

MEDIA RELEASE

Friday 29th March 2019

Future WA leaders get an EQ download

The Nulsen Youth Patron Program is encouraging Western Australia's future leaders and decision makers to harness their emotional intelligence (EQ) which will help them to achieve greater success in their academic and working careers.

36 students from Hale School, Methodist Ladies' College and All Saints College will be participating in Nulsen Group's Creative Leadership Series which aims to make the connection between what students are learning and importantly, feeling with decision making and career choices to enable them to be more empathic leaders.

Nulsen Group CEO Gordon Trewern said that the creative leadership series is ideally timed given the current focus on issues with the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

"EQ is a buzz acronym in the business world at the moment as more organisations recognise the benefits of having a self-actualised workforce," Mr Trewern said.

"We need to foster a new generation of leaders who are empathetic to the needs of their clients, customers and stakeholders which will help them achieve better outcomes.

"From Nulsen Group's point-of-view as an organisation which supports people with complex disabilities, the current issues with the NDIS has taught us that there needs to be a greater amount of empathy from our decision-makers on a state and federal level to create positive change and help people with disabilities.

"Our youth can learn from what is happening in the disability and aged-care sectors and be analytical about what they would do differently," he said.

The theme of the year's first Nulsen Youth Patron Program Creative Leadership Series will be – 'Enabling yourself to imagine, motivate and lead change' and will be presented by former Nulsen Disability Services Board Member and Meerkats CEO Gavin Bain.

"The interactive session will challenge students to think more clearly about social justice issues, the changes they would like to make and the mark they want to leave on the world," Mr Bain said.

"It might sound like a heavy concept for a bunch of year 10 and 11 students, but young people have access to far more information about current issues and this series will help them to make more sense of the world, how they fit into it and the future they want to influence."

Mr Bain said that empathy in leadership is a key contemporary skill, and one that he will be working to amplify through the series of creative leadership sessions.

"The reality is that one of the key outcomes of the Nulsen Youth Patron Program is an enhanced ability to empathise and that is a cornerstone of strong leadership and being a statesperson," Mr Bain said.



The Nulsen Youth Patron Program instils an understanding of how individual and collective social responsibility shapes a civil society in which we can all live and work. The program extends way beyond the students, reaching parents, teachers and alumni in the school community; Nulsen staff and supporters; and the broader population.

Each year, selected students from the three schools participate in the Nulsen Youth Patron program. Positions in the program are hotly contested as the leadership skills and personal development gained during the year-long program see many of the participants go on to assume leadership positions not only within their schools but later within their chosen professions and the community.

MEDIA OPPORTUNITY

Details as follows:

Date: Friday 29 March 2019

Time: 8am – 9:30am

Location: BDO, Subiaco - 38 Station Street Subiaco

Parking: Opposite BDO at Coles - 44 Station Street Subiaco (underground) - free for 3 hours

Interview and photo opportunities:

- Gordon Trewern, CEO Nulsen Group
- Gavin Bain, CEO Meerkats
- Nulsen Youth Patron students

MEDIA CONTACT

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