

# 2022 NYSF Year 12 Program

## Report



Founding  
Partner



National Youth  
Science Forum

# INTRODUCTION

The National Youth Science Forum (NYSF) 2022 Year 12 Program Report provided to Rotary Australia summarises the activities and events of the NYSF flagship program and highlights the experiences of the student participants. The NYSF has flourished during the pandemic by pivoting to a COVID-safe mode of delivery with a record number of participants joining us for the 2022 NYSF Year 12 Program.

Participants embraced online networking with over 37,000 individual messages sent on the NYSF event app message board. STEM challenges set during the program saw participants collaborate to provide tangible solutions to real-world problems. Participant feedback confirms our COVID-safe mode is a huge success in providing young people with a high-quality, engaging program. We thank you and your staff for your generous support and contributions as we continue to adapt to challenges and work to deliver an engaging and safe program for all.

# OUR IMPACT

Participants are surveyed on the first and last day of the program to measure impact. The data shows the NYSF Year 12 Program influences participants' future career and study decisions by giving them access to a range of the very best STEM facilities and leading STEM professionals across Australia and internationally. The NYSF Year 12 Program plays a crucial role in exposing youth to STEM jobs they may not have previously considered, in addition to the study and training pathways to get there.

98%

98% of program participants rated their digital NYSF experience as 'good' to 'brilliant'.



"A comprehensive snapshot of the opportunities in STEM and all the ways you can get to where you want to be."

"The network you connect with is vast and full of inspiring people."

"Broadens your horizons about pathways in STEM and how they can lead to solving the world's greatest challenges."

"A great place to feel uplifted in your passion for science."

"Experience the true nature of science outside of the school boundaries."

"Profoundly inclusive and a safe space for everyone."

"A great opportunity to interact and learn from people with different interests."

"An amazing way to expand your knowledge, find inspiration, have fun, and create friendships."

- NYSF 2022 Participants

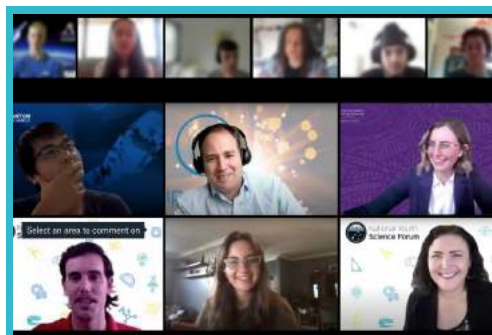
71%

71% of participants said the NYSF expanded their options or changed their choices for study in STEM. 26% of respondents said it confirmed their choice.



9.1

9.1/10 average rating from participants as to how likely they would be to recommend the NYSF Year 12 Program to others.



# 2022 NYSF YEAR 12 PROGRAM

The 2022 NYSF Year 12 Program was delivered as a hybrid digital/in-person experience. Historically delivered in a two-week residential format in Canberra and Brisbane, for the second year running, we adapted the program to a non-residential delivery model due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. We are proud to continue to provide a highly engaging NYSF Year 12 Program with all the STEM experiences we are renowned for.

The 12-day program was attended by a record 630 students and featured 195 speakers and a combination of 73 live digital events, experiments and lectures, plus five days of in-person STEM visits in Perth, where restrictions allowed. Planned in-person STEM Hubs in other states were unfortunately postponed due to COVID-19. Cancelled NSW in-person STEM visits have been rescheduled for July for 2022 participants.

The 2022 program featured amazing experiences, including talks from two Nobel Laureates, several Chief Scientists, workshops with leading scientists and STEM organisations, careers days, social events, STEM Challenges, an evening with Dr Karl Kruszelnicki, and live crosses to some of the world's best science and technology facilities including research stations in Antarctica, the Natural History Museum in London, and CERN in Switzerland. Find out more about the events [HERE](#).



88

DIGITAL SESSIONS AND  
IN-PERSON STEM VISITS



195

PROFESSIONAL STEM  
SPEAKERS AND  
PRESENTERS



239,000

PEOPLE REACHED  
ACROSS SOCIAL MEDIA



92

ACCESS & EQUITY  
SCHOLARSHIPS  
AWARDED



65%

OF PARTICIPANTS  
IDENTIFIED AS FEMALE



37,000

MESSAGES SENT  
THROUGH THE EVENT APP



2,080

QUESTIONS ASKED IN  
THE SESSION Q&A



43%

OF PARTICIPANTS LIVE IN  
REMOTE AND REGIONAL  
AREAS



"Whether in-person, online or hybrid, you learn so much and meet so many new people. NYSF expands your options and gives you experiences you otherwise wouldn't have had. You see a different side of science and develop an understanding of areas that you hadn't even thought you could pursue in the future."

- NYSF 2022 Participant



# WHO'S INVOLVED?



**630** PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

selected from 1,260 applications from across Australia



**47** STUDENT STAFF LEADERS

provided youth stewardship of the program and 3 Chiefs of Staff were appointed



**20K+** ROTARY HOURS

Rotary contributed an estimated 20,000+ volunteer hours. 17 Rotary Districts delivered student selections

“NYSF is an incredible program for unveiling the world of STEM in Australia and beyond; from career pathways, research projects and opportunities, you spend 12 days immersed in the work of the country's leaders in STEM.”

- NYSF 2022 Participant

# NYSF FUNDING PARTNERS

Partnerships are vital to ensure the NYSF can continue to deliver transformative STEM experiences for young Australians. We partner with organisations that share our passion for supporting young people. The NYSF is proudly supported by:

## Major Partners



## Corporate and Government Partners



## University Partners

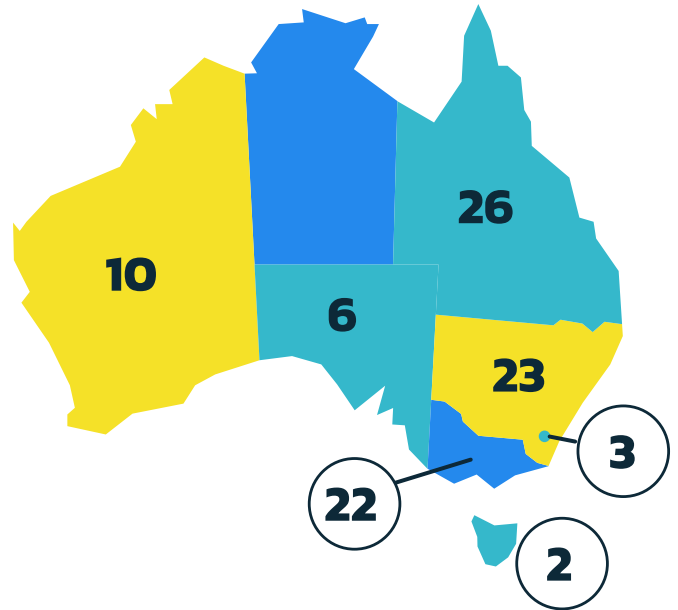


# ACCESS AND EQUITY SCHOLARSHIPS

Rotary clubs across Australia provide significant financial support to numerous students to enable their participation in the program.

In addition, in 2022 a record 92 Access and Equity Scholarships were awarded to assist participants from disadvantaged backgrounds to attend the NYSF Year 12 Program. These students may not have attended nor contributed to the extensive diversity of NYSF students and alumni network without this support.

NYSF Access and Equity Scholarships were made possible thanks to funding from the Australian Government's Department for Industry, Science, Energy and Resources, the WA Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation, the Office of the NSW Chief Scientist and Engineer, and donations from generous members of the NYSF alumni community.



**"I received an Access and Equity scholarship through NYSF and was also supported by my local Rotary club. These were extremely appreciated as without them I would have had a lot of trouble attending the NYSF"**

- NYSF 2022 Scholarship Recipient

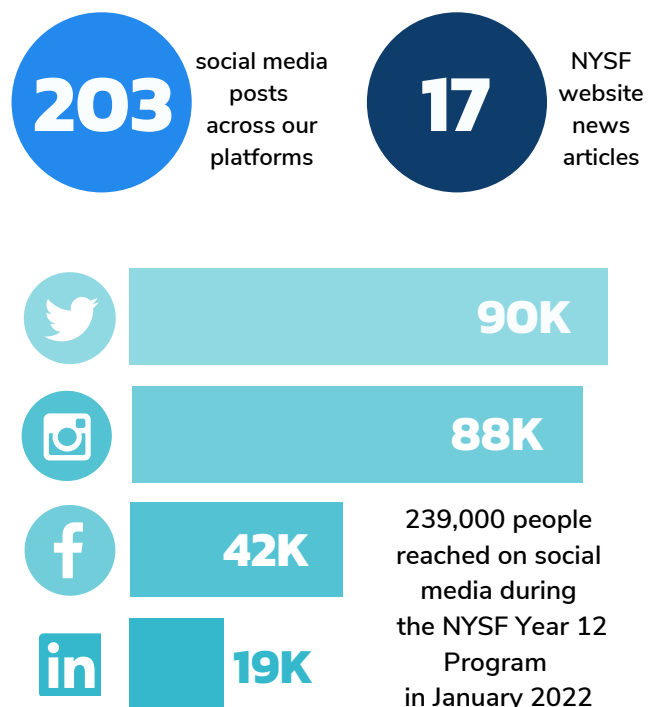
## MEDIA

The 2022 NYSF Year 12 Program was launched with a [media release](#) on the NYSF website and the online news portal Scimex, in which the OCSE was acknowledged for their scholarship funding.

NYSF participants, and our CEO, spoke on ABC New England North West radio during the program. Community print and online articles detailing students' NYSF experiences after the program are being shared regularly, and 17 news articles about the program have been published on the NYSF website, with more still in publication.

The NYSF website and social media channels showcased the wide range of events and activities we delivered throughout January. 203 posts across Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn and Instagram achieved an audience reach of over 239,000.

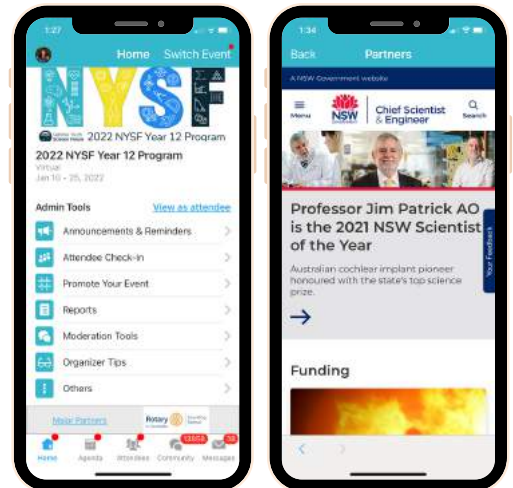
NYSF Partners were recognised for their support and were tagged in the social media posts to further promote each organisation's work, celebrate our partnership, and drive traffic to their web pages.



# RECOGNITION

The 2022 NYSF Year 12 Program offered a range of branding opportunities for partners:

- Extensively across the event app, each partner had their own sponsor page where they could add text and upload documents and video content
- For Silver+ partners, naming rights to a session during the program
- Through links to partner pages and websites
- At the start of each live session in January
- At the beginning of each digital session recording
- On the back of the official participant T-Shirt
- Across NYSF website, media and social media
- On session recordings uploaded to the NYSF YouTube channel



# BEYOND JANUARY

Program participants are now NYSF alumni and can access a range of opportunities through our NYSF Connect Program. NYSF Connect provides resources, information, professional development, and networking opportunities to our 14,000+ alumni.

In 2021, the NYSF continued its NYSF Connect webinar series, providing high-quality content on issues and areas of STEM relevant to NYSF alumni. The webinar series saw 17 STEM leaders present a variety of STEM content, 494 alumni attend the webinars, and 215 viewed recorded sessions on the NYSF YouTube channel. The NYSF's top ten webinars were made available for public viewing during National Science Week.

A two-day in-person STEM visit for 2021 alumni was held in Melbourne at The University of Melbourne and Monash University campuses. Other planned 2021 NYSF Connect STEM visits and networking events were unfortunately cancelled due to the pandemic restrictions at the time. Adelaide STEM visits that were cancelled during the January 2022 NYSF Year 12 Program were held in April. The 2022 Year 12 Program postponed STEM visits in Brisbane, Sydney, Newcastle, Melbourne and Canberra have been rescheduled for July for alumni.

We look forward to providing NYSF Alumni with an array of opportunities throughout 2022, including the continuation of the successful webinar series, networking events, professional development and more.



88%

rated the webinar series "extremely valuable" (33%) or "very valuable" (55%)

71

average attendance at each webinar



# YOUR IMPACT

The NYSF values our long-standing partnership with Rotary Australia; your continued support and involvement enable us to provide immersive programs that showcase exciting, real-world STEM careers. Feedback gained over many years shows these experiences are truly transformational, helping students explore and connect with diverse STEM opportunities, ensuring an informed and skilled STEM workforce for Australia.

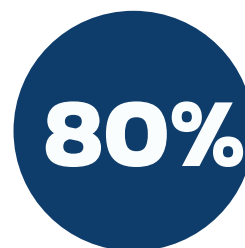
## NYSF YEAR 12 PROGRAM

Rotary has contributed to STEM educational outreach by participating in the 2022 NYSF Year 12 Program in a variety of ways:

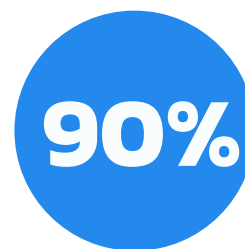
- Student selections - Rotary volunteers across 17 districts have assisted with the selection of NYSF participants, by assisting with the promotion of the program, conducting selection interviews and hosting orientations to prepare selected students for the program
- Rotary generously provided funding for numerous participants to assist them to attend the 2022 NYSF Year 12 Program. This funding support was crucial for students who otherwise may not have been able to experience the benefits of participating in the program and the NYSF alumni community
- Rotary Session - A 1.5-hour session during the 2022 NYSF Year 12 Program which included a Rotary welcome with Dr Jessie Harman, Rotary for Bees - John McCaskill, Rotary & Polio - Ken Hall, The Hunt for a Malaria Vaccine - Dr Danielle Stanisic and Rotoract - Tanul Anand
- Rotary volunteers attended in-person hubs to provide first aid and support to students and volunteer staff on a daily basis. Rotary volunteers are a crucial part of the supervisory team during the program, playing a key role to ensure participants and student staff have a safe, happy and healthy program
- Perth Hub volunteers – over five days Rotarians Anthony Colin Devitt, Stephen Genoni, Greg Vines, Marilyn Barton and Simon Cubitt supported WA participants and student staff
- Adelaide Hub (held in April) – over three days Margaret Northcote, Richard Bowyer, Chris Steketee, David Dewar, Jon Harmer, Sujoy Banerjee and Sonia Scheptiuk supported SA participants and student staff
- July Hubs - TBC in Brisbane, Sydney, Newcastle, Canberra and Melbourne NYSF will contact Rotary clubs in these areas soon to organise volunteers
- All online content was recorded and will be available to program participants for future viewing via the NYSF YouTube Channel for 12 months
- Rotarians were invited to join selected online sessions during the program
- A promotional video is currently in production to assist Rotarians with the recruitment of participants for the 2023 NYSF Year 12 Program



views of social media posts mentioning Rotary Australia as an NYSF Partner from May 2021 to February 2022.



of survey respondents rated the NYSF Year 12 Program Rotary session good to brilliant.



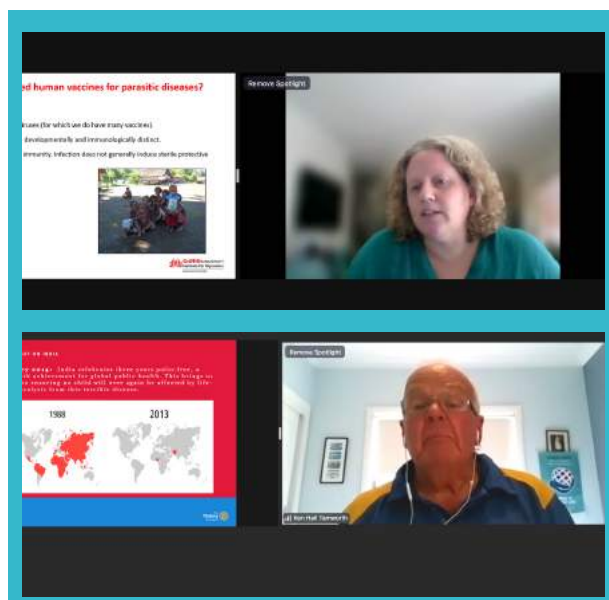
of survey respondents rated the Rotary and NYSF Online Orientations as good to brilliant

**"Without the support of the Rotary Club of Orange, I would not have considered being able to attend this program. The financial support from the Rotary Foundation allowed the program to be accessible to me and as I am sure many others."**

**"The Rotary session was really good. It was super cool to see all the stats and the work that they've done towards polio and malaria, and it was very interesting to hear about the vaccine that they are supporting the development of it. I had also never heard of Rotoract, it sounds very cool and definitely something I'd be interested in joining after I finish Year 12."**

**"I got a 50% Rotary sponsorship and it let me know that they really cared about my learning about STEM and it encouraged me to want to encourage others who have the same passion to pursue stem too."**

-2022 NYFS Participants



# YOUR IMPACT

## NYSF CONNECT PROGRAM

The NYSF Connect Webinar Series facilitates continued STEM education, career development and networking amongst our 14,000-strong Alumni network. We delivered seven monthly webinars across 2021, providing access to prominent STEM leaders from all around Australia. Rotarians are invited to join our NYSF Connect webinars.

We are currently planning the NYSF Connect Webinar Series for 2022. The webinars will be recorded and made available to NYSF alumni for future viewing via the NYSF YouTube Channel.

As part of the NYSF Connect Program for 2022, there will be a number of in-person activities organised for our alumni. STEM hub visits organised for the Year 12 Program, which were unfortunately postponed (except Perth) due to public health restrictions, have been rescheduled to take place in July. This includes visits in Sydney, Newcastle, Canberra, Brisbane and Melbourne. The postponed visits in Adelaide were held in April.

**"I really enjoyed the discussion about different factors that affect mental health and how these relate to other areas such as policy and social work."**

- 2021 Webinar Attendee



**"I really enjoyed the opportunity to listen to professionals who have succeeded in STEM and how we, as students, can be inspired to see that the mark at the end of year 12 does not define our character and life - it is a stepping stone into our STEM future."**

- 2021 Webinar Attendee

# THANK YOU

As a highly valued Partner, the NYSF is deeply grateful for Rotary Australia's ongoing commitment and support which has helped the NYSF provide immersive science, technology engineering and mathematics (STEM) experiences for young people across Australia.

In these challenging times, the NYSF values the support you give us to continue our life-changing programs for Australia's most talented and diverse STEM students, Australia's future STEM workforce.

Please let us know if you would like to discuss additional opportunities to expand and deepen your impact with the NYSF. We look forward to your continued support.



## CONTACT US

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