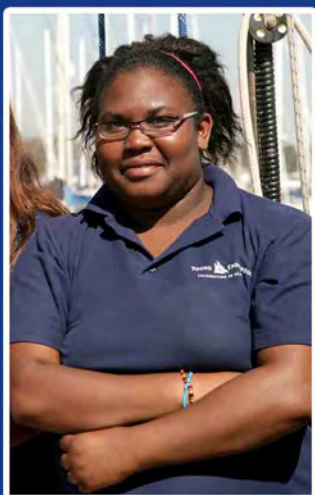


# YOUNG ENDEAVOUR YOUNG LEADERS



Dianna Wright, 19, originally from Broome, Western Australia, sailed for eleven days in *Young Endeavour* across the Bass Strait. She is currently studying Aboriginal Theatre in Perth and talks about what she learnt from her time at sea.



In 2009 I sailed in *Young Endeavour* from Georgetown, Tasmania to Williamstown, Victoria. This was the first time I had sailed on the ocean. I wanted to try this adventure to learn more about myself and other people and experience being so far away from family and friends.

I was selected for the voyage as part of my involvement with the National Community Indigenous Leadership program, sponsored by the Department of Families, Housing, Community Service and Indigenous Affairs; a long term program to develop positive leadership skills.

The experience was designed to give me a chance to use and develop some of these skills by learning to sail the tall ship with 23 other young people from all over Australia.

I also learnt about the dynamics of teamwork and ways to work with different people and adapt to other people's way of doing things. The voyage has also helped me with my studies in Aboriginal Theatre at the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts and taught me to learn from others.

The Royal Australian Navy staff on *Young Endeavour* taught me a lot about learning to work things out with other people without conflict and changing mystyle of leadership and communication to relate to and reach different people. It is about recognising that there are many different ways of going about things, and learning to respect and work with different approaches.

One of the challenges I faced was climbing the mast. I only did this once and was crying when I finally got to the top, but I was so glad I managed to make it. This has given me a lot of strength and courage to know that I can accomplish things so far outside my comfort zone.



My family come from Broome originally and my grandparents always talked about their connection with the sea. I consider myself a "saltwater person" and being on *Young Endeavour* has helped to strengthen my connection with the sea and nature.

The voyage was such a great opportunity, and I hope more people grab the chance to get on board.

For more information please visit [www.youngendeavour.gov.au](http://www.youngendeavour.gov.au).