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| District & International Award Winners 2006-2008 |
| **International and District YWPA Winner** |
| 2007-06-25 21:59 GMT |
| Congratulations to Stephanie Carter from the Brisbane Girls Grammar and nominee of the Zonta Club of Brisbane North Inc on her success is being awarded the 2007 District and International Young Women in Public Affairs Award.  Stephanie is in her final year at Brisbane Girls Grammar. She is currently the Queensland World Vision Youth Ambassador for Australia 2007 and as one of two Service Captains at school she is organising a Pink Day to raise funds and awareness of Breast Cancer Research. Through World Vision she has been very involved in all aspects of tutoring programs for refugees  Stephanie has been an exchange student to Germany and at the National Youth Summit in Melbourne and participated in numerous workshops focusing on global poverty related issues. She was chosen as the Queensland 2007 World Vision Youth Ambassador BEFORE being chosen as the Australian 2007 Ambassador. Her Queensland win meant that she travelled to Laos for 2 weeks which was quite confronting and she understands even more the unjust conditions for young women of the same age in that country. Stephanie attends many meetings as Ambassador and speaks out about empowering young women to consciously use the resources we have in this country to make a difference to the lives of other much less fortunate young women in other parts of the world.  Answering the question about Status of Women in Australia, Stephanie sees the 2 limiting factors as lack of easy access to career and educational opportunities for women living in disadvantaged situations and the issue of balancing family and work life for those in the labour force. To rectify these situations- Stephanie believes the Government needs to take action and there needs to be a more comprehensive distribution of information and awareness of the opportunities of education and career programs which are available to all young women. A universal paid maternity leave scheme and decreased child care costs would help Australian women have more opportunities to participate and advance their careers in the labour force. Stephanie firmly believes in creating a greater awareness of women’s rights AMONG WOMEN.  Answering about the Status of Women worldwide she identified the most limiting factors as gender inequality and lack of proper education for women. Stephanie believes that the work of the United Nations through UNIFEM and the work of Zonta International is crucial in raising the profile of women and fighting for gender equality worldwide.  Stephanie is intending to do a degree in journalism combined with international relations and political science and hopes to have a future career where she can work with organisations such as UNIFEM.  Zonta wishes her well with her future studies and career. |
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