

September 6, 2024

## Curd it be true? Student cheese makers on par with professionals

Students from two Greater Brisbane schools had a lot to smile and say cheese about today, receiving rave reviews from the judges at the Royal Queensland Show's (Ekka) Student Made Cheese Competition Awards at the Brisbane Showgrounds.

St Aidan's Anglican Girls' School in Corinda won the Mould Ripened Cheese White category for the very first time, with their entry titled Lily.

Judge Mark Livermore said it was a beautiful cheese.

"The cheese scored a 19 out of 20 and that would get a gold medal at any competition in Australia," he said.

Meanwhile, Caboolture State High School won the Mould Ripened Cheese Blue category for the second consecutive year with their Jai entry.

"The cheese had a beautiful flavour with a good distribution of blue mould throughout it and was once again a gold medal cheese," Mr Livermore said.

Chief Judge Russell Smith said the quality of the cheeses produced in the competition over the past few years had been exceptional.

"The best cheeses we judged this week were as good as the commercial cheeses you can buy," he said.

"This year we saw lots of well marbled blue cheeses, which we don't often see as it's hard to achieve a nice vein."

Flagstone State Community College also took home a blue ribbon, winning the Ekka's Agricultural Sciences and Student Fermented Beverages Competition.

The school's Triple LBJ group claimed the title of Champion Fermented Beverage for their ginger beer.

Entries across the two competitions were up 25 per cent on last year, with a total of 237 entries received from 31 schools.

### 2024 WINNERS

#### STUDENT MADE CHEESE

2023 WINNER OF 22 INTERNATIONAL IAFE AWARDS



Class 1 - Mould Ripened Cheese White

1st Place: St Aidan's Anglican Girls' School - Lily

2nd Place: Beenleigh State High School - Group 6

3rd Place: Kenmore State High School - AMR

Class 2 - Mould Ripened Cheese Blue

1st Place: Caboolture State High School - Jai

2nd Place: Caboolture State High School - Alethea

3rd Place: Beenleigh State High School - Group 5 Harley & Shanaiah

## AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES & STUDENT FERMENTED BEVERAGES

Champion Fermented Beverage: Flagstone State Community College - Triple LBJ - Ginger Beer

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### MEDIA ENQUIRIES:

Veronica Carew  
General Manager Communications  
Ph: 07 3253 3930/ 0408 323 631  
Email: [vcarew@rna.org.au](mailto:vcarew@rna.org.au)

Nicole Clifton  
Media and Communications Advisor  
Ph: 0417 451 775  
Email: [nclifton@rna.org.au](mailto:nclifton@rna.org.au)

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