Nine Territory school students have been invited to meet Their Royal Highnesses, The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, at the Chief Minister’s official reception at Uluru next week.

“I’m pleased to be sharing this once in a lifetime experience with some of our most inspirational young Territorians,” Chief Minister Adam Giles said.

“I am honoured to be hosting the Royal Couple in the Territory and I know these students are excited about being part of this unforgettable event.

“I asked the Principals of nine schools spread across the Territory to nominate their best and brightest and they have selected a remarkable group of future leaders.

“I’m proud this group will be representing the Territory as my official guests at the Royal afternoon tea.

“I’m sure they will be great ambassadors for the Territory and will have a lot to tell The Duke and Duchess about their lives in this unique part of Australia.”

The students are:

• Tarra Brain, Casuarina Senior College
• Lauren Dawes, Katherine High School
• Corrina Fraser, Tennant Creek High School
• Shannon Hunt, Darwin High School
• Erin Keeley, Nhulunbuy High School
• Emma Kellaway, Taminmin College
• Chevez Kirkman, Nyangatjatjara College
• Alessandra Pecorari, Centralian Senior College
• Grace Tozer, Palmerston Senior College

“Taking part in the Royal Visit is guaranteed to be a remarkable experience for this group of students and I hope they treasure the honour for a lifetime,” Mr Giles said.

“I personally look forward to showing the Royal Couple the wonders of Central Australia and talking to them about our unique culture and laid back lifestyle.”

While they’re on Territory-soil, Their Royal Highnesses will visit the iconic Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park where they’ll meet local Indigenous artists and visit the Rock.

They’ll also be presenting Graduation Certificates to students at the National Indigenous Training Academy at Yulara.
“This will be the first time Their Royal Highnesses have visited Australia as a couple and the trip also marks 31 years since His Royal Highness visited the Red Centre with his parents in 1983,” Mr Giles said.

The Royal visit to Uluru is expected to attract extensive media coverage especially in the United Kingdom, which is our largest tourist market.

Around 150 media representatives from dozens of outlets are expected to attend the Northern Territory program of events and will be writing about the Territory as one of Australia’s most iconic destinations.

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Tarra Brain, Casuarina Senior College
Tarra is a Year 12 student at Casuarina Senior College in Darwin. Having moved from Sydney to Darwin 10 years ago with the family, Tarra has grown into a true Territorian enjoying all the lifestyle, sporting and educational benefits the NT has to offer.

Tarra is an energetic, enthusiastic student who consistently achieves outstanding results across all areas.

She is working towards a career in Mechanical Engineering/ Astrophysics and is studying Physics, Advanced Maths, Specialist Maths and English, having already completed her Year 12 Creative Arts. Tarra also plays a key part as a member of the Casuarina Senior College debating team.

Lauren Dawes, Katherine High School
Lauren is 17 years old and is in Year 12 at Katherine High School. Lauren was born and raised in Katherine.

Lauren is a dedicated to her studies and to school leadership. She is a current School Captain and was also School Captain at primary school. She has previously been a member of the Student Leadership Council, a student- elected position and in primary school was Student Citizen of the Year.

On finishing school, Lauren hopes to study medicine.
Corrina Fraser, Tennant Creek High School

Corrina was born in Tennant Creek and has lived nearly all of her life there, apart from a short stint in Adelaide. She is 17 years old and is in her final year at Tennant Creek High School.

Outside of school, Corinna enjoys swimming, netball, dance and the performing arts. She is currently rehearsing dance with National Aboriginal Islander Skills Development Association (NAISDA) performers who are visiting her school. She has been a school and NT representative for netball, has been a member of the local swimming club in town and was recently lucky enough to be a school-age champion at the local swimming carnival.

When Corinna leaves school, she is planning to train as a health worker with the Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education.

Shannon Hunt, Darwin High School

Shannon is 16 years old and is Year 12 at Darwin High School.

Shannon enjoys public speaking, playing sport and outdoor activities such as camping and bushwalking.

Shannon has many academic, community and sporting achievement of which she is proud of including being the recipient of the Northern Territory’s Chief Minister’s Anzac Spirit Study Tour Award in 2013.

On finishing school, Shannon hopes to study medicine and practice in rural Australia.

Erin Keeley, Nhulunbuy High School

Erin Keeley is 17 and is in her final year at Nhulunbuy High School, where she is the School Captain.

Erin is a keen student and has achieved high grades and a number of awards, particularly in her favourite subjects of Biology and Health.

In addition to being the current School Captain, Erin has recently been selected to participate in the Northern Territory Chief Minister’s Round Table of Young Territorians.

On finishing school, Erin would like to follow in the footsteps of her mother, who unexpectedly passed away in February 2014, to become a social worker. She would like to work with disadvantaged families and communities around Australia and hopefully in other countries where families are in need.
Emma Kellaway, Taminmin College
Emma is 16 years old and is in Year 12 at Taminmin College. Emma enjoys camping and fishing with her family. She is a keen reader who also loves volunteering and participating in community activities.

Emma is a hard worker and dedicates herself to study. She has many achievements of which she is proud, including being selected to debate and speak at the 2014 UN Youth Conference in Darwin; being 2014 School Captain; and attending the National Indigenous Youth Leadership Academy National Forum in 2013.

Emma hopes to study at university after school and eventually, become involved in politics. She would also like to continue to sing and perform throughout her life.

Chevez Kirkman, Nyangatjatjara College, Yulara
Chevez is 15 years old and is in Year 11 at Nyangatjatjara College. Chevez is good all round student but has a passion for Art, which is his favourite subject.

Chevez loves all sport. He swims and plays basketball, football, and soccer with skill.

In his spare time he likes to listen to music, draw, play on his play station and hang out with his friends and family.

Chevez is still thinking about what he wants to do when he leaves school. He might take his art further as a career, or even take over as Chief Executive Officer/Principal of Nyangatjatjara College.

Alessandra Pecorari, Centralian Senior College
Alessandra Pecorari is 17 years old and is completing Year 12 at Centralian Senior College in Alice Springs.

Alessandra has many interests, but her main interest is dance. She has been practising ballet at the Alice Springs-based Australian Dance Academy since she was just three years old, and joined the Duprada Dance Company in 2009. Alessandra now teaches ballet to young children, which she very much enjoys.

Once she completes school, Alessandra hopes to attend university in Melbourne, where she would like to undertake a Bachelor of Arts.

Alessandra has received a number of awards during her time at school, however being selected to meet with the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge is her greatest honour to date.
Grace Tozer, Palmerston Senior College

Grace Tozer is 16 years old and is in Year 12 at Palmerston Senior College. She is the female school captain.

Grace enjoys being involved in the business sector and has attended events such as the Telstra Business Women of the Year 2013 Awards. In 2013 she was a finalist in the Northern Territory Youth Business Awards. A highlight of 2014 for Grace was being awarded the Australia Day Citizenship Award and the Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award.

Grace’s goal after leaving school is to get accepted into an internship with Grip Leadership and travel around Australia teaching leadership skills to students of all ages. After the internship Grace would like to attend university to study Business and Psychology.

Grace hopes to have her own business one day offering different types of therapy.