

# MESSAGE FROM THE CULTURESCOPE CO-EDITORS

## CultureScope, Vol 121, 2021

Welcome to the first edition of CultureScope for 2021. Volume 121 aims to publicly recognise and celebrate teacher and student excellence in Society and Culture. In particular, in this volume we acknowledge the achievements of the 2020 Society and Culture Award Winners for both the HSC Exam and Personal Interest Project. As part of the public recognition and celebration of excellence, in 2020 the Society and Culture Association of NSW continued the *Dr. David Dufty (AM) Award for Excellence in Teaching and Learning in Society and Culture*. We would like to congratulate the very talented and passionate educator Persis Kshetrapal as the recipient of the 2020 *Dr. David Dufty (AM) Award for Excellence in Teaching and Learning in Society and Culture*.

In this volume we are once again proud to feature 500 word PIP extracts from all of the High Distinction Award Recipients. This year, the extracts have been selected and presented in the form of teacher/student resources for each section of the PIP; Introduction, Log, Central Material, Conclusion and Annotated Reference List. Each resource contains two annotations for the relevant PIP section and a selection of questions that can help both teachers and students deconstruct the samples. The above resources were created to assist in addressing teacher and student requests for 'high quality work samples' that can be used to create constructive discussion around key ideas such as; the importance of a hypothesis, critical reflection, integration, analysis, synthesis, application and integration of concepts, cross-cultural perspectives, continuity and/or change and critiquing primary and secondary sources. It is hoped that by showcasing a diverse range of high quality extracts, students can gain an understanding of the different ways they can achieve in the PIP process.

However, we would like to reinforce that all Personal Interest Projects are unique, even amongst the award winning examples. There are many ways in which a student might achieve success in their PIP, and each example may exhibit a sophisticated achievement of the assigned marking criteria in different ways. Also, and understandably, an excerpt is not representative of the whole of the project and teachers and students might view these only as a small section of a much larger product. Full High Distinction HD award winning PIPs can be found in printed copy at the State Library of NSW.

A special thank you to Mr Marshall Leaver for his coordination of the collection of award winning PIP extracts and his role as MC during the awards evening. Also, a huge thank you to Mr Matt Leaver from Matt Leaver Photography for capturing the celebratory atmosphere of the evening for students, families and teachers alike.

During this volume we have also attempted to provide some insight into the role of professional associations in relation to curriculum change and review. Please take some time to engage with an interview and article by Cheryl Brennan, President of the Australian Professional Teachers Association.

*This journal is not possible without the contributions of teachers. With many teachers creating or modifying teaching and learning materials over the past term can we please encourage you to share them with your colleagues via a CultureScope submission.*

## MESSAGE FROM THE CULTURESCOPE CO-EDITORS

CultureScope is seeking contributions for publication for the end of year volume. We welcome a variety of classroom activities, articles, assessment tasks, programs and teacher reflections.

For each submission please ensure you:

- Identify the syllabus dot-point/focus area (if relevant)
- Ensure references are used throughout
- Give a brief overview of why it has worked well in your class (teacher rationale)
- If it is an assessment task, please provide a marking guideline/suggested answers OR student samples (with permission)
- Be aware we may need to change pictures/text layout
- Email attachment to [info@sca.nsw.edu.au](mailto:info@sca.nsw.edu.au) with the subject 'CultureScope submission'
- Provide your name, address and school details within the email

### Benefits

You will be paid \$\$\$\$ for your submission. For new-scheme teachers, a published journal article counts for 2 hours (Teacher Identified).

Any other suggestions for resources in future editions are welcome.

Warm regards,

CultureScope Co-editors

Emily Aitken & Amanda Newell

