



# Mary Jane Lewis Scholarship Foundation 2023 Annual Update

## 2023 MJL scholars



6 New scholars



18 Continuing scholars



104 Scholars since 2005

### Alumni Story - Julia Mauro

I love taking opportunities for personal development. My mum raised the four of us as a working single mum. She worked really hard to instill in us a love of learning.

I was a school captain of my high school, though I hadn't expected to end up a school leader. Others saw potential in me that I hadn't seen. After seeing an advertisement in an education magazine, I put an application together, attended the interview and was over the moon when I not only received an offer to attend Melbourne Law School but I won an MJL scholarship to study there. I commenced the scholarship in 2006 and was able to participate in an exchange to the Free University of Berlin in 2008. MJL helped me learn more about the legal industry and establish connections, setting me up with a professional mentor, introducing me to the trustees and inviting me to exclusive tours of the Victorian Parliament and County Court. I felt that I was valued as a person rather than just being pigeon-holed for where I had come from.



Highlights from my time as a scholar include mentoring opportunities, attending a financial literacy seminar, an opportunity to be on the scholarship interview panel, a chance meeting with a DLT scholar during a volunteer placement in Samoa, and delivering a speech at the Annual Dinner in 2013. Since graduating, I have been an Australian Youth Ambassador for Development, completed my Masters while working as in-house counsel in Indigenous local government and, in 2017, I achieved mediator accreditation as a regional scholarship winner of the Jack Cranstoun Scholarship. I currently work as Senior Legal Officer with the Torres Strait Island Regional Council.

The Lewis scholarships are much more than financial backing for university studies. As a scholar, you are not on your own. You become a beneficiary and a representative of a wonderful legacy. In recent years, I have donated to the MJL annual fundraising appeal. I know that giving back and "paying it forward" was part of Dafydd Lewis' philosophy. Likewise, I want to contribute to supporting others like me to go to university.

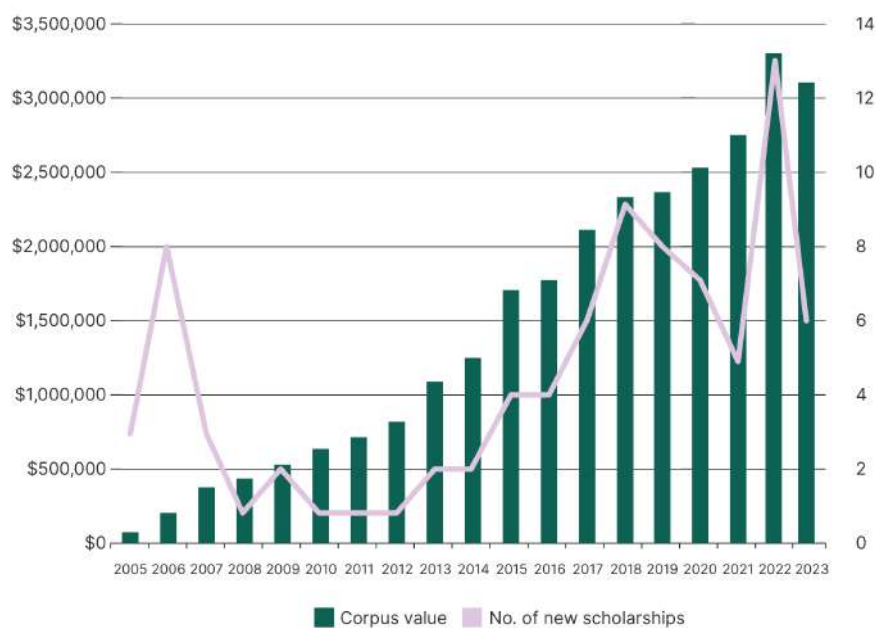
The Mary Jane Lewis Scholarship Foundation is now endorsed as a tax deductible gift recipient (DGR) under Item 1 of the table in section 30-15 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

Donate online to make a tax-deductible gift: [www.givenow.com.au/mjlsf](http://www.givenow.com.au/mjlsf)

## MJL Financials

Equity Trustees is the Corporate Trustee of the Mary Jane Lewis Scholarship Foundation and responsible for the prudent investment of the Foundation's assets. It works in collaboration with the Scholarship council members to give young women the opportunity to embark upon a university education.

- Raised \$106,216.87 in donations for the 2022/2023 year.
- As of 5 May 2023, the Foundation has more than \$3.09m in total assets.



## Women in Transport Scholarships

As part of the 'Women in Transport' program, the Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) and several of its partner agencies have once again partnered with the Mary Jane Lewis Scholarship Foundation to provide transport sector scholarships. A total of 30 scholarships have been funded thus far. In 2023, 2 scholarships were awarded. DTP are also working towards offering Mary Jane Lewis Scholars opportunities for internships and graduate roles in the transport network. A tailored Gain Real Opportunities in Work (GROW) program run by the Level Crossings Removal Project will be hosted for MJL scholars to learn more about careers for women in the transport sector and MJL scholars will have the opportunity to attend a site visit of a transport venue later on in 2023.

## Dyson Bequest Scholarships

We are very grateful to the Dyson Bequest for their ongoing support of MJL. The Dyson Bequest has funded a total of four scholarships thus far. Representatives from the Dyson bequest have extended their support of the foundation by attending events and joining our 2023 selection panel. Thank you to those involved!