

# 2013 Fulbright and Anne Wexler Australian Scholars Announced

21 March 2013

Addressing climate change, human rights law, music, materials for biomedical device fabrication, crop improvement and coral bleaching are some of the exciting areas that will be investigated in the U.S. by this year's Fulbright and Anne Wexler Australian Scholars.

Twenty-seven talented Australians were presented with their prestigious Fulbright and Anne Wexler Scholarships at a ceremony at Parliament House on Thursday 21 March. The Hon Chris Bowen MP, Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills, Science and Research, and the U.S. Ambassador, Mr Jeffrey Bleich, both participated in the event.

The dinner was co-hosted by The Australian National University and the University of Canberra.

Australian-American Fulbright Commission Executive Director, Dr Tangerine Holt, said that the Australian-American Fulbright Program is a key expression of the friendship between Australia and the U.S. About fifty scholars travel between Australia and the U.S. each year, to experience each other's lifestyles, act as cultural ambassadors and further their academic careers through the Fulbright Program.

"The Fulbright Program, over the past 63 years, has provided Scholars a unique opportunity to engage with people across two nations," Dr Holt said. "They exchange ideas and knowledge, and then translate that knowledge to enrich each country through their practice, when the Scholars return home."

The international Fulbright Program was established in 1946 as an initiative of U.S. Senator J. William Fulbright, who believed that cultural and educational exchange could play an important role in building a lasting world peace. It currently operates between the U.S. and 155 other nations, and more than 300,000 people have gone through the program worldwide. The Australian-American Fulbright Program was established in 1949 through a bi-national treaty signed by the Australian and U.S. governments. The Prime Minister of Australia and the U.S. Ambassador serve as Honorary Co-Chairs.

The Program is funded by both governments and a generous group of sponsors and donors. As an Australian Government funded Australia Award, the Anne Wexler Scholarships are funded through the Australia Department of Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education (DIISRTE) and are administered by the Australian-American Fulbright Commission. One Anne Wexler Scholarship is available for an Australian and one to an American annually. Twenty-six Scholars were presented with Fulbright Scholarships and one was presented with an Anne Wexler Scholarship at the Presentation Dinner.

View the full list of [2013 Fulbright and Anne Wexler Australian Scholars](#)

[Images of the dinner](#)