

The Emily Seymour Memorial Scholarship

BACKGROUND

Sunraysia Mallee Ethnic Communities Council Inc (SMECC) is proud to offer the Emily Seymour Memorial Scholarship as part of our vision for Sunraysia to be an empowered and harmonious community. Founded in 2021, SMECC established the scholarship in consultation with Emily's family to acknowledge the many contributions Emily made to the community and to celebrate her short and yet full life.



Emily was born, raised, educated, worked and tragically died in Mildura in August 2020 aged 24 years old. SMECC were fortunate to have Emily complete a Social Work student placement at our organisation in 2017 whilst studying at La Trobe University completing a Bachelor of Human Services with a Masters in Social Work. It was evident from the onset that Emily had an effervescent personality and was an extremely caring and selfless person who epitomised SMECC values of being respectful, open-minded, collaborative, enterprising, innovative, inclusive, whilst promoting equity.

Throughout childhood Emily possessed a natural inquisitiveness matched by her deep love for dancing, performing and the freedom of self-expression. In recent years, Emily moved her passion for dance to the aerial arts by combining a love for mental health and the importance of self-care with aerial arts and yoga by opening an aerial fitness studio - Clarity.

Emily was an avid traveller having travelled throughout Australia with performing and sidecar racing. Whilst at University Emily moved to Sweden to study for six months, then backpacked through Europe and eventually volunteered in Africa building houses in a remote village whilst working in an animal sanctuary. Other volunteer work included Headspace Mildura with the youth advisory committee by supporting the centre with mental health education and advocacy.

In 2018, Emily landed her dream job as a Community Mental Health Practitioner for a local not-for-profit organisation that provides psychosocial support for people experiencing mental health issues.

In establishing this scholarship SMECC and her family want Emily's zest for life to live on and continue to be a beacon of hope, inspiration and inclusivity in the community.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The scholarship is open to students under the age of 25 years old undertaking study in any field at Australian university or other accredited Australian higher education institution.

Need to be a permanent resident of Australia, Australian citizen, New Zealand citizen or Permanent Australian Humanitarian Visa holder.

The Scholarship is not needs-based or merit-based.

An applicant will not be eligible for the Emily Seymour Memorial Scholarship if they have or will receive another scholarship for the same study.

Applicants need to demonstrate

- volunteer community contributions in the Sunraysia region
- how your study will assist in meeting SMECC's vision and/or mission
- an active and ongoing commitment to the Sunraysia region
- cultural inclusiveness

Desirable Qualities

- thrives in a team environment
- generous with their time for others
- outgoing personality

The selection panel will consist of the SMECC Board, SMECC Executive Officer and a representative from Emily's family.

BENEFITS	\$1000
APPLICATION PERIOD	1st May 2022 to 30th June 2023
FREQUENCY	Annual
DURATION	Once off payment
STUDENT TYPE	Further Education
LEVEL OF STUDY	Post Secondary
FIELD OF STUDY	Any