

**Monday 23 June**

The Theatrette  
Australian Parliament  
House, Canberra

# 2025

## **Australian Olympiad Teams Announcement**

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Biology • Chemistry • Earth Science  
Informatics • Mathematics • Physics



Australian Government  
Department of Industry,  
Science and Resources

**AMT.**  
AUSTRALIAN  
MATHS TRUST





## **Acknowledgement of Country**

We wish to acknowledge the Ngunnawal people as traditional custodians of the land we are meeting on and recognise any other people or families with connection to the lands of the ACT and region. We wish to acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of this city and this region. We would also like to acknowledge and welcome other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who may be attending today's event.

# 2025

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### Social media

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@AustMathsTrust @auscienceinnovations  
@AustralianOlympiadTeamsAnnouncement



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@australian-mathematics-trust @auscienceinnovations

# ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

## Welcome to Country

**Serena Williams**

Ngunnawal and Wiradjuri elder

## Welcome Address

**A/Prof Stella Clark**

Chair, Australian Science Innovations

**Dr. Geoff Shuetrim**

Chair, Australian Maths Trust

## Minister's Address

**Senator the Hon Tim Ayres**

Minister for Industry and Innovation

Minister for Science

## Sponsor Address

**Optiver**

## Special Address

## Teams Announcement

Biology

Chemistry

Earth Science

Informatics

Mathematics

Physics

## Close

*We extend our sincere thanks to ASI alum Siobhan Tobin for serving as our emcee.*

# TEAMS

## 6 Biology

**Program Director:** Dr Julie Cooke

**Deputy Program Director:** Julie Beckman

20–27 July 2025, Quezon City, Philippines

[ibo2025.org](http://ibo2025.org)

## 8 Chemistry

**Program Director:** Trent Wallis

**Deputy Program Director:** Anthony Mai

5–14 July 2025, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

[icho2025.ae](http://icho2025.ae)

## 10 Earth Science

**Program Director:** Dr Leslie Almberg

**Co-Deputy Program Directors:** Wayne Wong and David Brown

7–16 August 2025, Jining, China

[ieso2025.cn](http://ieso2025.cn)

## 12 Informatics

**Program Director:** Angus Ritossa

**Deputy Leader:** Jerry Li

27 July – 3 August 2025, Sucre, Bolivia

[ioi2025.bo](http://ioi2025.bo)

## 14 Mathematics

**Program Director:** Dr Angelo Di Pasquale

**Team Leader:** Hadyn Tang

**Deputy Leader:** Michelle Chen

10–20 July 2025, Sunshine Coast, Australia

[imo2025.au](http://imo2025.au)

## 17 Physics

**Program Director:** Lachlan McGinness

**Deputy Program Director:** Maggie Webber

17–25 July 2025, Paris, France

[ipho2025.fr](http://ipho2025.fr)

**Aidan Chan**

Balwyn High School  
VIC

Whilst he enjoyed the learning aspect of Summer School, Aidan loved the independent, university-like experience that the ASO Summer School provided.

Aidan's favourite science is chemistry, where he is fascinated by the beautiful simplicity of the periodic table – although his true passion lies in maths and the fundamental underpinnings of all science.

Outside of science, Aidan loves strategy and puzzle games, design and creative work. Aidan is also a gifted pianist, having attained an Associate Diploma in Music in 2024.

**Gina Chen**

James Ruse Agricultural  
High School  
NSW

Gina is an ASO Summer School veteran, having attended the 2023 and 2024 Earth and Environmental Science Summer Schools before taking part in Biology this year.

Gina has a passion for gender equality in STEM and is fascinated by how biology affects the social climate we live in.

She likes “finding funky new places to eat, reading Agatha Christie novels, going to the gym, attending poetry nights and watching plays.” Gina is excited to have the opportunity to forge new bonds with peers from around the globe while exploring the subject they all love.



**Oliver Downing**

Melbourne High School  
VIC

In 2020, Olly was introduced to ASI programs when he participated in the Big Science Competition. He earned an invitation to the JSO Training Squad and later completed the JSO Academy.

Whilst he was selected to represent Australia at the International Junior Science Olympiad in 2022, unfortunately, the team did not compete. In 2023, he represented Australia at IJSO Thailand, where he won gold.

He says, "The main highlight of the JSO Spring Schools and ASO Summer Schools has been the practical work. Having the chance to work in uni labs is invaluable."



**Matthew Wu**

Melbourne High School  
VIC

Initially, Matthew signed up for the Olympiads to beat his brother, a 2020 Chemistry Olympiad alum, but he fell in love with biology along the way.

Having the opportunity to use real, lab-grade equipment and apply analytical methods like gel electrophoresis and PCR was the highlight of Matthew's ASO Summer School experience.

Outside of academics, Matthew swims and plays on his school's water polo team. Matthew is enamoured by the intersection of biology and chemistry. He hopes to pursue a career in medicine one day, either in research or patient care.





**Daniel Behrendt**

Sydney Grammar School  
NSW

Daniel found the social aspect of ASO Summer School most enjoyable. Meeting like-minded peers and taking on challenging lab work was both exciting and daunting.

He is looking forward to meeting people from different countries and cultures who all share the same interest at the International Chemistry Olympiad.

Outside of science, Daniel is an avid sportsman with a passion for climbing and team sports, which he says helps him to relax amongst the pressure of school and Olympiad work.



**Daniel Lin**

James Ruse Agricultural  
High School  
NSW

The hands-on labs were Daniel's favourite part of ASO Summer School. Having the opportunity to work with specialised lab equipment – and make a mess along the way – has him hooked on chemistry.

Daniel is equally excited about the food and friendships that the International Chemistry Olympiad will offer.

He loves chemistry because it allows him to see and understand the world around him better, from industrial processes to pretty crystals, chemistry has it all. Outside of the Olympiads, Daniel is a keen badminton player and coach.



**Katherine Lu**

Queensland Academy  
for Science, Mathematics  
and Technology  
QLD

"Don't drop glassware, it breaks..." is Katherine's advice to future chemists. She says chemistry is the perfect combination of problem-solving and creativity, bridging the gap between the molecular world and the real world.

For Katherine, the Olympiad is a great opportunity to explore chemistry and have an unforgettable adventure along the way. Meeting new people and exploring new places excites her.

Katherine aspires to a career where her work will directly impact and improve the lives of others.

**Vinay Raghavan**

Haileybury College  
VIC

Vinay is a career Olympiad student, having participated in two Junior Science Olympiad Spring Schools and JSO Academy.

He is looking forward to tackling the challenging problems posed at the International Chemistry Olympiad, and having the opportunity to collaborate with chemistry enthusiasts from around the world.

Vinay is fascinated by the fields of organic and quantum chemistry, particularly the ability to synthesise just about every natural product from a series of precisely controlled reactions. Aside from doing science, Vinay enjoys playing chess and programming and is quite interested in math research.



**Leo Buckle**

Camberwell  
Grammar School  
VIC

At Summer School, Leo loved having his burning questions answered in a way that went above and beyond the 'high school curriculum' approach. He also enjoyed being around passionate science students, all fuelled by intense curiosity.

Leo loves Earth science, especially how it questions the very nature of our world as a constantly growing and evolving field of science. Outside of Earth science, Leo is a dedicated swimmer and swim-teacher, jazz musician, and Minecraft enthusiast.

Leo's tips? "Listen to your mentors and teachers... but have fun along the way."



**Tiffany Gao**

Presbyterian Ladies  
College Sydney  
NSW

Tiffany says her highlight from ASO Summer School was the practical activities, where she used her investigative skills to figure out the 'whats and whys' of Earth science.

Tiffany is interested in learning what geology and Earth science mean to people of other cultures through the International Earth Science Olympiad. She is passionate about geology, especially the problem-solving and storytelling elements, some of which she has learned playing Minecraft.

Tiffany's message to future Earth scientists? "So much of the world is Earth science, so just be curious about all of it."

**Jeffrey Tang**

North Sydney  
Boys High School  
NSW

For Jeffrey, the opportunity to see geological phenomena in person, handle specimens, and connect the theoretical with the practical side of Earth science was the highlight of Summer School. He loved engaging with subject experts through guest lectures.

Jeffrey has a passion for astronomy, having been captivated by astronomers like Brian Cox. He can't wait to meet like-minded peers from across the globe and collaborate to tackle the International Earth Science Olympiad's challenging team exercises.

Outside of science, he enjoys Minecraft, ultimate frisbee, Tetris, computers (hardware), programming and cooking.

**Alex Zhuang**

The King's School  
NSW

Earth science, for Alex, is the product of every other science working together to explain how our world works. For him, geophysics and computer modelling are of particular interest, and he draws inspiration from the pioneering work of early climate modellers.

The collaborative element of the International Earth Science Olympiad is especially appealing, having the opportunity to interact with others in a setting similar to modern academia.

On the side, Alex enjoys the methodical and process-oriented task of cooking, with the added bonus of food, of course!



**Justin Goh**

Christchurch  
Grammar School  
WA

Justin has developed a deep interest in informatics, especially computational geometry, for its original and thought-provoking challenges. He began programming through his school's informatics club, and the collaborative environment at AMT camps helped fuel his passion.

Justin looks forward to the IOI for its elegant problems and thriving international community.

Outside of coding, he enjoys athletics, anime, and reading. Justin is excited to explore where his interests may lead him in the future.



**Matthew Lin**

Scotch College  
VIC

Matthew discovered Informatics in Year 9 thanks to a friend's recommendation, from there it all clicked. Since then, he has enjoyed the fun, challenge, and satisfying solutions Informatics offers. He has competed nationally and internationally and looks forward to solving the interesting problems presented at the IOI and meeting other contestants from around the world.

Outside of coding, Matthew enjoys badminton, card games, and lots of sleeping.

While he isn't sure what's next, he plans to see where his enjoyment of computer science and building takes him.

**Ron Xue**

Scotch College  
VIC

Ron is a passionate problem-solver who first discovered programming through Roblox in Year 5 and soon found a love for informatics' puzzle-like challenges.

Outside of coding, he enjoys rhythm games, Japanese music, tennis, and fencing. He hopes to study computer science and AI at university, exploring applications in fields like chemistry, medicine, or biotechnology.

Ron is looking forward to meeting contestants from other countries at this year's IOI, along with some of the well-known legends of informatics.

**Nathan Zhou**

Knox Grammar  
School  
NSW

Nathan enjoys informatics for its blend of problem solving, coding, and using clever algorithms to crack tough challenges. He began coding in primary school, participated in the Australian Informatics Olympiad in Year 7, and was hooked after his first December camp.

Outside of informatics, Nathan enjoys maths, robotics, reading, and board games.

He looks forward to meeting other teams at the IOI in Sucre and seeing familiar faces from last year. He hopes to explore computer science research in the future.



**William Cheah**

Scotch College  
VIC

Will appreciates the endless array of new and exciting ideas that maths provides for exploration, and advises that always remembering to have fun in the process is the best way to improve.

He plans to apply the mathematical problem-solving skills he has acquired from Olympiad mathematics to impactful real-world research.

Outside maths, Will enjoys informatics, playing piano and violin, swimming, fencing, chess and badminton at a competitive level. He is looking forward to welcoming students from around the world to the IMO in Australia.



**William Liu**

The King's School  
NSW

Will enjoys the creative challenge of solving complex combinatorial problems. His passion began through the Mathematical Problem-Solving program, where he discovered the beauty of proofs and ideas like the infinite pigeonhole principle.

Outside of maths, Will enjoys running, reading, and playing board games. He plans to study math and computer science at university.

He is looking forward to meeting new people from around the world.



**Xiangyue Nan**

Fintona Girls' School  
VIC

Xiangyue is fascinated by the endless opportunities available in mathematics. She feels that, with no areas fully solved and many different fields and niches to study, that there will always be so many new things to learn and discover.

Outside of maths, Xiangyue enjoys badminton, origami, and card and board games.

After winning Gold at IMO 2024, and this being her second and final IMO before graduating, Xiangyue is looking forward to reconnecting with friends from last year and meeting other fellow math enthusiasts from around the world.



**Jayden Pan**

Shore School  
NSW

Jayden enjoys the long process of problem-solving and the joy that comes from finally cracking a tough problem.

He is an avid debater and public speaker, and is passionate about social issues and the connection between maths and his other interests, such as his faith, soccer, skiing, and playing violin.

Outside of maths, he enjoys debating, public speaking, soccer, and skiing.

He is excited to represent Australia at the IMO and hopes to use his passion for math to address real-world issues in the future.





**Justin Tran**

Sydney Grammar  
School  
NSW

Justin has great appreciation for the abstract reasoning and problem-solving elements of mathematics. He is fascinated by the abstract beauty of maths and sees maths as a bridge between intuition and intellect.

He encourages others to grow and enrich their curiosity and sense of wonder through all avenues available to them, whether it be teachers, friends, contests, or other forums.

Outside of maths, Justin enjoys rock climbing, cinema, origami, piano, and 3D graphics, and is excited to be on the IMO team this year.



**Zihui Zhang**

Clayfield College  
QLD

Zihui is passionate about the quiet, personal challenge that mathematics provides. Her love for maths began with a simple logic puzzle from her dad, sparking a lifelong curiosity.

Zihui's best advice is to believe in yourself, and with this mindset, she hopes to contribute meaningfully to the advancement of mathematics in the future.

Outside of maths, Zihui enjoys origami and learning new languages. She is looking forward to connecting with peers who share a deep passion for mathematics at IMO this year.



**Isaac Chan**

Queensland Academy  
for Science, Mathematics  
and Technology  
QLD

For Isaac, using the fancy lab equipment was a highlight of ASO Summer School.

Isaac finds physics fun and intuitive. “In physics, except for quantum mechanics, there is always a logical reason for why things are the way they are.” He also tinkers with computer science, enjoying the mathematical component of it.

He is looking forward to meeting new people from across the globe at the International Physics Olympiad this year.



**Matthew Yan**

Balwyn High School  
VIC

Matthew says, “I didn’t know much about physics until I decided to take the exam.” After ASO Summer School, he became fascinated with physics, where he could solve problems and feel useful in the process.

Matthew is particularly interested in space; he enjoys pondering the big questions about the origins of stars and galaxies alike. He is looking forward to exploring Paris during the International Physics Olympiad.

Outside of the Olympiads, Matthew is a talented musician, playing both the violin and saxophone while also composing his own music.



**Yichen 'Eason' Yang**

Trinity Grammar  
School, Kew  
VIC

Eason was selected to represent Australia at the 2022 International Junior Science Olympiad. He represented Australia at the Asian Physics Olympiad in Malaysia in 2024 and Saudi Arabia in 2025, winning silver both times.

Eason is “looking forward to immersing myself in local culture and touring the cities we visit” at the International Physics Olympiad in Paris.

He is enchanted by the depth and breadth of physics – a subject that “allows us to model everything from atomic lattices to black holes.” Outside of science, Eason enjoys running, chess, and playing the oboe.



**Owen Zhai**

Brisbane State  
High School  
QLD

Owen's efforts through Junior Science Olympiad Exams, Spring School and Academy culminated in Owen representing Australia at the 2024 International Junior Science Olympiad in Romania, where he earned gold!

At ASO Summer School, he enjoyed meeting lifelong friends and singing late-night karaoke. He enjoys playing the cello, table tennis, and baking.

Owen loves physics because “it allows us to formalise our intuition of the everyday.” He is inspired by the theory of relativity and how scientific discovery is driven by international collaboration.

**Houlai Zhou**

Sydney Grammar  
School  
NSW

Houlai loves how mathematics and physical principles can be used to explain everyday phenomena with great accuracy.

This was demonstrated through his efforts at the Asian Physics Olympiad, in Malaysia in 2024 and Saudi Arabia in 2025, where he earned gold both times.

He is interested in pursuing a career pushing the boundaries of known physics in an industry setting. Outside of physics, Houlai is a keen musician, having played the piano for 14 years and, more recently, the flute.

## The International Science Olympiads

The Olympiad programs of the Australian Maths Trust and Australian Science Innovations reach thousands of talented students and involve hundreds of committed teachers and schools every year.

These programs offer diverse activities, first in schools under the supervision of teachers, and then through extension activities, national competitions, summer schools and training camps, all designed to build skills and encourage excellence in science, informatics and mathematics.

## Government support



The Informatics, Mathematics and Science Olympiads are funded through the Australian Government Department of Industry, Science and Resources.

## Jointly delivered by



## Olympiad supporters

