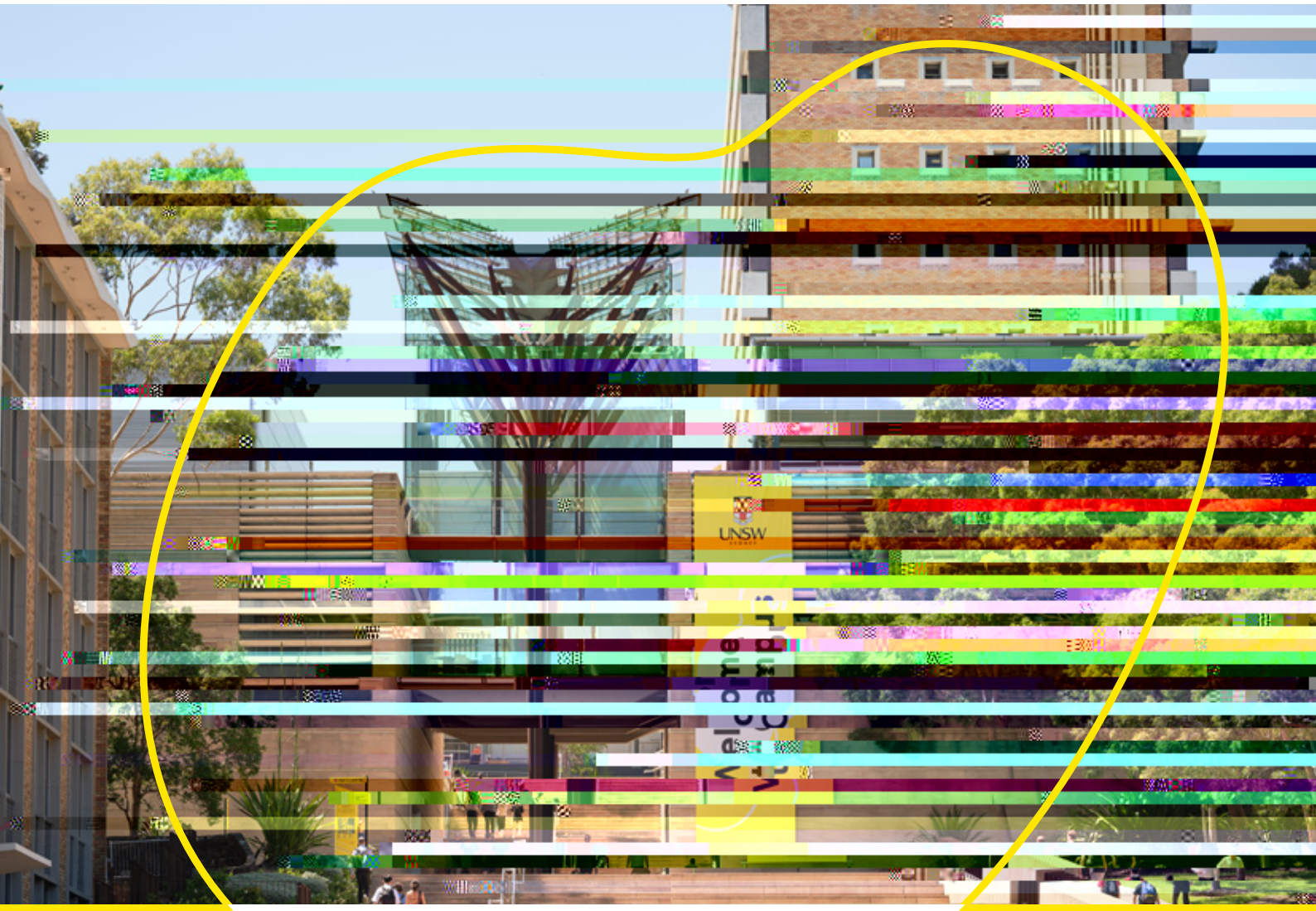
Regional Educational Outreach

Years 11 and 12



2024

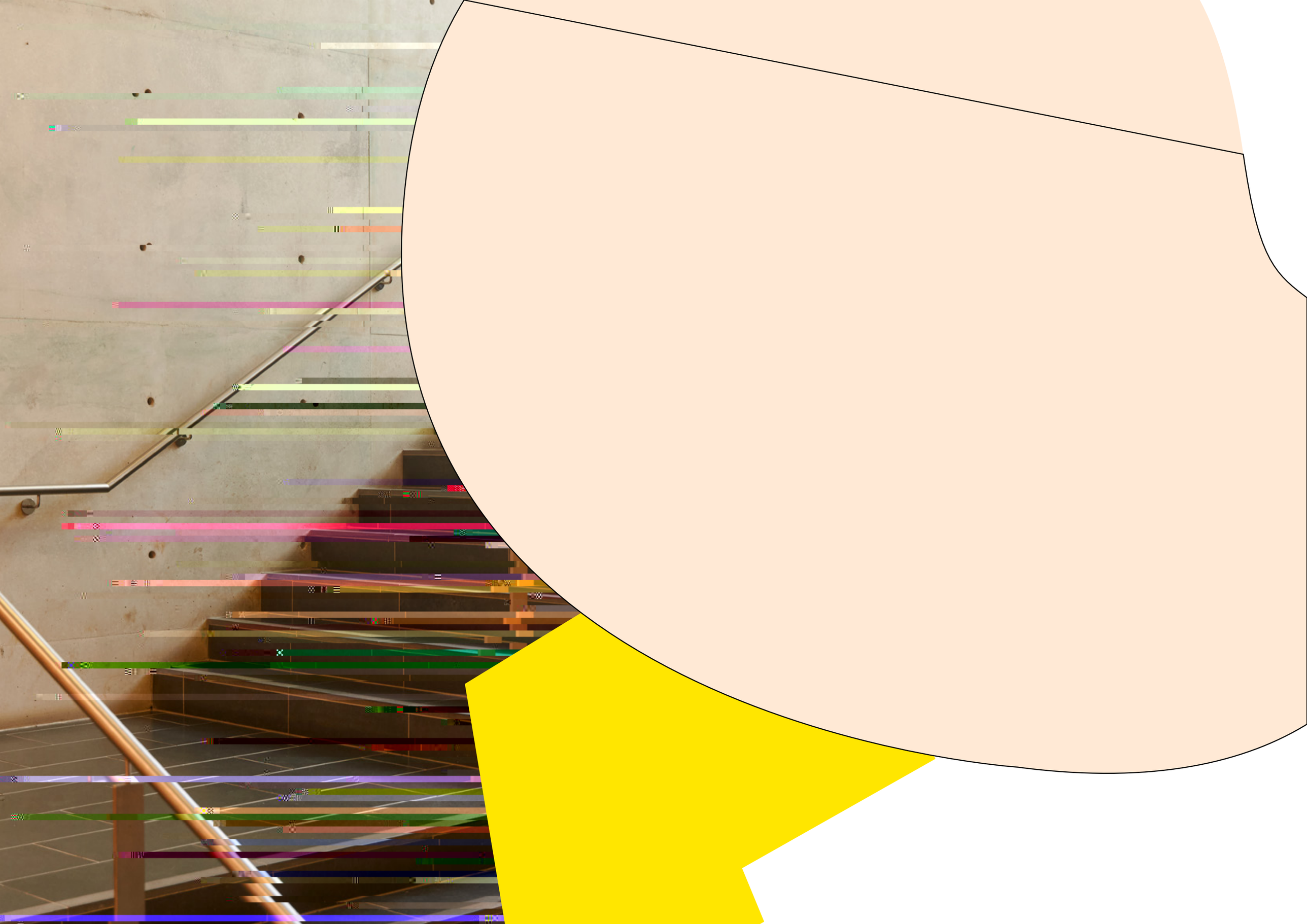
At UNSW, we are committed to student equity and improving educational outcomes for students underrepresented in higher education. Core to UNSW's strategy is the objective of transforming our undergraduate population so that it is inclusive of all students regardless of the school they attended or area they grew up in. Our goal is that by 2027, 25% of domestic undergraduate students commencing at UNSW will be from underrepresented backgrounds.

To ensure our community is representative of the broader population, we take a holistic approach to supporting students, from pre-tertiary outreach, to academic, financial and well-being support as they transition to UNSW, through to internship and careers support for graduation and beyond.

Our educational outreach program provides students with academic enrichment opportunities that enhance school-based learning and increase preparedness for and success in higher education. We have brought together a unique set of curriculum-linked learning experiences with an embedded focus on self-efficacy, identifying learning strengths and values-led career choices.

Through our program, we seek to support and extend students' interest in their own learning and focus on higher-order thinking, metacognition, critical analysis and literacy - all essential factors for post-school success. We guide students to develop their learning goals and participate in experiences that are interactive, experiential, and explore a range of contexts that are unique to UNSW. We also provide an equitable pathway to UNSW through the Gateway Admission Pathway and Program.

The following provides a snapshot of our educational outreach pr



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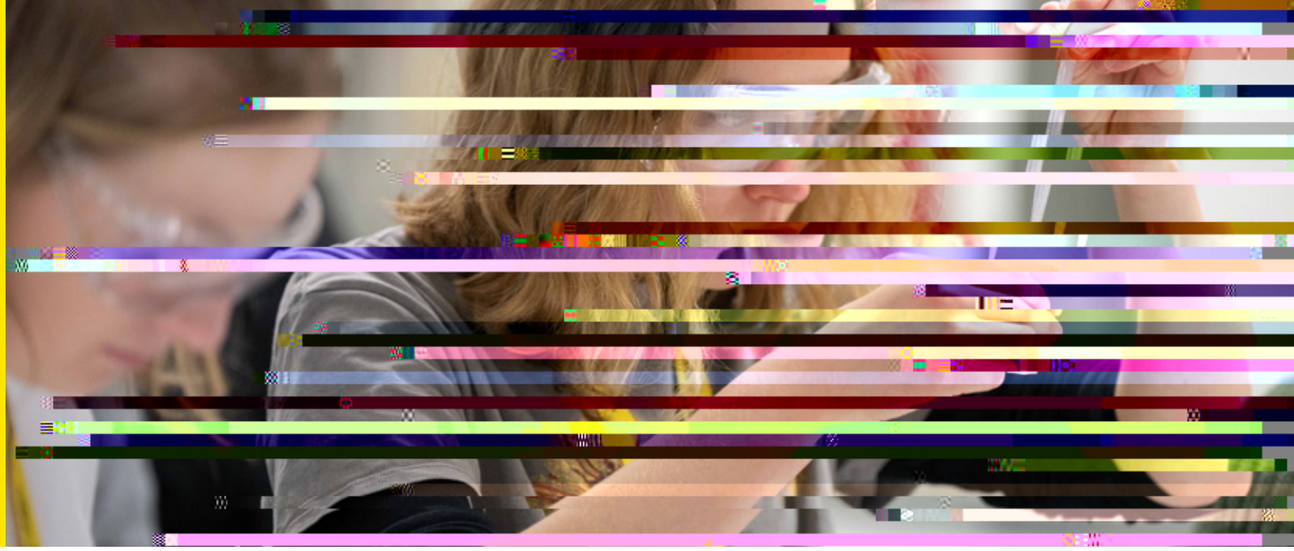
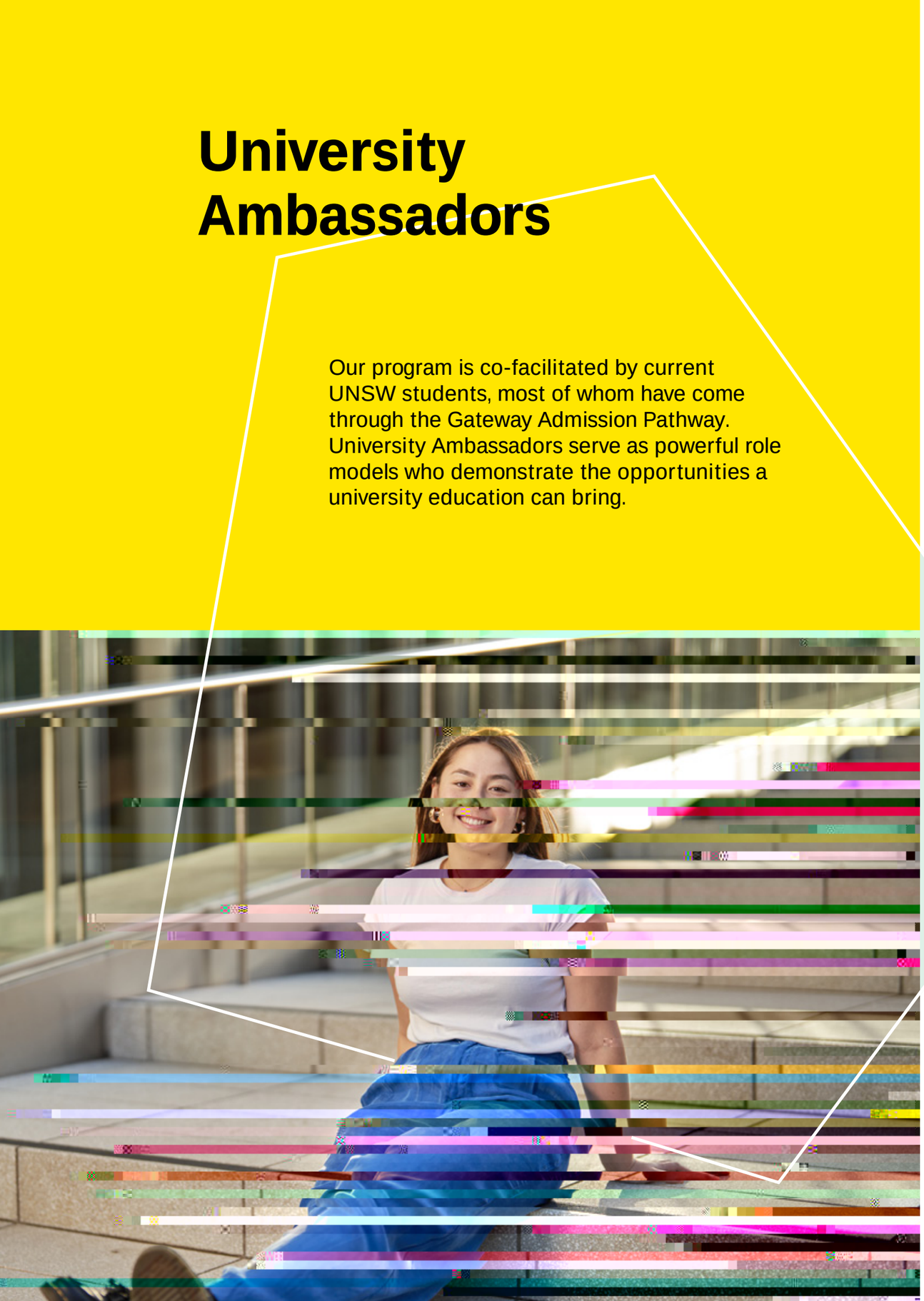


University Ambassadors

Our program is co-facilitated by current UNSW students, most of whom have come through the Gateway Admission Pathway. University Ambassadors serve as powerful role models who demonstrate the opportunities a university education can bring.



Saoirse

Kingscliff, NSW

I grew up on the border of Queensland and New South Wales and went to Kingscliff High School. As the youngest in a family of five children, I was lucky to have my siblings as role models.

Over the years all my brothers and sisters had left home and dispersed to different universities to study health-related courses. I knew uni would also be a stepping stone for me when I finished High School in 2021, but I was more creative and very passionate about the environment and climate change.

My school was right next to a TAFE campus, so a lot of the career choices were naturally TAFE-related. Being from a quiet regional town meant the closest uni was a small one over the border in Queensland, so we didn't have a lot of exposure to it whereas if you're in Sydney you drive past universities all the time. I always wanted to go to the city and had my heart set on Sydney, whatever it took.

I thought I wanted to study law, but I was also passionate about the arts and humanities. The UNSW BArts/Law degree was top of my list. I was particularly excited about the environmental humanities major

Year
11

Year
12

Year

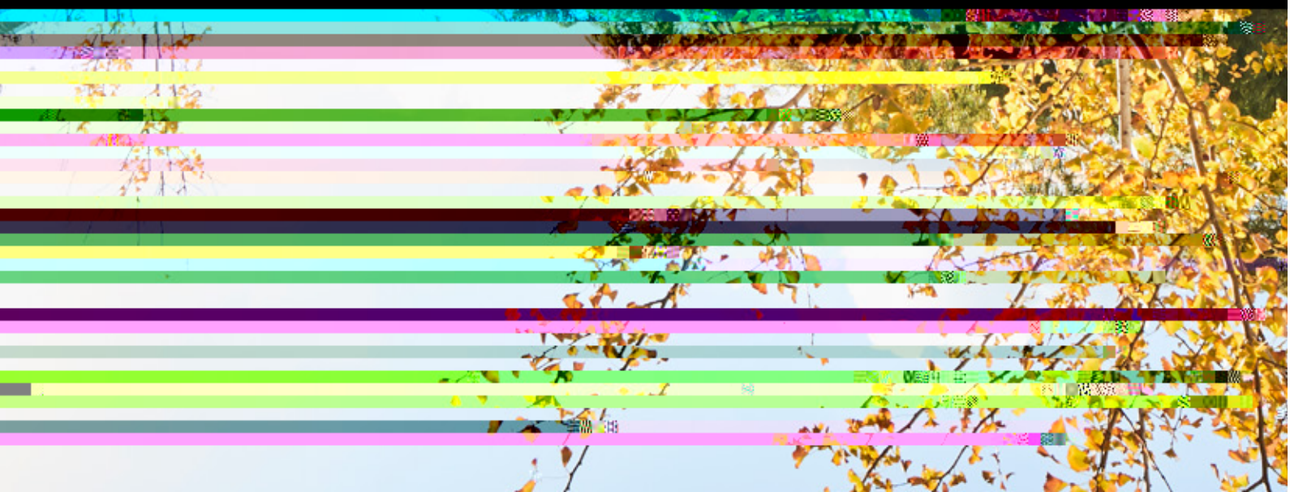
Access to Uni

Support at Uni

The Year 11 Gateway Program is a two-day on-campus intensive for students who can travel to campus, to explore a range of UNSW degrees through cross-faculty experiences, academic skills workshops, and opportunities to be immersed in the vibrant UNSW community. This on-campus experience is supplemented by an online Gateway Admission Pathway information session and access to a suite of academically enriching online resources.

UNSW staff and University Ambassadors will be visiting schools in select regions across NSW to conduct workshops with students. These interactive workshops invite students to self-reflect and express themselves in relation to their future hopes, and highlights the opportunities offered by the Year 11 and 12 Gateway Programs.

A one-week online program for Year 12 students to prepare for the HSC with subject-specific masterclasses, practice tests,



Year 12 Gateway Program

Regional roadshow

During Term 1, UNSW staff and University Ambassadors will be visiting schools in select regions across NSW to conduct 60-minute workshops with students in Year 12.

Focusing on persuasive writing skills, the workshop invites students to express themselves with confidence and clarity, and highlights the opportunities offered by the Year 12 Gateway Program as well as the Year 12 Regional Residential Program.

Year 12 workshop – a 60-minute workshop

> When: Term 1, Weeks 8 – 11
> Where: in-schools across select regions in NSW

Students will:

- strategies for crafting personal narratives
- the UNSW Gateway Admission Pathway early offers and how the Year 12 Gateway Program provides key academic enrichment and support to navigate the HSC and beyond
- from current university students about how they navigated their transition from regional NSW to UNSW

Online

During the online program, students will prepare for the HSC through subject-specific exam practice and workshops led by experienced HSC teachers and markers. Students will also be supported to write their personal statement, a requirement for their Gateway Admission Pathway application.

Online workshop – a 60-minute workshop

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Mary MacKillop Catholic College	2176	
Matraville Sports High School	2036	
McCarthy Catholic College	2340	
Medowie Christian School	2318	
Melville High School		2340

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