

Hon Susan Close MP

Minister for Higher Education and Skills

Tuesday, July 18, 2017

How Paul Vasileff conquered the research project - and then the world

Young Australian of the Year, Paul Vasileff, will inspire thousands of senior secondary Research Project students with a keynote address at next month's SACE Research Project Student Expo at the Adelaide Showground.

The South Australian-born founder of internationally-renowned couture house Paolo Sebastian is living his dream – all of which began in his senior secondary year at school.

Vasileff launched Paolo Sebastian in his final year at school, after receiving full marks for his 'Staging a fashion show' extension studies subject, the precursor to today's Research Project.

Secondary school students (both past and present) from sixteen South Australian schools will showcase their unique Research Projects to the thousands of visitors at the expo, and nineteen research-focused organisations from various industries will provide inspiration and information, with interactive displays and presentations.

Background

Established in 2014, the two-day Research Project Student Expo attracts more than 4,000 senior secondary students, largely in years 10 and 11, from across the government, independent and Catholic school sectors.

It is designed to inspire and inform students who are studying, or about to commence, the Research Project.

The expo is held at the Adelaide Showground, 8-9 August 2017. More information is available at www.sace.sa.edu.au/expo2017

Quotes attributable to Education and Child Development Minister Susan Close

What makes the event unique is the opportunity for students to hear from young people who have successfully completed projects on a broad range of topics – the challenges they faced, and how they overcame them.

Paul Vasileff is a perfect example of how research project skills can be applied to future study and career aspirations.

Quotes attributable to Young Australian of the Year Paul Vasileff

My whole Year 12 — and even Year 11 — was really about Paolo Sebastian. My Business Studies assignment was a business plan and my IT assignment was the logo.

Quotes attributable to SACE Board Chief Executive Dr Neil McGoran

The Research Project is fundamental for SACE students because it enables them to develop skills for life-long learning and jobs of the future.

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