



Department of
Education and Training

Media Statement

Attention: News Editor / Chief of Staff

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Leading by example - WA's training ambassadors show the way

Twenty-three training Ambassadors have been selected to represent their chosen fields and help people considering a traineeship or apprenticeship.

The Ambassador program gives school students and other people interested in apprenticeships and traineeships the chance to hear relevant, real-life information from their peers via the Apprenticentre website at apprenticentre.wa.gov.au

Deputy Director General Training of the Department of Education and Training Robert Player said the 23 new Ambassadors were from various fields, including plumbing, tourism, aged care, horticulture, child care and process plant operations.

"The Ambassador program, which began with an initial 25 former apprentices and trainees last year, now has 48 representatives of differing ages and gender, from across a variety of industries," Mr Player said.

"People thinking about starting an apprenticeship or a traineeship are urged to get online and click on the ambassadors to hear their stories.

"There is no-one more qualified to talk about the benefits of training than the people who have been there."

Mr Player said the ambassador program also demonstrated the wide variety of apprenticeship and traineeship options available.

According to Yanchep National Park tour guide James Spurgeon, the Traineeship in Tourism - offered through Tourism WA's Indigenous Employment Program - made it easy to manage work and study.

"All my training is done on site; my TAFE trainer comes to me in the national park and does all my units there with me," he said.

"I get to work out in the open with animals, and experience interesting things that not many people have the opportunity to experience on a day to day basis."

Another new ambassador, Hocking apprentice mechanical engineer (fitter and machinist) Hanna Collis, is the first female apprentice at Hoffman Engineering in 38 years.

"Currently I am the apprentice representative for the 40 apprentices at Hoffmans," she said.

Hanna is well respected in her workplace and hopes to encourage other women to enter the industry. After getting her trade certificate she plans to go to university to get a degree in engineering.

To find out more about the ambassadors and information on apprenticeships or traineeships visit apprenticentre.wa.gov.au

(ENDS)

Media contact: Kym Coolhaas 9264 4857

Ambassadors

METRO

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|--------------------|--|---------------|
| • Louise Bythway | Child care worker | Mindarie |
| • Andrew Cain | Apprentice engineering fabricator | Hillarys |
| • Hanna Collis | Apprentice mechanical engineer | Hocking |
| • Bradley Davies | Trainee conservation and land management officer | Bellevue |
| • Neomie Dickerson | Aged care worker | Hamilton Hill |
| • Tyson Prater | Apprentice engineering fabricator | Ascot |
| • Lewis Ross | Bricklayer | Bibra Lake |
| • Tom Savage | Plumber and gasfitter | Hillarys |
| • Ashlee Scinocco | Cabinet maker | Maddington |
| • Adam Selby | Process plant operator | St James |
| • James Spurgeon | Tour guide | Yanchep |
| • Tiana Voogt | Automotive salesperson | Westminster |
| • Craig Woolley | Horticulturist | Bibra Lake |
| • Andrew Wright | Automotive technician (marine light) | Applecross |

REGIONAL

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|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| • Natasha Hesson | Apprentice graphic pre-press operator | Carey Park |
| • Tiffany Himing | Tourism officer | Busselton |
| • Simon Jacques | Draftsperson | Geraldton |
| • Zoe Petit | Trainee child care worker | Safety Bay |
| • Christina Schwalger | Business administrator | South Hedland |
| • Natalee Siddons | Trainee business administrator | Northam |
| • Nelson Webster | Apprentice electrical mechanic | Dampier |
| • Joanna Wren | Horticulturist | Karridale |
| • Jacob Usher | Apprentice chef | Exmouth |