

**NATIONAL YOUTH SCIENCE FORUM
REMARKS BY
HER EXCELLENCY PROFESSOR THE HONOURABLE KATE WARNER AC
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA
DRAWING ROOM, GOVERNMENT HOUSE, MONDAY 8 OCTOBER 2018**

Good morning. Dick and I welcome you to Government House to this annual event for Tasmanian students attending the forthcoming National Youth Science Forum Year 12 Program.

I begin by paying my respects to the traditional and original owners of this land— the Mouheneener people. I acknowledge the contemporary Tasmanian Aboriginal community, who have survived invasion and dispossession, and continue to maintain their identity, culture and Indigenous rights.

May I acknowledge among you:

- Ross Carlyle, District Governor Rotary Tasmania;
- Lorraine Dyson, District Chair NYSF 9830;
- Rosemary Anderson, President, Science Teachers Association Tasmania;
- Dr Damien Pearce, CEO, NYSF;
- Jeannie-Marie LeRoi, representing the University of Tasmania;
- Professor Brian Yates, Executive Dean Sciences and Engineering, UTAS.

I understand that there are 12 of the 2019 selected Tasmanian students here today — I congratulate each one of you on your achievement.

Welcome also to NYSF alumni and to the parents and friends of this year's successful students.

Rotary, as a Founding Partner of the Forum provides critical support throughout, from student selection to billeting and transport support. One measure of how influential your input has been is that for the NYSF 2018 Year 12 Program, the number of places available to participants from across Australia has increased from 400 to six hundred.

Another impressive NYSF statistic – and bearing in mind that the NYSF has been operating for 35 years now – is that something like 80% of participants go on to study STEM at tertiary level, and a majority of those move into postgraduate study.

The NYSF Year 12 Program is carefully designed to develop and support your engagement in the STEM fields, affording you a unique taster of study and career pathways in science, engineering and technology.

Your site tours, lab visits and lectures at the Australian National University and the University of Queensland, will represent a fabulous academic opportunity – I therefore strongly urge you to make each day count, although you probably don't need much by way of encouragement.

And I understand that there is a decent social side to it all, which is also important. The National Youth Science Forum is designed precisely to be a whole-of-life experience.

So it is all before you. Congratulations again; and thanks once again to Rotary District 9830 for all the fine work you do and your commitment to the National Youth Science Forum.

Thank you.