



MEDIA / NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ZONTA AWARD TO PERTH COLLEGE STUDENT

Perth College Year 12 student Samantha Hackman has won the 2018 Zonta Club of Perth Northern Suburbs' \$1,000 'Young Women in Public Affairs Award'. A cheque and certificate were presented at a lavish dinner for 92 at 'Ambrose Estate' Wembley on 5 September. Western Australian law firm Kott Gunning has been a Gold Sponsor of the Awards since 2012.

This Award was initiated by Zonta International in 1990 to recognise young women for their—

- Commitment to volunteerism;
- Volunteer leadership achievements; and
- Dedication to the advancement of the status of women.

Since that time 888 awards have been given to 756 young women representing 56 countries. These young women will be tomorrow's policy-makers and world leaders.

Samantha has already shown great leadership, educating and assisting her peers about mental health. She believes mental health should be treated as a comma and not a full-stop as life should go on with time, support and treatment.

On the world stage she is a member of the United Nations' Youth West Australia and has been selected to represent this State in Adelaide. *"I am very excited to have the opportunity to discuss adult issues at the Conference"*, she said.

Samantha believes that women should look out for each other. She added, *"Women are bombarded by social media with societal expectations. Women need to lead by example and not worry about 'fitting in' or 'how they look'. Our priority should be integrity of character and what one stands for."*

In her ideal world Samantha would like to volunteer her services to the developing world to help advance sustainable agriculture. She would like to complete a Bachelor of Arts majoring in Political Sciences, International Relations and Agricultural Sciences.

Zonta International is a leading global organisation of professionals empowering women worldwide through service and advocacy.

For more information about the organisation, refer to our websites: www.zonta.org, or www.zontaperthns.org.au, or contact us via secretary@zontaperthns.org.au.

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Enc. Photographs

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Photographs for Captions Only – Originals attached separately.



Three Finalists of the Award – L-R: Palistha Shrestha (Chisholm College), Samantha Hackman (Award Winner from Perth College) and Tyla Gilbert (Woodvale Secondary College).



Award Winner Samantha Hackman and Kott Gunning Partner, Emma Leys