

# **Alicia Curtis**

## **Kerrie Nairn Scholarship Final Report 2007 -2008**



**Picture: L – R: Hon Gary Nairn, Alicia Curtis, Hon Julie Bishop**

### **Acknowledgement**

The Kerrie Nairn Scholarship is supported by the Australian Government through the Quality Outcomes Programme, administered by the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations.

Disclaimer: The views expressed do not necessarily represent the views of the Australian Government Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations.

### **Contents of this report**

KNS Diary  
Impact of the Scholarship  
Note of Appreciation  
Financial Breakdown

# Kerrie Nairn Scholarship Diary

## 3 Month Update

Three months into the Kerrie Nairn Scholarship journey and it's exceeded all my expectations. The National Convention was a whirlwind of initial amazement, excitement and appreciation of this opportunity. This in itself took a little getting over!

Within weeks of the Convention, David Price, my scholarship mentor and I had our first meeting. David has been an amazing mentor. He has helped me develop my focus for this year and has encouraged me to start thinking bigger about my business than ever before. We have talked about where I see my business in 5, 10 years time which has been an enjoyable process. Then we have looked at what are the first steps to achieving my business goals and started putting them into action! I am very grateful for the knowledge and expertise David has shared with me about being successful in the speaking industry and appreciated his encouragement and support.

In addition to David, I have also had the opportunity to speak to other great NSA members such as Sarah Cornally and Sandi Givens. It was wonderful to share my ideas about my future in the speaking industry and hear their feedback.

I have also finalized my development plan. For me, it was very easy to find exciting development opportunities to spend the scholarship on. These are fantastic opportunities that I wouldn't have had the chance to experience otherwise. In the next couple of months, I have booked into Speakers Academy which starts next week and also the Thought Leader's Winter Retreat at the end of July.

Most of all, I have enjoyed the start of my scholarship experience. It has challenged me to take the next step up in my business which is what I had hoped.

## 6 Month Update

In the last 3 months I have attended Speakers Academy, the Thought Leaders Conference "The Age of Ideas" and the Thought Leaders Immersion Program. These programs have helped me to clarify my message, target markets and the methods of presenting.

**L – R: Alicia Curtis and Jennifer Harwood (2006 recipient of the Kerrie Nairn Scholarship) at the Thought Leaders Immersion Program**



My scholarship mentor, David Price has been a constant inspiration and the source of boundless ideas. He has helped me create my first corporate program which is a monthly mentoring program for young professionals called yGen. I have also recently started coaching with Gihan Perera to turn my speech and workshop content into books, e-books and a membership website for schools.

Furthermore, I was delighted to be announced as a finalist in the Business Owner and Young Businesswoman categories of the Telstra Business Women's Awards in Western Australia.



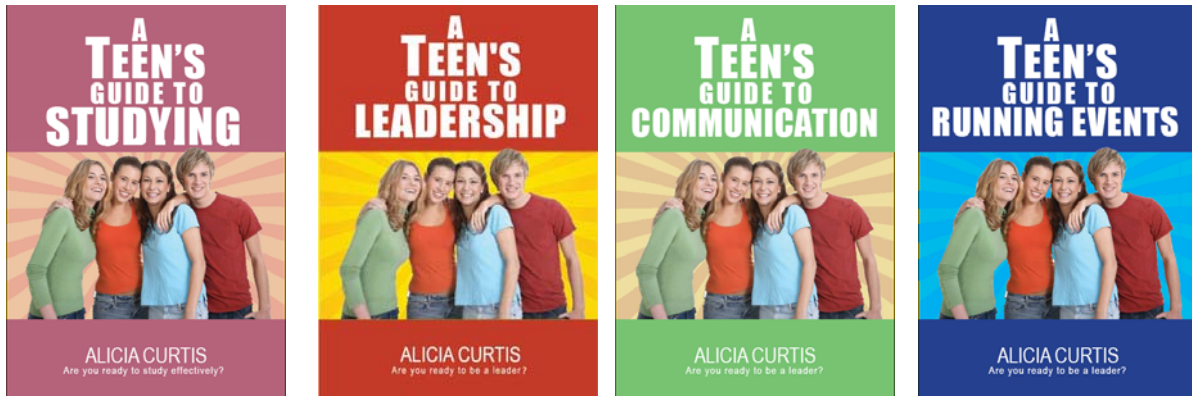
**Receiving my Finalist Certificate**

Hitting the halfway mark in my Scholarship journey has been exciting because I have been able to reflect on the knowledge and skills that I have developed in the last six months. Now I really look forward to the next six months to work on my goals and keep lifting to the next level in my business!

### **9 Month Update**

It's been a busy three months in the Kerrie Nairn Scholarship journey!

Gihan Perera has been coaching me in product creation and development and the results have been amazing. For years, I have had half written books sitting on my computer yet Gihan has been able to give me clarity as to the most profitable and easy to make products. I have since created the A Teen's Guide series, finishing titles including Leadership, Running Events, Communication and Studying. I have also created my first product for the corporate market too.



**A Teen's Guide Booklet Front Covers**

After devising a strategy to work in the corporate market, I have presented my first corporate keynote presentation to a couple of clients with positive results. It's given me the confidence to pursue this market. Now I have been developing my marketing and publicity strategies with my mentor, David Price.

**This is part of one of my brochures about the young professionals program, yGen**

**This program is right for your young employees if...**

- You want to reward them and retain them
- You want to connect them with the best professional development in Australia
- You want them to network with the top young employees from a range of industries
- You want them to be more independent at work
- You want them to succeed in their career and their life
- You want to satisfy their thirst for knowledge and new technology

**Your program facilitator is Alicia Curtis**

Alicia knows what it takes to get ahead and be successful.

She is an energetic business and social entrepreneur and she is passionate about assisting the younger generation develop into great leaders in business and the community.

Recently, Alicia received the Kerrie Nairn Scholarship for Public Speaking from the National Speakers Association of Australia.

Alicia is a leadership expert specialising in young people. Her strength lies in developing exciting and innovative programs to develop the skills and confidence of her participants.

Alicia was chosen as 12 year old to represent Australia at the first United Nations International Children's Conference on the Environment and subsequently co-founded a conference called Kids Helping Kids with other young people in Perth. The conference has since turned into a youth-run organisation called Millennium Kids and has helped thousands of young people start environmental projects nationally and internationally.

Alicia has been the recipient of the Young Australian of the Year Award in the Environment category in Western Australia and also the Youth Environment Award at the State Youth Awards.

Alicia is currently the Business Development Director on the National Young Business and Professional Women Board as well as a member on the Millennium Kids Youth Board.

Alicia is a Certified Practitioner of the Herrmann Brain Dominance Instrument and has recently completed her Masters in Leadership and Management at Curtin University of Technology.

**Alicia Curtis**  
Alicia Curtis Leadership  
PO Box 171, Swansea  
Western Australia 6102  
08 9471 0200 Fax 08 9471 0201  
Email: alicia@alicia-curtis.com

**yGen**

How would you like to get inside the heads of the young people you employ and really, and I mean really, tap their energy, enthusiasm, knowledge and skills?

Imagine if your young people went off for a few hours a month and came back fired up ready to perform miracles?

Here is what you need. A NEW mentoring program in Perth designed especially for young employees called yGen.

**Some facts:**

Generation Y employees are looking for:

- dynamic learning opportunities to improve their skills
- immediate feedback on their abilities
- connection with the latest technology

Generation Y employees who fulfil these expectations attract and retain the best young staff. Alicia Curtis Leadership is facilitating an exclusive professional mentoring program specifically designed for Generation Y employees.

**Training leads to retaining**

McGrathle Research stated in 'New generation at work' that 89% of Generation Y said that they would be motivated to stay longer with an employer if they received regular training.

yGen is a unique training opportunity for your Generation Y employees to design their own learning agenda, participate in powerful mentoring sessions and network with the best young employees from around Perth.

Also in these three months I have been privileged to be elected as the Chair of the National Young BPW (Business and Professional Women) Board. I hope to use some of the business skills I have learnt through the Kerrie Nairn Scholarship to build the Young BPW program.

I'm excited about the final three months in my journey. It's a time to bring together all that I have learnt and put it into action. The scholarship has given my business sustainability for many years to come. I appreciate all the support from NSAA members for sharing their knowledge and experience with me especially my Scholarship mentor, David Price. I look forward to reporting back to the Association at the National Convention in March.

## Impact of the Scholarship

**What the Kerrie Nairn Scholarship for Public Speaking has done/meaning for you, what you've achieved because of it, how it's made a difference?**

The Kerrie Nairn Scholarship for Public Speaking is an amazing opportunity to catapult your speaking career to heights you could only imagine. The opportunity to take part in professional development and mentoring because of the Kerrie Nairn Scholarship has wonderful. It has challenged me and helped me form my business vision for years to come.

Personally, I have been able to devise a strategy for the corporate market having worked in schools for the past 6 years. I have also developed my product range which has been a goal for many years.

The Kerrie Nairn Scholarship has given me the confidence, inspiration and skills to innovate and progress in my speaking career. My dreams and goals get bigger every month and having the support to achieve them has been amazing.

## Note of Appreciation

I would like to sincerely thank the Australian Government Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations for funding this scholarship and the National Speakers Association of Australia for coordinating the scholarship.

I would also like to thank David Price, my scholarship mentor for the many hours of personal mentoring that he has offered over the last year at no charge, his help and guidance has been invaluable to me.

## Financial Breakdown for the Kerrie Nairn Scholarship 2007/2008

The \$10,200 scholarship funds went to the following professional development activities.

<b>Opportunity</b>	<b>Timing</b>	<b>Costs</b>
Thought Leaders Membership	All year	<b>\$1000</b>
Matt Church Winter Bootcamp	26 – 28 July	<b>\$1320</b>
NSAA Academy	July – Aug	<b>\$850</b>
Matt Church Immersion Program	17 -20 September	<b>\$4,950</b>
Gihan Perera Leverage Mentoring	Jun, Jul, Aug	<b>\$2,200</b>