



# Karlie Noon



**STEM field(s):** Science (Astrophysics)

**Born:** 1990, Coledale nr Tamworth, NSW (Kamilaroi Nation)

**Intersectionality:** Aboriginal, regional, low socio-economic



- Gamilaroi woman – grew up in social housing near Tamworth.
- Traditional secondary school education did not suit her, resulting in very low attendance.
- Weekly tutoring sessions with an Aboriginal Elder rekindled her love of maths.
- Switched to TAFE in Year 8, and by Year 9 was doing Year 12 maths.
- The first Indigenous Australian woman to complete a double degree in Mathematics and Physics, then a Master's degree in Radio Astronomy.
- Researched the knowledge of astronomy deeply embedded within Indigenous Australian cultures.
- Currently studying a PhD in astronomy and is a co-host of Cosmic Vertigo podcast.
- Worked for CSIRO's Indigenous STEM program.
- Co-wrote *Astronomy: Sky Country* with Krystal De Napoli.
- Sydney Observatory inaugural astronomy ambassador; ACT Young Australian of the Year finalist.

‘... anybody can achieve a career in STEM, everyone has the right to equal opportunities, including young women, including young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.’