skills, and build confidence in themselves through the creative use of technology.

Each year, the global Computer Clubhouse Network provides over 25,000 young people with access to professional support, technology skills, and experiences to help them succeed in their careers, contribute to their communities, and lead outstanding lives.

The YWCA of Canberra and Richardson Primary School are working together to establish the first Computer Clubhouse in the ACT, only the third in Australia.

**Where is the Clubhouse?**

The Clubhouse will operate out of the community room at Richardson Primary School, which is currently being transformed into a fun, high tech space! Painting, carpeting, electrical work, new furniture and equipment deployment will all take place in the coming weeks.

**So what happens at the Clubhouse?**

Young people become members of our Computer Clubhouse,

# SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMS

The YWCA of Canberra will be running exciting programs throughout the 2014 school holidays, engaging children in arts and crafts, sports and games.

The program will run across the following four locations, in both South and North Canberra:

- Turner Primary School
- St Benedicts School
- Majura Primary
- Kingsford Smith

The cost of the program is \$65 per day, and includes a healthy morning tea, afternoon tea, and all excursions.

Child care benefit and child care rebate available. For more information call 02 6175 9922 or visit:

[www.ywca-canberra.org.au](http://www.ywca-canberra.org.au)

and can access the space every day of the week after school. Our members will work alongside our Clubhouse Coordinator and local industry mentors to explore their passion and interest in areas such as multimedia design, sound design, digital video production, 2D and 3D animation, robotics, game design, computer programming, and more!

## Who can join the Clubhouse?

Young people from the greater Tuggeranong region are invited to join the Computer Clubhouse as members.

More details about registrations and mentoring opportunities will be made available soon on the YWCA of Canberra's website, so stay tuned!

## MEASURING YOUR IMPACT

Have you ever wondered about the difference your actions make to others, and whether they were any better off?

As a feminist, non-profit community organisation the YWCA of Canberra has long been committed to making a positive impact on the community.

Over the last few years we have been on our journey to measure our contribution to the community, with an innovative evaluation and quality improvement framework called Results-Based Accountability™ (RBA).

RBA helps us to:

- highlight the outcomes we are working towards in the community and with our direct service users
- use data and tools to improve our programs
- show how our programs respond to wider community needs.

The YWCA of Canberra is one of the leading organisations in the ACT moving towards this kind of outcomes focused

evaluation. On Friday 21 February we presented at the ACT Chapter of the Social Impact Measurement Network Australia (SIMNA).

Delivered by Sienna Aguilar, our Evaluation and Monitoring Project Officer and Frances Crimmins, Executive Director, the session looked at RBA theory and using RBA in practice.

Some of the folk who came along to listen included representatives from community organisations, the ACT Government, and the Commonwealth Government. It was a fantastic day of knowledge sharing across sectors, with requests for future workshops coming our way already!

## SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMS A HIT DESPITE THE HEAT!

The YWCA of Canberra ran four school holiday programs at Turner, Majura, Kingsford Smith and St Benedict's primary schools.

The programs were a great success despite the hot weather, as staff ensured everyone kept hydrated and cool with lots of water and ice blocks.

Children participated in a number of fun activities, including "We've Got Talent", nature walking, a Mexican fiesta with nachos and tacos, and emergency day where the children learnt about basic first aid and practiced putting each other into the recovery position.

The YWCA of Canberra team would like to thank all of the wonderful children who made the program a delight to run, and the talented staff who helped to make the program a success.

# RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS PROGRAM WINS PRESTIGIOUS AWARD



The YWCA of Canberra was honoured to receive the Community Award for its Respect, Communicate, Choose program at the ACT Partners in Prevention Awards at the ACT Legislative Assembly in December last year.

Respect, Communicate, Choose aims to prevent violence against women by building young peoples' skills to negotiate gender equitable relationships, assess options for accessing help, and create a respectful school environment.

Our Executive Director, Frances Crimmins, was honoured to accept the award, stating that "the YWCA of Canberra is dedicated to eliminating all forms of violence against women and girls, and Respect, Communicate, Choose demonstrates the importance of taking an evidence-based approach to preventing this community wide issue."

More than 900 students have completed Respect, Communicate, Choose in primary schools across Adelaide and Canberra, including Kingsford Smith, Mt Rogers, Ngunnawal, Chapman, Farrer, Namadgi and Majura primary schools.

The YWCA of Canberra looks forward to working with government and community leaders to continue to educate and empower young people to develop a culture of respect.

## WHAT DOES MEMBERSHIP MEAN TO YOU?

On Saturday 1 March, the YWCA of Canberra held a design thinking workshop to explore ideas to inform its new membership strategy.

Design thinking draws on methods from engineering and design, and combines them with ideas from the arts, tools from the social sciences, and insights from the business world.

Hosted by Clare Conroy, a YWCA of Canberra member and passionate design thinker, the workshop focused on the goal of growing, engaging and retaining our membership.

Clare encouraged participants to think outside the box using the design thinking approach of 'empathise', 'define', 'ideate', 'prototype' and 'test'. Participants were also invited to reflect on their personal motivations for joining the YWCA of Canberra, and benefits of membership.

Kate Chipperfield, Vice President and Chair of the YWCA of Canberra's Membership Committee reflected on her personal journey, stating "I joined the Y when I heard a friend speak the benefits of being a member, and the wonderful work the organisation did. I have since benefited professionally and personally through the Board Traineeship program, and my journey as a Board Director. Leadership and empowerment opportunities were two key attractions for me, and I am inspired by the women on the YWCA of Canberra Board."

"We now have a better understanding of how we can build on our current strengths, and have identified a range of exciting opportunities for the future. Through our membership, we hope to meaningfully engage more of Canberra's inspiring and talented women, young women, and girls."

The YWCA of Canberra would like to thank and acknowledge Clare Conroy for the insightful and thought-provoking workshop. If you'd like to contact Clare about design thinking, you can Tweet her at @WebbyClare.



# REGISTER TODAY FOR THE SHE LEADS LAUNCH EVENT

The 2014 She Leads program will be launched on Thursday 27 March at the National Portrait Gallery. Guests will have the opportunity to hear from distinguished women leaders such as award-winning journalist Sophie McNeill and Federal Member for Canberra Gai Brodtmann MP. Learn about the exciting lineup for the She Leads Conference, and meet some wonderful women!

## EVENT DETAILS

Date: Thursday, 27 March 2014  
Time: 6:30-8:00pm  
Place: National Portrait Gallery  
Members: \$15  
Students: \$15  
Non-members: \$20  
New members + ticket: \$30

Please register online by Monday 24 March at:  
[www.ywca-canberra.org.au](http://www.ywca-canberra.org.au)

Drinks and canapes will be provided. We look forward to seeing you there!



# KEEP YOUR MEMBERSHIP UP TO DATE

## PERSONAL DETAILS

Name

Address

Ph home

Ph work

Fax

Mobile

Date of birth

Occupation

Email address

## DIVERSITY

The YWCA of Canberra is committed to ensuring the diversity of our membership and responding to the specific needs of our members. If you identify as a member of one or more of the following groups we invite you to share this information with us (please tick).

Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander

Person with a disability

Person from a culturally or linguistically diverse background

## MEMBERSHIP DETAILS

New member

Renewing member

1 Year membership

2 Year membership

## FULL VOTING MEMBER (per year)

## AFFILIATE MEMBERS (per year)

Women 18 +

\$35

Men & women

\$25

Concession\*

\$15

Membership payment: \$

\* Concessions are available to health card holders, students, pensioners and seniors.

## DONATIONS

Your tax deductible donation (\$2 or more) will assist in the work of the YWCA of Canberra.

Donation: \$

## PAYMENT AND DECLARATION

Cheque or money order made payable to the YWCA of Canberra

In person at the YWCA of Canberra Central Office

Credit card

Mastercard

Visa

Card number

Expiry Date

Name of cardholder

I apply for membership of the YWCA of Canberra. I accept the aims and objectives of the association and agree to be bound by the terms of its constitution, which is available upon request. The YWCA of Canberra's membership is renewable on 1 July each year. Applications received after 1 April each year will be applied to forthcoming financial year.

Signed

Date

This document satisfies the requirements of a valid tax invoice once payment is made. Please keep a copy for your records. All amounts are GST inclusive. YWCA of Canberra ABN: 48 008 389 151

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Renew your membership online at: [www.ywca-canberra.org.au/membership](http://www.ywca-canberra.org.au/membership)