



40 YEARS



Presentation of the  
2024 Academic and Performance Awards  
and the Ann McDonald Scholars

41<sup>st</sup> Secondary School Speech Night

5 December 2024

# National Anthem

Australians all let us rejoice,  
For we are one and free;

We've golden soil and wealth for toil;  
Our home is girt by sea;

Our land abounds in nature's gifts  
Of beauty rich and rare;

In history's page, let every stage  
Advance Australia Fair.

In joyful strains then let us sing,  
Advance Australia Fair.

Beneath our radiant Southern Cross  
We'll toil with hearts and hands;

To make this Commonwealth of ours  
Renowned of all the lands;

For those who've come across the seas  
We've boundless plains to share;

With courage let us all combine  
To Advance Australia Fair.

In joyful strains then let us sing,  
Advance Australia Fair



Mrs Margaret Markham with  
The McDonald College's first student  
Sarah Kenna 1984



# 2024 Speech Night Program

## Official Welcome

Coco Solomon    College Captain  
Daniel Billing    College Vice Captain

## Acknowledgement of Country

## National Anthem

## College Chair's Address

Antoinette Colbran, MAICD, Dip Cert IV Human Resources

## Principal's Address

Maxine Kohler MEd Dip Tch RAD

## Guest Speaker's Address

Mariam Saab

Mariam Saab is an international broadcast journalist, TV news presenter, and cultural entrepreneur with over 20 years of experience across Paris, Doha, Beirut, and Sydney. Currently anchoring the ABC Late News Weekend, she has reported on major events such as the Black Summer Bushfires, the COVID-19 pandemic, and state and federal elections. Her career highlights include covering the Arab Spring for Al Jazeera English, hosting programs for France 24, and leading cultural initiatives in Beirut, earning recognition from the Australian consulate in Paris and the Élysée Palace.

Mariam is a 2003 Graduate of The McDonald College.

## Academic, Performance and Special Awards

## The Ann McDonald Scholar Performances

## College Song



# Academic, Performance and Special Awards

Announced by **Mr David Garner**  
Deputy Principal and Head of Secondary School

Presented by **Ms Maxine Kohler**  
Principal

## YEAR 7

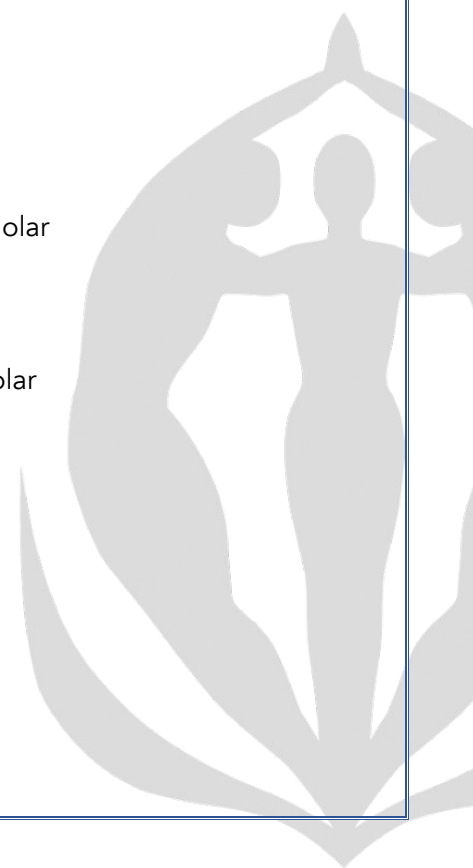
Jayden Lui	<b>Academic Excellence</b> English Mathematics Music Science
Charlize Akdagcik	Dance
Scarlett Honan	Classical Ballet aeq. Technology Visual Arts
Ayumi Ito	Tennis
Julian Libert	PDHPE
Bianca Papa	Music Performance
Oliver Plowman	Acting
Imogen Stephens	Classical Ballet aeq.
Max Wand	HSIE Musical Theatre



# Academic, Performance and Special Awards

## YEAR 8

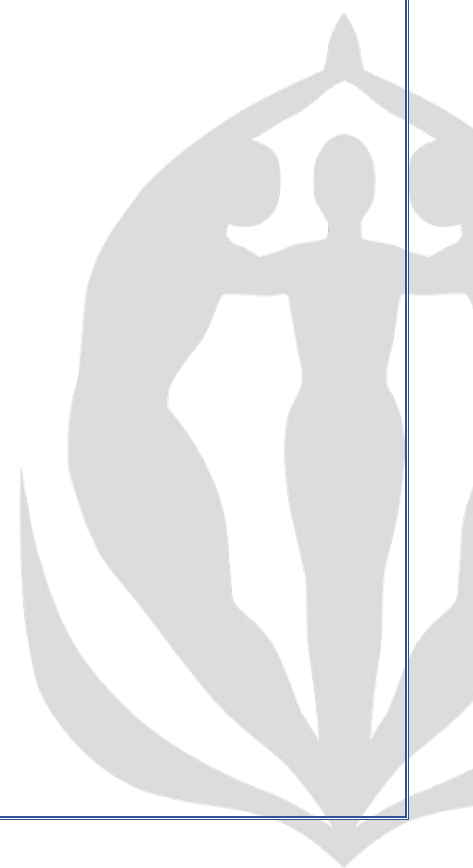
<b>Emir Habiboglu</b>	<b>Academic Excellence</b> English HSIE Mathematics Science Visual Arts
<b>Louis Alexiou</b>	Classical Ballet
<b>Allegra Ariola</b>	Music
<b>Oliver Austin</b>	Boarders' Award
<b>Ewan Buchanan-Constable</b>	Acting
<b>Ami Dalla Pozza</b>	Tennis
<b>Mia Honeysett</b>	Music Performance
<b>Tia McIntosh</b>	PDHPE Technology
<b>Giorgia Ponticello</b>	Musical Theatre
<b>Violet Soo</b>	Dance
<b>Bill Vo</b>	Sports Stream
<b>Jeffrey Dimi</b>	Ann McDonald Junior Acting Scholar
<b>Abbey Hammond</b>	Ann McDonald Junior Musical Theatre Scholar
<b>Madison-Rose Koniseti</b>	Ann McDonald Junior Music Scholar
<b>Summer Skiris</b>	Ann McDonald Junior Classical Ballet Scholar



# Academic, Performance and Special Awards

## YEAR 9

Jensen Mazza	<b>Academic Excellence</b> Geography Mathematics Advanced Music Science
Alicia Dooley	History PDHPE
Rhiannah Feeg	Mathematics Standard
Shaurya Ghodke	English Commerce
Aidan Jochelson	Musical Theatre
Madeleine Konstantakos	Classical Ballet
Roxanne Lillo	Dance
Daniel Nassar	Visual Arts Music Performance
Tylor Sudriku Jayawickrama	Tennis
Jinghao (Simone) Weng	Design and Technology
Ashleigh Hammond	Ann McDonald Senior Dance Scholar



# Academic, Performance and Special Awards

## YEAR 10

**Angus McCormack**

**Academic Excellence**

English  
Dance  
Design and Technology  
French  
Geography  
History  
Mathematics 5.3  
PDHPE  
Science  
Visual Arts  
ADF Future Innovators Award  
Commonwealth Parliamentarian's Merit Award

**Maristella (Seohyun) Bak**

Commonwealth Parliamentarian's Merit Award  
Peer Support Award

**Arabelle Barker**

Music  
Peer Support Award  
Commonwealth Parliamentarian's Merit Award

**Ali Bokhari**

Peer Support Award

**Juliette Browne**

ADF Long Tan Leadership and Teamwork Award  
Commonwealth Parliamentarian's Merit Award  
Peer Support Award

**Mia Burton**

Senior Contemporary Dance

**Jacob Cairncross**

Tennis

**Ashton Chan**

Commerce

**Riley Gibson**

Technical Production

**Sophia Hawley**

Music Performance



**Shaina Manshaee**

Acting  
Commonwealth Parliamentarian's Merit Award  
Peer Support Award

**Zahlee Moore**

Mathematics 5.1

**Charlize Portes-Green**

Classical Ballet

**Ashok Singh-Otuhiva**

Musical Theatre

**Claudia Valenzuela**

Mathematics 5.2

**Hamish Monger**

Commonwealth Parliamentarian's Distinguished  
Achievement Award  
Ann McDonald Senior Musical Theatre Scholar

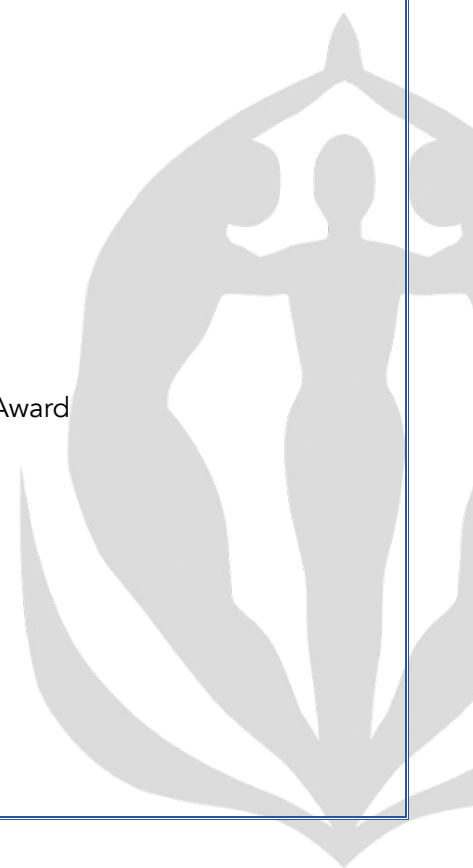




# Academic, Performance and Special Awards

## YEAR 11

Sophie Dang	<b>Academic Excellence</b> Business Studies Chemistry Dance
Samuel Naufahu	<b>Academic Excellence</b> English Advanced English Extension Modern History
Eva Bukovsky	Musical Theatre
Thomas Cristovao	Design and Technology Legal Studies
Evangeline De Nooy	PDHPE
Cayla Engelbrecht	Mathematics Standard Sally Sitou Friendship Award
Elle Foti-Fisher	Biology
Sophie Goodwin	Music 1
Angelique Hatcher	Senior Contemporary Dance
Ruby Jacko	Dance Performance
Minhoon Lee	Sportsperson of the Year
Claudia Moore	Mathematics Extension Physics
Oliver Patry	Commonwealth Parliamentarian's Merit Award



**Coco Solomon**

Classical Ballet

**Anthony Sun**

Mathematics Advanced

**Leonardo Vaccarezza**

Sports Stream

**Hannah Wand**

English Standard

**Sara Wotton**

Visual Arts

**Chase Zhao**

Tennis

**Daniel Billing**

Music 2

Music Performance

Ann McDonald Senior Music Scholar

**Bella Ray Rogers**

Acting

Ann McDonald Senior Acting Scholar

Drama



## Dux 2024

Announced by Mr David Garner  
Deputy Principal and Head of Secondary School

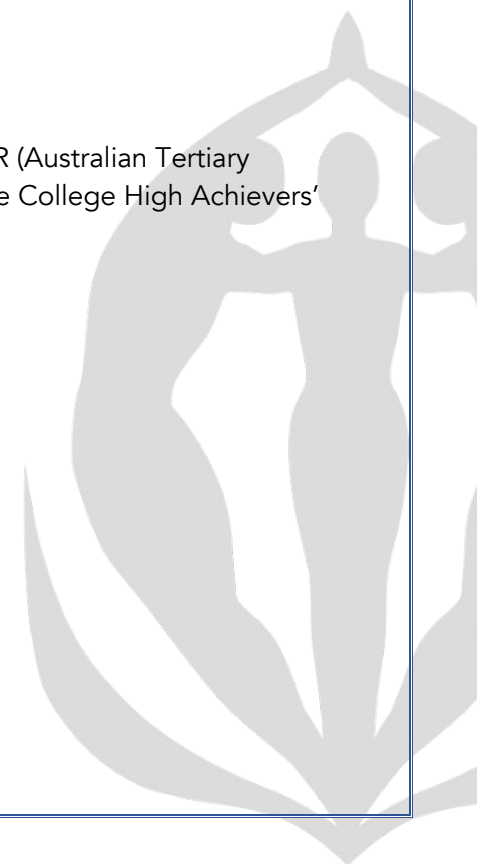
Presented by Mrs Meni Contos  
Director of Curriculum and Head of Mathematics

The awarding of Dux is the highest academic accolade that a student can attain in their school year. The College acknowledges the culmination of achievement across the full range of a student's academic courses in determining the best student, or Dux, at the end of each year of secondary schooling.

The College acknowledges academic achievement by awarding the Dux of Years 7-11 with a scholarship.

## Dux of Year 12

The College Dux of 2024 is the Year 12 student who attains the highest ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank) in the 2024 HSC cohort. This award will be presented at the College High Achievers' Assembly in 2025.



# Ann McDonald Scholar Performances

Junior Music: Madison-Rose Koniseti

*Introduced by Ms Lucy Bermingham (Head of Music)*

Junior Classical Ballet: Summer Skiris

*Introduced by Ms Jane Kesby (Head of Classical Ballet)*

Junior Acting: Jeffrey Dimi

*Introduced by Mr Gregory Friend (Head of Acting)*

Junior Dance: Oliver To

*Introduced by Ms Jane Beckett (Head of Dance)*

Junior Musical Theatre: Abbey Hammond

*Introduced by Ms Kate Dunn (Head of Musical Theatre)*

Senior Music: Daniel Billing

*Introduced by Ms Lucy Bermingham (Head of PA Music)*

Senior Acting: Bella Ray Rogers

*Introduced by Mr Gregory Friend (Head of Acting)*

Senior Dance: Ashleigh Hammond

*Introduced by Ms Jane Beckett (Head of Dance)*

Senior Musical Theatre: Hamish Monger

*Introduced by Ms Kate Dunn (Head of Musical Theatre)*



# College Song

Gathering and recollecting all our memories as we step forward on our way,  
Sharing the spirit of the arts, loving to move together.  
Reaching towards our dreams and a new day,  
Our hearts will echo with our song  
Daring to show them our way.

We march ahead, with hopes so high  
Into a land unknown  
McDonald College calls us all  
To see where truth is sown.

We are striving on our way,  
New discoveries each day,  
We're setting our aim:  
Together, we're striving to reach  
For the highest star.

And in this land of sun and smiles  
We all can share the arts.  
Work together and play our part:  
Come on, we've got the chance!

We are striving on our way,  
New discoveries each day.  
We're setting our aim,  
So come with us, sing with us now!  
Here is our song:  
Come with us, sing with us, now!



Academic Excellence is awarded when a student receives 1<sup>st</sup> place in three or more academic courses.

### Special Awards

In July each year, students are invited to write an application to be considered for a Special Award at Speech Night. Preference for all Special Awards are reserved for students who have participated in the application process. In the unlikely event a suitable candidate cannot be chosen from the applicants, the Department Heads will nominate suitable candidates, which will then be voted upon.

#### Australian Defence Force Long Tan Leadership and Teamwork Awards

The Australian Defence Force (ADF) Long Tan Youth Leadership and Teamwork Awards commenced in 2006 to foster the development of youth in terms of behaviour and attributes considered essential in Australia's future leaders. The awards are a means to formally recognise those students who have demonstrated leadership and teamwork within their school and the broader community, and who display strong personal ethical values, such as doing one's best, respecting others and 'mateship' – aspects considered essential to the ADF and Australian society.

#### Australian Defence Force Future Innovators' Awards

This award recognises recipients' scientific and mathematical abilities while highlighting the value the Navy, Army and Air Force place on STEM skills and STEM career opportunities within Defence.

#### The Parliamentary Awards

These awards are provided to us from the Office of Sally Sitou, MP for Reid. They recognise students in several categories such as: Friendship, The Arts, Distinguished Academic Achievement, Sport, and commitment to Community.



### The Ampol All-Rounder – Year 12

Every year, the Ampol All-Rounder Award provides the opportunity for the College to acknowledge a Year 12 student who has made an exceptional contribution both in and out of the classroom.

The award recognises qualities that include: Leadership, Service and Community, Sport, Arts and Culture, Attitude and Personal Conduct.

### The Reuben F Scarf Award for Commitment – Year 12

The Reuben F Scarf Award for Commitment is offered to every school in New South Wales and held a special significance for Mr. Scarf, as he believed that ‘young people who are persistent and dedicated, are the ones who ultimately reach their goals. A little recognition and help can be the magic that builds the confidence necessary to start them on their way upwards’.

