
The Lambert McBride Perpetual Bursary

Lambert McBride: 1918–2002

Mr Lambert McBride, also known as Stan, was a Bundjalung, Yugambah and Mulinjarli man who was born in 1918 at Grady's Creek about 10 kilometres outside of Kyogle, New South Wales. Lambert served in the 15th Battalion (Transport Division) during the Second World War, and was in Townsville when it was bombed by the Japanese. For his contribution, Lambert was later awarded the War Medal and the Australian Service Medal presented by the then Queensland Governor, His Excellency Major General Peter Arnison.

Mr McBride worked as a bullock team driver, a timber-getter, sugar cane cutter, railway fettler, bridge carpenter and wharfie. He also worked at many timber yards in Brisbane. Lambert was a fierce advocate and lobbyist for Aboriginal rights and joined the Queensland Council for the Advancement of Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders (QCAATSI), the main Brisbane-based organisation, which was affiliated with FCAATSI. In time, he was to become the President of QCAATSI.

Mr McBride was a pro-unionist and member of a number of unions. Throughout the 1960s Mr McBride drew on his union ties and associations in the many letters he wrote asking the unions for both moral and financial support, in his work for Aboriginal social justice.

He was a life member of the One People of Australia League (OPAL) and of the Koobara Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Kindergarten. He was also an adopted Elder of the Taigum State School and a member of many other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community organisations.

Mr McBride and his wife May first moved to Zillmere in 1956. In 2002, the Brisbane City Council paid tribute to the outstanding contribution that Lambert McBride had made to Aboriginal social justice and reconciliation by naming a parkland at Zillmere after him.

The Lambert McBride Perpetual Bursary was so named in honour of the role Mr McBride played in supporting the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community and reconciliation. It also recognises his legacy and support to the wider community.

Nature of the Bursary

The value of the bursary is \$5000 for full-time Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander university students going into their second or third year of study at a Queensland university. This one-off amount will be paid in-full in the semester following the awarding of the Bursary.

Eligibility Criteria

All Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander full-time students studying at a Queensland university in their second or third year of study are eligible for this bursary.

Selection Criteria

The Selection Committee shall, in the exercise of its absolute discretion, afford consideration of the following criteria:

- The candidate must provide proof of heritage, as outlined: be of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent, identify as an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander in their community and be accepted as such by the community in which he or she lives, or formerly lived; academic merit or potential; the character of the candidate for the award; the candidate has completed or will soon complete their first year or second year of study.

If you are interested in applying for this Bursary, please contact the Equity/Scholarship Officer at your participating University for further information.