

MEDIA RELEASE

Embargoed to Monday 20 June 2022

Top Aussie kids picked to compete at world science and maths games

Teams announcement at Parliament House, Canberra, 20 June 2022

Thirty-one of Australia's brightest high school scientists and mathematicians have won selection to represent Australia at the UNESCO-sanctioned International Science, Informatics and Mathematical Olympiads – the world's toughest maths and science competitions for teenagers. They will compete against more than 2,000 of the world's brightest students.

The young Olympians will receive their Australian team blazers, and hear from the Minister for Industry and Science, Ed Husic, and Chief Scientist, Dr Cathy Foley, at an official team announcement ceremony at Parliament House in Canberra, on Monday 20 June. Media are invited to attend.

The selected students represent 23 schools from the ACT, NSW, VIC, QLD, SA and WA. They have spent a year participating in exams and intensive training to make the cut. The students have succeeded against more than 20,000 other students in extension programs and qualifying exams, competing against a shortlist of 237 to attend specialised training for ultimate selection of the teams.

This year's teams include Australia's first student to achieve the top overall score at the Asian Physics Olympiad, who beat more than 200 competitors from 28 countries, and a Year 8 student from Melbourne who has outperformed senior high school students to represent Australia in mathematics. Grace Chang Yuan, a Year 12 student from Methodist Ladies' College in Victoria, has also been chosen for the International Mathematical Olympiad (IMO) after scoring a gold medal and ranking sixth in the world in the European Girls Mathematical Olympiad held earlier this year.

Locally, two Canberra students are part of the Olympiads teams, with students from Narrabundah College and Merici College.

Year 12 student, Fredy Yip, from Knox Grammar School in Sydney (and 2020 IMO gold medallist), won the recent Asian Physics Olympiad with a gold medal and the top overall score of 47.6 out of 50. He said, "I am delighted that my passion for physics has been recognised and I hope my achievement will inspire other students."

Year 8 mathematics team member, William Cheah, from Melbourne's Scotch College is the youngest member of the IMO team and has been in the Australian Maths Trust's Olympiad training program since he was in Year 5. He sat the Year 7 level of the Australian Mathematics Competition when he was in Year 4, receiving a gold medal.

"It is an exciting opportunity to represent Australia at the IMO, and I look forward to meeting inspiring students from around the world," William said.

The mathematics team will travel to compete in the IMO in Norway – the first time a team has travelled internationally since the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. The science and informatics Olympians will compete in online exams and challenges supervised at approved competition venues in Australia.

MEDIA ENQUIRIES TO:

Debra Maynard on **0407 299 007** for the Biology, Chemistry, Earth Science and Physics Olympiads.
Threesides Marketing Lauren Griffiths, 0417 409 264, for the Mathematical and Informatics Olympiads.

Also contact: Abra Pressler on **02 6125 6282** for International Science Olympiad enquiries.

MEDIA BACKGROUNDER

Olympiad programs are funded through the Australian Government's National Innovation and Science Agenda. Additional support for the Science Olympiads comes from the Australian National University. Optiver is the National Sponsor of the Australian Informatics and Mathematical Olympiads.

Australia's International Science and Mathematical Olympiads programs are run by the not-for-profit Australian Science Innovations (biology, chemistry, Earth science and physics) and the Australian Maths Trust (mathematics and informatics).

The Australian team members for the 2022 International Science and Mathematical Olympiads are as follows:

**International Biology Olympiad
10–18 July**

Koen Dubrow	Year 12	Ivanhoe Grammar School	VIC
Douglas Joshi	Year 12	Balwyn High School	VIC
Quinton Nguyen	Year 12	Penleigh and Essendon Grammar School	VIC
Chi Chi Zhao	Year 12	St Peter's Collegiate Girls School	SA

**International Chemistry Olympiad
10–18 July**

Daniel Wang	Year 12	Baulkham Hills High School	NSW
Kevin Wang	Year 12	The Kings School	NSW
Kerui Yang	Year 12	James Ruse Agricultural High School	NSW
Owen Yi	Year 12	James Ruse Agricultural High School	NSW

**International Earth Science Olympiad
24–30 August**

Adrian Lehane	Year 12	Narrabundah College	ACT
Jacinta Rees	Year 11	Meriden School	NSW
Sean Roe	Year 11	John Monash Science School	VIC
Lauren Singh	Year 11	Alstonville High School	NSW
Georgia Tonkin	Year 12	Merici College	ACT
David Wang	Year 11	Brisbane State High School	QLD
Edmond Wu	Year 12	Knox Grammar School	NSW
Jonathon Zhong	Year 10	James Ruse Agricultural High School	NSW

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**International Olympiad in Informatics
7–15 August**

Joshua Chen	Year 12	Christ Church Grammar School	WA
Jerry Zirui Li	Year 11	James Ruse Agricultural High School	NSW
Evan Lin	Year 11	Melbourne High School	VIC
Arthur Sun	Year 11	Scotch College	VIC

International Mathematical Olympiad

6–16 July

William Cheah	Year 8	Scotch College	VIC
Sizhe Pan	Year 11	James Ruse Agricultural High School	NSW
Zian Shang	Year 11	Scotch College	VIC
Christopher Tran	Year 11	The University High School	VIC
Tony Yuzheng Wu	Year 12	Killara High School	NSW
Grace Chang Yuan	Year 12	Methodist Ladies' College	VIC

International Physics Olympiad**10–18 July**

Lydia Colla	Year 12	Loreto Kirribilli	NSW
Austin Lin	Year 12	Barker College	NSW
Vincent Ng	Year 12	James Ruse Agricultural High School	NSW
Tianxia (Thomas) Qiao	Year 12	Carey Baptist Grammar School	VIC
Fredy Yip	Year 12	Knox Grammar School	NSW

Learn more about the Australian Science Olympiads at: www.asi.edu.au

Learn more about the Mathematical and Informatics Olympiads at: <https://www.amt.edu.au/olympiad-programs>