



MEDIA RELEASE

2020 Young Achiever of the Year Awards

Kingscote: As is now an annual tradition, Kangaroo Island Council announced its Young Achiever of the Year Awards on Settlement Day 27 July 2020.

Year 12 student Julia Haselgrove was named the 2020 Young Achiever of Year after a rigorous selection process, against an excellent contingent of local nominees.

The Council this year also decided to award a Special Commendation for Exemplary Service to the Bushfire Relief and Recovery Effort., won by 23-year-old Jade Hinton, who helped set up and run the Western Districts Community Hub.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions the award ceremony this year was held at Kangaroo Island Community Education's Kingscote campus.

Acting Mayor Bob Teasdale said all the nominees deserved to win and the selection panel had a very difficult job: " with so many deserving recognition".

2020 Young Achiever winner

The 2020 Young Achiever award recipient is Year 12 student Julia Haselgrove, who hopes to study nutrition and dietetics at university next year.

"Growing up in Kangaroo Island my whole life, I have developed a love for it and its community," Julia said in her acceptance speech. "Not many kids are lucky enough to grow up surrounded by nature."

Her accomplishments include:

- Winning the Australian Defence Force Long Tan Leadership and Teamwork Award in Year 10.
- Receiving a High Academic Achievement Award for her Year 11 studies, receiving multiple A grades over many of her subjects.
- Receiving a merit award for outstanding effort in her studies in 2019.
- Receiving a SACE Subject Merit Award for achieving an A+ grade in Research Project.
- Taking the role of the 2020 senior house captain.
- Winning a number of MVP awards in netball, and club championships in sailing.

Julia is a member of the Kangaroo Island Yacht Club, where she competes and participates in training newcomers in how to sail.

Among other things, she is a part of the 2020 Student Executive Committee at KICE, contributing her ideas and organising activities and projects to improve the school and is currently on the Environmental Fire Recovery Committee, where she discusses ideas with her peers, teachers and individuals to help the recovery of Kangaroo Island's environment.

Special commendation winner

Jade Hinton, 23, is the recipient of this year's Special Commendation for Exemplary Service to the Bushfire Relief and Recovery Effort.

In her acceptance speech Jade said: "the fire was brutal and unforgiving and like many others it left us feeling defeated".

Jade came to the assistance of Kangaroo Islanders initially as a helper on a farm fire-fighting unit with her dad Shane in late December, while on holidays.

When the Western Districts Sports Club was burnt to the ground along with many other west end residents homes and livelihoods, it was recognised that a western hub was needed to deal with the multitude of donations that were arriving on KI as well as a place for far west end residents to go to for food and toiletry supplies, to have a shower, to wash clothes and get support from someone who cared.

With the support of Western Districts Football Club president Tony Nolan, Jade started camping at the Western Districts footy club change rooms and set up a fully functioning relief centre, providing a hot cuppa and meals as well as helping people to get the supplies that they needed from the donated goods. She was also pivotal in recognising what other items were needed by people who lost everything.

She was joined by other campers, being west end residents who had nowhere else to go and who needed someone to talk to. She stayed out at Western Districts for about three months with very little time off to spend with her partner, friends and family, putting her own needs and life on hold to provide help at the community hub.

For more information see The Islander's coverage:

https://www.theislanderonline.com.au/story/6851936/2020-ki-young-achievers-named-as-julia-haselgrove-and-jade-hinton/?cs=1525&fbclid=IwAR0M8fEvkJrmhYsEO4ZXvDURZDjyXAzirPiWLSv3-FsI2oWSPD7mrJ_yU7g

ends