***Education scholarships to change lives of Australian women experiencing hardship***

* ***87 4-year Harding Miller Education Foundation scholarships to be announced at Public Education Foundation’s annual awards night at Sydney Town Hall on Wednesday 15th May***
* ***Harding Miller Education Foundation providing high achieving young Australian women experiencing hardship with tools, resources and support to help them reach their full potential***
* ***Since its launch in 2015 Harding Miller Education Foundation has supported over 350 scholarship recipients in NSW. This year the Foundation has expanded to provide scholarships to QLD, VIC and SA***

**DATE:** Women in Australia continue to be underrepresented in positions of power and over represented in under paid jobs. Australia’s Workplace Gender Equality Agency recently found that the highest paid men are earning at least $162,000 more than the highest paid women.[[1]](#footnote-2)

The Harding Miller Education Foundation is on a mission to change these statistics.

On Wednesday 15th May at Sydney Town Hall the Harding Miller Education Foundation will be awarding 87 scholarships to high academic achieving female high school students experiencing hardship.

Since its launch in 2015 Harding Miller Education Foundation has supported over 350 scholarship recipients in NSW. This year the Foundation has expanded to provide scholarships to QLD, VIC AND SA.

“We are delighted to announce the Harding Miller Education Foundation 2019 scholarship winners next week. Many girls in economically disadvantaged families across Australia unfortunately don’t have access to the equipment, resources and support that others from higher socio-economic families do. The Harding Miller Education Foundation is focused on providing these students with the tools and support to help them reach their full potential” says Cara Varian, Executive Director at the Harding Miller Education Foundation.

“In recent years we have seen such strong support from our incredible sponsors, partners, educators and volunteers which has enabled our Foundation to grow and support even more young women this year. We are very excited to be providing scholarships to QLD, VIC and SA this year and aim to have one recipient from every state and territory next year,” says Cara Varian.

The Harding Miller Education Foundation Scholarship program gives young girls across Australia who are experiencing hardship the tools and support to help optimise academic success and achieve their tertiary education and career aspirations. Scholarship recipients receive new laptops, high speed internet, face-to-face and online tutoring, subject and career guidance, mentoring and financial support to help cover the costs of uniforms, books and school expenses.

The 4-year scholarships are awarded to students in Year 9 through to Year 12 with each scholar required to show accountability and commitment throughout the program.

 Four years of scholarship support is valued at over $20,000.

To find out more information, get involved or support the Harding Miller Education Foundation please visit <http://www.hardingmillereducationfoundation.org.au>

**For media interviews and further information please contact Sari-Elle Kraemer on 0407284457 or via email on** **skraemer@alphaconsulting.global**

**About the Harding Miller Foundation**

Kim Harding and Irene Miller established the Harding Miller Education Foundation in 2015. Both Kim and Irene have been long term champions of the education of young Australian women and of public education.

The Harding Miller Education Foundation Scholarship Program provides the tools and support to lift the educational achievements and career aspirations of girls with high academic potential who are facing hardship. The value of the 4- year support is up to $20,000 and includes new laptops, high speed internet, face-to-face and online tutoring, subject and career guidance, mentoring and financial support to help cover the costs of uniforms, books and school expenses.

1. https://www.wgea.gov.au/data/wgea-research/gender-equity-insights-inside-australias-gender-pay-gap [↑](#footnote-ref-2)