CONNECT ENRICH INSPIRE

Our 2024 Young Arts award was proudly presented to 8-year-old Fairfax Public School student Poppi Bottle-Hart. The funds will be put towards singing tuition with local tutor Mary-Anne McPherson for the talented young singer, who despite never having received formal training in vocals, won her solo section in last year's Narrabri Arts Eisteddfod at the age of seven.

Chair Elizabeth Campbell, Young Arts Convenor Judy Pownall, and music teacher Mary-Anne McPherson travelled out to the school to present the award. Fairfax Public School is a very small school with a total of three students, a unique educational facility situated amidst farming and grazing paddocks nestled in the foothills of the Nandewar Ranges. The school was established in 1910 and has given hundreds of students a great educational start to their future.

"I am very happy and excited to have singing lessons. I am very proud of myself," said Poppi. Principal of Fairfax Public School Diana Burtenshaw added, "We are very grateful to ArtsNational for this amazing and generous donation. This will enable Poppi to access learning for something that she is passionate about and is good at. Without the donation, it is highly unlikely that Poppi would have had this opportunity. Poppi is a delightful and much-loved student who thoroughly deserves this opportunity. The Fairfax staff have given her as many opportunities from a school perspective as we can to enable her singing but this really is the icing on the cake. Can I personally express my thanks to ArtsNational and the members that have taken an interest in enabling this opportunity. We are so impressed that a little Year 2 student from a small rural school with little exposure could be given this opportunity. Thank you to ArtsNational for 'looking beyond' and identifying Poppi as your award recipient in 2024. We are looking forward to the progress Poppi

A huge thank you must go to the generosity of the many ArtsNational Narrabri members and friends who donated towards this year's Young Arts program. It would not have been possible without you.



makes with Mrs Mary-Anne McPherson as her singing tutor."





