

Meriden Students Shine on the National Stage at Clay Gulgong

Meriden is proud to celebrate an exceptional achievement by four Visual Arts students, who were named finalists in the National K–12 Ceramics Exhibition, earning national recognition for their outstanding ceramic artworks.

The National K–12 Ceramics Exhibition is a prestigious juried competition showcasing exemplary student ceramic work from schools across Australia. This year, the exhibition was presented as part of Clay Gulgong, a major international ceramics festival held in north-western NSW and widely regarded as one of Australia's leading events for ceramic art and education.

Our students' works were selected from a highly competitive national field and exhibited at the Holtermann Museum in Gulgong, a respected cultural institution that hosts exhibitions by prominent Australian and international artists. Displaying their work in a professional museum setting alongside established ceramic practitioners was a significant and memorable opportunity for the students.

Adding to the significance of the occasion, the exhibition was judged by Keith Brymer Jones, the internationally renowned British ceramic artist and much-loved judge from the UK television series *The Great Pottery Throwdown*. Judges praised the high standard of student entries, noting the impressive creativity, technical competence and expressive qualities demonstrated across the exhibition.

Meriden warmly congratulates the following students on their remarkable success:

- Shimmer Ghodke — *Winner, Stage 4 category*
- Victoria Cung — National finalist
- Rebecca Li — National finalist
- Taylah Tracey — *Highly Commended by the judges*

Shimmer's Stage 4 win represents an outstanding national achievement, recognising both creative originality and technical excellence. Taylah's Highly Commended award further reflects the depth of talent within the finalist group and the strong impression made by Meriden students on the judging panel.

This success is a testament to the students' commitment, perseverance and passion for ceramics, as well as the vibrant and supportive learning environment fostered through Meriden's Visual Arts program. Achievements such as these highlight the value of creative education and the confidence gained when students are supported to explore ambitious ideas and refine their artistic voices.

Meriden congratulates these talented young artists on their well-deserved recognition and looks forward to seeing where their creative journeys take them next.

Ms Gillian Legge
Head of Design and Creative Arts



Rebecca Li



Shimmer Ghodke



Taylah Tracey



Victoria Cung