



Australian Government

YOUNG

Australian Citizenship Quilt

The response to the Australian Citizenship Quilt project was tremendous.

We were so overwhelmed by the number of contributions from young people that we decided to construct a companion Young Australian Citizenship Quilt.

It is wonderful to see that young Australians are so proud of their citizenship and our nation. This project gave them an opportunity to express their feelings about citizenship and tell us about their family's journey to Australian citizenship. Some common themes in their stories were national pride, gratitude for the security and freedom that Australia offers, and appreciation and acceptance of the diverse cultures that make up our nation.

Here is a sample of their stories:

"I'm proud to be Australian because I have the freedom to believe in and do whatever I want."

Elliot Nieves and John Plowman, Thornlie Christian College WA

"The Aboriginal artwork [on my square] represents the many different nations of which Australia is made up of and how we are stitched together by being Australian citizens."

Jessica Eaton, Dalby Girl Guides QLD, a third generation Australian of English descent. Jessica completed her square with a cast on a broken finger.

"The First Vermont Joey Scout Mob has a very broad mix of families from around the world... Their scouting background and cultural differences enhance our understanding of the wider world... These Joey Scouts are proud and passionate about where they live and are our future citizens and decision makers of Australia."

First Vermont Scout Group VIC

Thank you to all the Young Australian Citizenship Quilt contributors – for crafting your square, sharing your story and being proud young Australians.

The Hon John Cobb, MP
Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs

www.citizenship.gov.au

