



United Nations  
Association  
of Australia  
NSW Division

ISSUE 3 // MAY 2019

# UNAA NSW *news*





SAFER

FAIRER

MORE SUSTAINABLE

FOR A SAFER, FAIRER AND MORE SUSTAINABLE WORLD



# Welcome from the President

It has been a very productive start to the year for all of us here at the United Nations Association of Australia NSW Division. Working with community leaders and technical experts across the health, gender and religious sectors has widened the scope and deepened the impact of our work.

Our commitment to the ideals of the United Nations, especially fraternity and solidarity with the marginalised, allows us not just to better convey the work of the UN to the Australian public through presentations, forums and panels, but also to advise and advocate at policy level, pursuing a world where, “the inherent dignity and ... equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world.”

(Preamble, UN Declaration of Human Rights)

May we continue our work together to create a better world for all in the wonderful spirit of humanitarian mateship.

**Dr Patrica Jenkins**  
President  
United Nations Association of Australia, NSW Division

## THANKYOU

A huge thank you for your ongoing support of the United Nations Associations NSW Division. Your investment in our work is helping us to build a more just and sustainable world, together. Follow us on online on

[www.unaa.org.au](http://www.unaa.org.au)

- nswunaa
- unaansw
- unaansw
- [bit.ly/2Hr0l6f](https://bit.ly/2Hr0l6f)

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UNAA NSW Division unless otherwise stated.



## > CREATING OUR FUTURE EXHIBITION

The Creating Our Future exhibition, a collaboration between Founder Naomi Kroll and the United Nations Association of Australia, showcases innovative ways of achieving the 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

Through a curated exhibition of visual and interactive art as well as a business entrepreneurship, like Pass it On Clothing and Co, the event fostered a space for real collaboration and progress on Goals like: No Poverty, Clean Water and Sanitation and Affordable and Clean Energy. Exhibition winners included, Anton Pulvirenti, whose artwork depicting the Sydney protest against the

proposed Adani’s Cole Mine in Queensland addressed goal seven, Affordable and Clean energy. All the profit from the sale of the artworks went towards UNICEF Australia, with over \$600 raised in total.

Watch [highlights](#) from this video about the event and explore its [Facebook page](#).



## > INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

To celebrate International Women's Day, held on March 6 2019, the United Nations Association of Australia (NSW) and [White Ribbon Australia](#) hosted a panel discussion featuring high-profile local men and women - leaders, role models and mentors – to address the theme for this year of “More Powerful Together.”

Dr Patricia Jenkins, President of the United Nations Association of Australia gave a welcome address at the event, which was held in Sydney's Barangaroo to raise the profile of domestic violence prevention work of organisations like White Ribbon Australia and of the wide-ranging advocacy work on gender equality and women's empowerment performed by the United Nations and its agencies.

Dr Jenkins spoke of the central importance to women's education and development work, noting the significance of women's empowerment to the improvement of entire marginalised communities.

For Elizabeth Baldwin, a 22-year-old International Relations at the University of New South Wales, the event was a powerful testament to what can be achieved when women with a thirst for social justice work together on gender inequality.

“The variety of speakers at this event really compelled me to be involved. The way forward in addressing gender inequality



is in a multifaceted and multi-disciplinary approach,” Ms Baldwin said.

A practical approach to the challenges of domestic violence was also an important way to achieve safer and more equitable societies, for Ms Baldwin.

“The event opened my eyes to the widespread degree of domestic violence in Australia. It's an endemic problem, and that's something which Danny Mekati, community spokesperson and CEO of AusRelief, spoke to really well.”

The UNAA NSW Division will continue to work to raise the visibility of marginalised women at home and globally.

## > THE TRANSITIONS FILM FESTIVAL

Film can be a powerful medium for social justice. On Thursday April 4, the UNAA NSW Division was privileged to partner with the Transitions Film Festival, and to feature a film called ‘Youth Unstoppable,’ which showcased the lived experience of millions living on the very front lines of climate change. The screening was followed by a panel discussion with young climate justice advocates, with speakers like Joshua Karras, the Executive Manager of the United Nations Association of Australia NSW, Aref Taleb, State Leader of the Australian Youth Climate Coalition New South Wales and Tom Dawkins, CEO of StartSomeGood.com and Convenor of the Think Act Change social enterprise.

The film, directed by young American climate justice advocate, Slater Jewell-Kemker, tells the compelling story of her encounter with an international array of young leaders, who are working for policy level change which enshrines cuts in carbon emissions in their respective national laws, all over the world.

For Eamon Hayward, a 26-year-old Sydney based Graphic Designer, seeing ‘Youth Unstoppable,’ was a source of inspiration.

“I was stunned by how inspiring Slater, the girl at the centre of the movie was. Her commitment to her principles at such a young age really struck me,” Mr Hayward said.

“I can be a pessimistic person but coming out of this film really gave me a positive attitude shift.”

Find out more at [www.transitionsfilmfestival.com](http://www.transitionsfilmfestival.com)



## > WORLD HEALTH DAY

UNAA NSW celebrated World Health Day (April 7) at Berala Primary School by conducting fun, informative sessions focussed on Sustainable Development Goal 3 – Good Health and Well-Being.

Through interactive activities, 200 Year five and six students were introduced to the work, goals, and values of the United Nations. Moreover, using neon-green slime, these bright, young minds were informed about the techniques aimed at the prevention of communicable diseases. Additionally, through acting demonstrations, they were taught about their human rights, mental health, and the impact of bullying on well-being.

A heartfelt thanks to event partners Jamitha Karthigeyan (Lifeline Crisis Support Supervisor), Multicultural NSW, and the entire team of volunteers and photographers who helped make the day so wonderful and the event successful.



## > UNAA NSW MARKS VESAK: THE BIRTH OF THE BUDDHA

The UNAA NSW division recently marked Vesak, a widely celebrated Buddhist festival, held to commemorate the birth, enlightenment and passing of Sakyamuni Guatama Buddha.

The holy day was celebrated with a formal Parliamentary function where Dr Patricia Jenkins, President of the UNAA NSW Division spoke as well as Henry Dang, J.P.S.D Honorable Secretary-General of the Buddhist Federation of Australia for the Most Venerable Sudhammo, President of the Federation. Leaders of both major State and Federal parties were also present at the event.

In her address, Dr Jenkins described the wide-ranging and substantial contribution of the Buddhist community to the the work of peace-building.

“The values and principles of Buddhism including compassion, respect and understanding as well as non-violence and selflessness contribute to building more peaceful, caring and inclusive communities,” Dr Jenkins said.

“The message of service to others is also most relevant in Buddha's teachings. So, on this day, let us commit to helping the less fortunate and in creating a more inclusive and peaceful world for all in the wonderful spirit of humanitarian mateship.”

Vesak day was also marked with a festive family style stall at Belmore Park in the Sydney CBD, where members of the UNAA NSW team as well as Dr Patricia Jenkins, were in attendance.

During this auspicious season, the UNAA NSW wishes peace and wellbeing to the Buddhist community of NSW and of Australia.





## IN HONOUR OF WORLD OCEANS DAY

Please join us for a free screening of BLUE, a feature documentary film charting the drastic decline in the health of our oceans.

With more than half of all marine life lost and the expansion of the industrialisation of the seas, the film sets out the challenges we are facing and the opportunities for positive change. BLUE shows us there is a way forward and the time to act is now.

**TUESDAY 4 JUNE 2019**

**6PM – 8.30PM**

Lendlease, Level 14, Tower Three  
International Towers Sydney Exchange Place  
300 Barangaroo Avenue, Barangaroo NSW 2000

Ticket registration essential: <https://events.humanitix.com.au/2019WOD>  
For general inquiries: [Jean.Santos@unaa.org.au](mailto:Jean.Santos@unaa.org.au)



# UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA DIPLOMA

## > DO YOU WANT TO LEARN HOW TO:

Communicate and instruct the basic knowledge of the United Nations, its agencies, and how it works.

Develop awareness of the aims, objectives and ideals of the United Nations.

Encourage people to participate in UN and UNAA activities that promote the UN.

Promote communication and education of the aims and objectives of the Charter of the United Nations.

Stimulate the interest of the youth in United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

Join us for our UN Diploma course. The course consists of 16 – 2 hour lectures and will cover 8 subjects and 4 competencies.

The first-trimester intake for the UN Diploma is full, but due to popular demand, registrations for the second 2019 intake is now OPEN!

Places are limited, so register your interest quickly.

**COURSE DURATION:** 25 October 2019 - 6 March 2020  
(Summer Break from 13 December 2019 to 24 January 2020)

**TIME:** 6:00 - 8:00 pm (Friday night lectures)

**VENUE:** Williams Business College, Sydney

**FURTHER DETAILS AND REGISTRATION:** <https://williams.edu.au/unaadiploma>

REGISTER

## > SUBJECTS COVERED ARE:

- > Structure of the United Nations
- > SDGs
- > UN History
- > UN Peacekeeping
- > UN Charter and Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- > UN Agencies
- > Global Citizenship
- > Issues with the UN and the way forward

## > LEARN HOW TO:

- > Manage a conflict
- > Develop and use emotional intelligence
- > Develop a project
- > Make a presentation





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[www.unaa.org.au/divisions/new-south-wales](http://www.unaa.org.au/divisions/new-south-wales)



**SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

**17 GOALS TO TRANSFORM OUR WORLD**