

## **YOUTH WEEK WA**

### *Statement by Minister for Youth*

**MR D.J. KELLY (Bassendean — Minister for Youth)** [12.22 pm]: I rise to inform the house that Youth Week WA is on again in 2022, with a packed program that includes digital and in-person events. Youth Week WA is the single largest celebration of young people in Western Australia. From 8 to 16 April, young people across the state can participate in a wide range of events, such as workshops, career expos, mural making, market stalls and art installations. This year's theme is "Courage to Change"—an important reminder that young people are the voices of not just tomorrow, but today. Young people are involved in every stage of the planning, designing and running of Youth Week WA, and it is great to see yet again that such a fantastic program has been put together through the KickstART Festival 2022.

As part of Youth Week WA, I also appoint two Youth Week ambassadors to assist in the planning and advocacy of the events. This year's ambassadors are Amy Astill and Amber Ugle-Hayward, two passionate advocates for change and for elevating the voices of young people. Amy Astill is 20 years old and lives in Kalgoorlie. In 2021, Amy was appointed as a member of my Ministerial Youth Advisory Council; in 2017, she was elected the Youth Mayor of Kalgoorlie-Boulder; and in 2021, she was elected as a councillor for the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder. Amber Ugle-Hayward is 22 years old and a Noongar woman who has lived in Perth and regional WA. Amber is the first Aboriginal-identifying young person to be appointed as a Youth Week WA ambassador. She is also a 2020 graduate of the Western Australian Aboriginal Leadership Institute's emerging Aboriginal leaders program and has been the keynote speaker for ATCO National Reconciliation Week.

I would like to thank the Youth Week ambassadors, Propel Youth Arts WA, the Department of Communities and, of course, all the young people who have worked tirelessly to put this week together. I encourage all young people to check out the events happening near them and to have fun during Youth Week 2022.