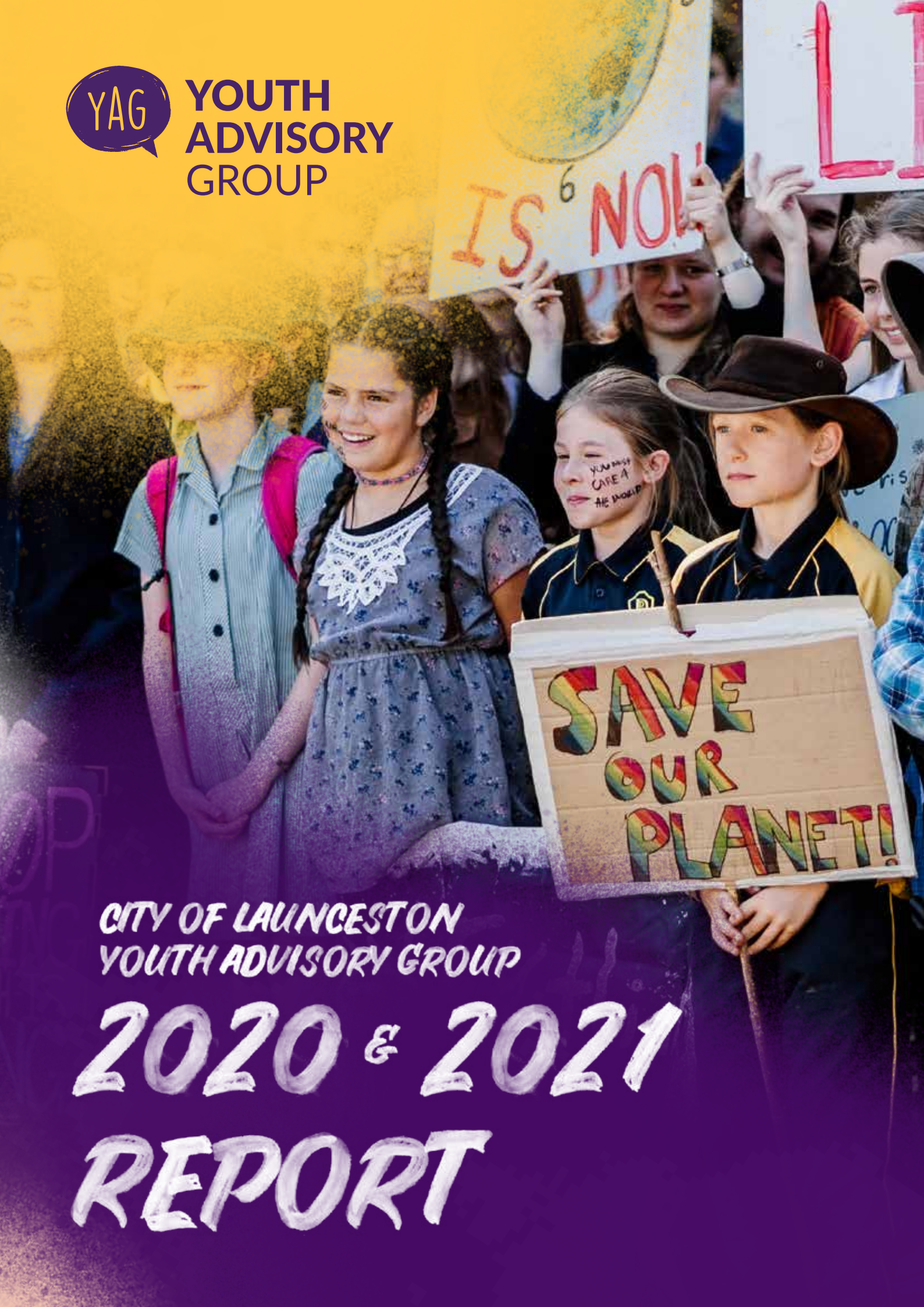




**YOUTH  
ADVISORY  
GROUP**



**CITY OF LAUNCESTON  
YOUTH ADVISORY GROUP**

# **2020 & 2021 REPORT**

Since its inception in 1997, the Launceston Youth Advisory Group (YAG) has worked to promote the contributions that young people make to their municipality and the broader community.

YAG comprises young people aged 12–25 years and selected mentors who provide guidance. The group's primary role is to act as a consultative and communicative link between the City of Launceston Council and young people. YAG also plays a vital role in informing and advising the broader community about matters that affect them.

The 2021 Youth Advisory Group consisted of 21 members from 8 different schools across Launceston; University of Tasmania, Prospect High School, Launceston Church Grammar School, Launceston College, St Patrick's College, Scotch Oakburn College, Newstead College and Kings Meadows High School.

# YOUTH ADVISORY GROUP

YAG boasts an exciting line-up of annual guest speakers, project involvement opportunities and tailored learning themes throughout the year, including:

- **MARKETING AND BRANDING**
- **EVENT PLANNING**
- **PROJECT MANAGEMENT**
- **GRANT MANAGEMENT**
- **COUNCIL DECISION MAKING: BEHIND THE SCENES**
- **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: WHAT IS IT, AND WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?**
- **CONCEPT PITCH DEVELOPMENT**
- **SUSTAINABILITY**

Throughout the year guest speakers will include Councillors, City of Launceston staff and business operators from across Launceston - offering great industry insights while also creating an extra added layer of knowledge to the YAG learning experience.

YAG students have a range of exciting projects planned for the year ahead; from first hand experience with annual community events such as Youth Week, SEED grant application management and allocation for projects taking place across our City, understanding community engagement methods, journalism insights with local news platforms such as The Examiner through the student paper 'Momentum', group and solo project ideation and management through to marketing curation, implementation and presentation skills.

This program is a brilliant extracurricular option for students who are seeking further industry learning opportunities alongside their school studies.

The YAG program runs across four school terms, with fortnightly session at Town Hall from 4 pm to 5pm on a nominated day of the week. Upon completion, all students who have completed the YAG program will be presented with a Certificate of Completion, outlining all micro-credential topics completed and an overview of skills learnt throughout the program, approved by the City of Launceston YAG team.

To explore the program for, or apply to be involved - visit [www.launceston.tas.gov.au/YAG](http://www.launceston.tas.gov.au/YAG)

# COUNCIL BUSINESS

Youth Advisory Group members are young leaders in a shared decision-making environment who have the opportunity to present to council on matters of importance, as required.

## YAG REPRESENTS IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS 2020

In December 2020, the Youth Advisory Group (YAG) had the opportunity to ask questions to his worship the Mayor around issues relating to young people in Launceston followed up with presenting the YAG report.

Some of the issues that were discussed in the Youth council meeting were around COVID 19 pandemic and its impact on arts/theatre industry and conducting events, tackling discrimination issues, supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders and updates on previous agenda items.

# TEAM BUILDING



Camping at Camp Carnaco, Swan Point (2021)



The inaugural YAG camp for the old and returning YAG members took place on Thursday 28th and 29th January at Camp Carnaco, Swan Point. The camp included some fun activities and ice breakers to interact with other members of YAG through some team building activities, brain storming ideas and discussing personal / group goals for 2021.

# SUPPORTING LAUNCESTON

The Youth Advisory Group members are passionate about making a difference to social issues and the lives of young people in Launceston. During the year, members have supported campaigns, sought feedback and created events to deliver key messages.

## 1000 HEARTS PROJECT 2020



The 1000 hearts project began in 2016 offering people a symbol of compassion and care. YAG members sourced, eco-friendly materials, making the hearts out of felt, and made 100 hearts during the YAG meetings. At the last meeting the group went around Launceston's CBD to distribute the hearts to local businesses and youth organisations.

"Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the project and it was a great way to finish our year." - YAG member



## 'STAY HOME SAVE LIVES' COMPETITION 2020

YAG members got together on an online forum during the pandemic to come up with a number of initiatives to keep young people engaged in the community while they were in isolation.

The 'Stay Home Save Lives' competition was organised in collaboration with West Tamar's Youth Advisory Council to implement. The competition involved young people in Launceston posting a picture on social media of what they were doing at home during lockdown and using the hashtag #stayhomesaveliveslaunceston. The competition for four weeks and then a winner was drawn, who won a \$100 JB hifi voucher.

"It was a great accomplishment by both youth groups and something we could run again, should another lockdown in Tasmania occur." - YAG member

## YOUNG LOCAL LEGENDS CAMPAIGN 2020

During the pandemic YAG also came up with the Young Local Legends Campaign. This involved the community nominating a young person who showed strength and kindness during the pandemic. All the nominations were featured on Facebook and Instagram pages.

"We had several local legends and it was a great success." - YAG member





## LAUNCESTON BRAND WELCOME PACKS 2021

The Youth Welcome to Launnie Pack was a collaborative project between the City of Launceston's Youth Advisory Group, My Place My Future, the Migrant Resource Centre and the Launceston Place Brand Project.

Using the recently developed Launceston Place Brand Guidelines, and with support from professional designers, YAG members participated in a collaborative workshop with MRC North representatives to develop bespoke designs for each individual item in the Pack depicting their sense of belonging and welcoming in a cross-cultural friendly way. Together, they designed five pieces of merchandise comprising a lanyard, frisbee, tote bag, wristband and screen cloth. The aim was to distribute the Packs to newly arrived Australians by YAG members, MRC North, and employees from the City of Launceston accompanied by a Welcoming Letter from the Mayor.



## ROCK CHALLENGE 2021

The Riverbend Rock Challenge, an annual event part of Youth Week Tasmania was held on Saturday 17th April at the Boathouse end of Riverbend Park. It was organised in conjunction with The Tasmanian Rock Challenge, IO Performance & Launceston City Council to celebrate emerging Tasmanian talent.

Seven bands participated in the challenge Cienah Lette, Elkie Kershaw, Frogs In Suits, Happy Droogs, Phoebe Kelbassa, Rosella, CASED.

YAG had great fun in helping organise everything on the day including MC-ing.

YAG also actively participated in advising, organising and delivering other projects across the Community Development team including:

- **Skate Park League (2021)** at the Ravenswood Skate Park including doing field work on the day
- **Harmony Day (2021)** at the Civic Square including doing field work on the day

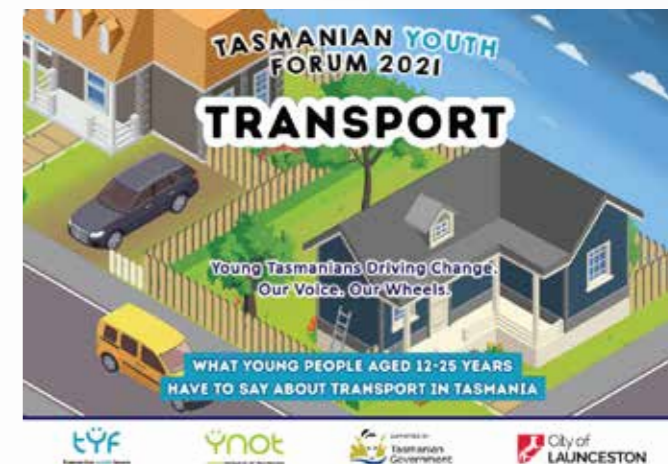
## VOICE OF THE YOUTH

**City Heart Project (2021)** YAG has had continuous involvement in Launceston City heart project advising the Place Making team and being the voice of the Youth in Launceston

**C Card program (2021)** Kristen from the Youth Health North team came along to chat with YAG about the 'C Card program' and a discussion about some sexual health topics, including safety, consent and information about condoms. The 'C Card program' involves giving out free condoms/dams and lubricant to young people. Kristen and the team were really interested in ideas and thoughts about the program and how the process can be improved.

"I valued their discussions. They were an amazing group and I loved my time with them." - Kristen

**Emergency Management (2021)** The City of Launceston's Emergency Management team talked with YAG on the response and recovery strategies council applies in case of an emergency. The YAG meeting was converted to an evacuation centre for the evening where lots of assistance was available along with some refreshments! YAG members also had fun designing evacuation centres site maps and providing Nathalie and Stephen some advice and feedback on how the centres can be set up to include needs of young people.



## TASMANIAN YOUTH FORUM: TRANSPORT 2021

YAG members participated in YNOT's Tasmanian Youth Forum (TYF) giving Young Tasmanians to have their say on Transport in Tasmania.

TYF 2021 provided a platform for YAG to share their thoughts, experiences, ideas and solutions regarding transport in Tasmania. The program focussed on transport accessibility, environmental impacts, inclusivity, private transport, personal safety, road safety, and transport in regional areas.

## YOUTH SUMMIT 2021

YAG had the opportunity to participate in the Youth Summit organised by Youth Advisory Council West Tamar where local government youth councils from around Tasmania came together to create an avenue for sharing and generating new ideas to make a real difference in the community.

The City of Launceston was also involved in the event through supporting a key speaker to present at the summit.



## EXAMINER STUDENT NEWSPAPER PROGRAM 2021

City of Launceston supported the Examiner student newspaper program, known as Momentum. The student publication is a newspaper written by youth for youth.

Each year, YAG is offered the opportunity to take part and utilise the publication to advertise for members and contribute to online content of the publication. The publication can be found at [www.examiner.com.au/youthnetwork](http://www.examiner.com.au/youthnetwork)

The Youth Advisory Group (YAG) is supported by three sitting Aldermen who provide valuable advice, mentoring and guidance. YAG would like to thank Deputy Mayor Danny Gibson, Councillor Hugh McKenzie and Councillor Nick Daking for their contribution for the course of 2020 - 2021.

## SEED STUDENT COUNCIL FUNDING 2021

Student Executive Equity Development (SEED) is a leadership program run by the Council's Youth Advisory Group (YAG) to help foster leadership and enable the launch of Launceston Student Council projects through funding.

The YAG was part of the assessment panel with support and guidance from the Youth Development Officer to assess all applications.

After assessment by the committee, the following schools received funding in 2021:

- \$750 awarded to Launceston Church Grammar School to set-up sunscreen stations at local primary schools. The project aim was to implement knowledge on the dangers of sun exposure from the primary school age to foster a community that practices good sun safety habits and encourage students to make wearing sunscreen part of their daily routine.
- \$750 was awarded to Brooks High School to design and develop signage for 4 sports houses as a way to promote and build a positive house culture. Students engaged local business to provide the signage and utilised student voices to determine the final design. The aim of the project was to build a positive school culture relating to the 4 school sports houses and promote their values.

Picture: Philip Biggs  
Article by: Sarah Davison,  
Examiner Newspaper

## YAG MEMBERS

Andrew (Yang) Dong

Casey Puccetti

Charles Smith

Erin Guest

Erin Massey

Freya Cooper

Gabrielle Dewsbury

Hannah Goss

Izzy Alexander

Jasmine Van Asperen

Jemma Walters

Jorja Sigtenhorst

Kaidan Gibson

Katie Cross

Kyle Dwight Cos

Luwanna Beeton

Mitchell Fulton

Neve Ringk

Nihad Mohamed

Ryan Puccetti

Shanelle Elliott

Tariku Brammall



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**LEADERSHIP, MENTORSHIP  
AND INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE  
FOR YOUNG LEADERS IN  
LAUNCESTON.**

The Youth Advisory Group (YAG) is a program for students between the ages of 12 to 25 who are looking for industry experience and mentorship.

With an annual line up of guest speakers and projects on offer, YAG offers the opportunity to learn about a range of industry fields through this fortnightly student program.

**APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN FOR 2022**

[www.launceston.tas.gov.au/YAG](http://www.launceston.tas.gov.au/YAG)