



Image: Attendees at The Ethics Centre's Festival of Dangerous Ideas in 2022. Photo: Ken Leanfore.

THE ETHICS CENTRE ANNOUNCES INAUGURAL YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Ethics Centre has today announced the membership of its newly established Youth Advisory Council.

Seventy-four people, aged 13 to 25 years from across Australia, expressed interest in the opportunity to help shape Centre's future strategy. The Council will advise on ways to bring ethics to the centre of people's lives in a way that resonates with younger generations. That advice will be reflected in new content development, programs and events.

The 2023 Council is a diverse group made up of high school and university students and early career entrants located in regional and metropolitan areas across Australia. Alongside an interest in ethics, they are passionate in their commitment to civil debate about difficult topics, including: equitable access to healthcare, business ethics, the drivers of social change, medical research, the media, AI, education, leadership in politics and gender.

They are: **Aravindh Anura, Lee-Elle Cooper, Sasha Culley, Faith Devlin, Jonah Hurley, Amelia Khoury, Anson (Sal) Mak, Stella Manos, Harrison Oates, Enoch Strickland, Sofia Tzarimas and Darcy Wiseman.**

"We are committed to developing initiatives that help young people navigate the ethical challenges they face now and in the future," said **Dr Simon Longstaff AO, Executive Director of The Ethics Centre**. "It's an increasingly complex world that they will inherit; and their voices are not often heard when considering how these challenges might best be addressed. The Youth Advisory Council is one way by which we can support these thoughtful people to have meaningful impact on the lives of other young Australians."

Daniel Finlay, The Ethics Centre's Youth Engagement Coordinator added: "Having spent the last few weeks narrowing down dozens of exceptional applications, I am thrilled to get the chance to collaborate with a group of people who have shown unmatched interest and enthusiasm towards ethics. I'm eagerly planning our inaugural meeting, which will bring together these representatives from across Australia, and am looking forward to what we can achieve together."

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ABOUT THE ETHICS CENTRE

The Ethics Centre is a not-for-profit organisation developing and delivering innovative programs, services and experiences, designed to bring ethics to the centre of personal and professional life. Across all its work, the same goals drive what the Centre does: to bring people together, create space for open and honest conversations, and build the skills and capacity of people to live and act according to their values. Alongside public programs, the Centre also offers consulting and leadership services for organisations, membership programs for individuals and businesses, and a free ethics helpline, Ethi-call. Ethics.org.au

The Ethics Centre is grateful to Third Link Investment Managers for their support of its youth initiatives.

BIOGRAPHIES

Aravindh Anura

Aravindh completed a Bachelor of Arts in anthropology with a specific interest in ethical and political theory. He is currently in the 3rd year of Medicine at the University of Melbourne, aspiring towards a career in psychiatry. Ethical questions are at the centre of his interest in philosophical inquiry and spirituality. He is a practicing Buddhist with an education in academic philosophy and this lends itself to his ability to provide alternative perspectives on common sense morality while maintaining sufficient openness and epistemic humility.

Lee-Elle Cooper

Lee-Elle is a 16-year-old Year 11 student from Fremantle, Western Australia and is studying politics and law, business management and enterprise, and accounting at Santa Maria College. She is passionate about politics, business relations, ethical problems and how humans respond to them. Lee-Elle would also love to make a difference by having the opportunity to shape and influence ethical discussions and decisions as well as expand her knowledge and learn from experts in the field. She enjoys friendly debates and is looking forward to meeting like-minded individuals who share an interest in ethics and engaging in discussions and debates about key issues.

Sasha Culley

Sasha is an early career professional with a strong interest in ethics and its place within Australian society. In 2021, she completed a Bachelor of Liberal Arts at Princeton University. Courses in both economics and philosophy sparked her passion for the nexus of the two fields, specifically how economic analysis and ethical inquiry can inform an equitable energy transition. Most recently, as an Associate at BCG, she has advised clients in the private, public and not-for-profit sectors, including on decarbonisation and social impact strategy projects. She is excited to join the Youth Advisory Council and help the Centre bring accessible ethics to the leaders of tomorrow.

Faith Devlin

Faith is a new art school student at Adelaide TAFE. They are committed to bringing their lived experience as a trans and queer person in a rural area to discussions in the Youth Advisory Council and are passionate about the severe lack of medical resources in rural towns. Faith is passionate about community and believes that culture is at the heart of growth.

Jonah Hurley

Jonah is a recent philosophy graduate and is keen to transform the passion that they found learning about ethics and teasing out moral problems into some real-world experience. They are a non-binary person from Wollongong who has recently moved to Sydney and found attending the Festival of Dangerous Ideas in 2022 illuminating and thought provoking, especially Alok Vaid-Menon's talk. Jonah thinks there is a need for visibility and critical thinking that is missed through our education system and is looking forward to meeting other young people that might both challenge and expand their ethical horizons.

Amelia Khoury

Amelia is a 14-year-old Year 9 student and who loves learning and being challenged. Her favourite subjects are mathematics, science, history and geography and she is currently undergoing an accelerated HSC mathematics course. After high school, Amelia hopes to study medicine or pharmacology at university, which partners well with her interest in ethics and research. At home, Amelia enjoys playing bass guitar and developing her encyclopaedic knowledge of statistics, world flags and countries by continent, as well as writing essays and papers on topics that interest her. Amelia's experience has been that adults often assume that someone of her age can't understand complex ethical and policy-related ideas. She wants to show that young people can make a difference and should be encouraged to engage in ethical discussions.

Anson (Sal) Mak

Sal is a Year 12 student at Abbotsleigh on Sydney's north shore and is interested in media arts, law and marketing. They enjoy filmmaking, writing and music, growing up with debating and the arts, and have always been interested in social and ethical issues from the past and present, including a fascination with historical figures in civil rights history. Sal would like to raise awareness about areas in ethics that may be overlooked, including media ethics in our digital age, and intersectionality within social justice movements that may under-represent certain demographics.

Stella Manos

During primary school Stella used to listen to the podcast 'Short and Curly', an ethics podcast for kids. As she grew older this sparked a love for ethics and debating and led her to consider ethics as not just a discussion but an intricate part of life. In Year 9, Stella transferred schools and started a new school subject: critical thinking. These opportunities growing up gave her a love for discussion and debate, allowing her to use ethics as a gateway to understand and contemplate the world. Stella is currently in Year 11 at the Sydney International Grammar School.

Harrison Oates

Harrison is studying a double degree in computer science and politics, philosophy and economics (PPE) at University of the Australian National University, specialising in artificial intelligence. He's passionate about the intersection between technology and society, particularly concerning ethical decision-making for autonomous systems and algorithmic bias. He wants to help educate other young people and bring his unique lived experience as a combined STEM / humanities student and youth advocate from regional Far North Queensland.

Enoch Strickland

Enoch is currently studying a Bachelor of International Security Studies and Politics, Philosophy and Economics at ANU in Canberra, but was born in Alice Springs, NT. He grew up and graduated there and has a strong passion to help those most vulnerable in Australian society. His hometown is currently experiencing a crime wave, (Kmart and Target are rumoured to be closing down - removing cheap clothes options in Central Australia) and a health crisis. He wants to bring further insight from his own experiences to help further understand how we can bring services to remote communities and why governments are responsible for this.

Sofia Tzarimas

Sofia is a student at Sydney Girls High School who is passionate about politics, current affairs, and the value of debate to an open democracy. She believes that in an age which is so deeply partisan, and in a world where flippant opinions are so common, the value of having long, deep discussions with public intellectuals, particularly those with heterodox views and heterogeneous backgrounds, is an incredibly valuable pursuit. Stella hopes to be able to connect with young people to broaden the spectrum of debate and ensure all viewpoints are represented and valued in public discourse.

Darcy Wiseman

Darcy is a 19-year-old currently on a gap year attempting to gain some real-world experience with which to frame his future university studies. He works as a lighting technician at Canberra Theatre and in his limited spare time he enjoys singing, circus arts and philosophy. He is passionate about helping drive social change, beyond the regular options such as rallies, charity events and social media movements.