



Media Alert



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ABC's Rookie Reporter to hit the election campaign trail

12 year old Sydneysider Maya has been selected as ABC3's Behind the News' (BTN) Rookie Reporter, joining seasoned ABC journalists as an on-the-spot political reporter, covering the 2016 Australian Federal Election. Maya will deliver her first news story during ABC3's BTN Newsbreak at 6:50pm on Monday, 13 June.

Maya will follow politicians as they navigate the campaign trail, delivering a daily news story to the nightly BTN bulletin on ABC3, and a daily video diary of her experience which will be available on ABC iView.

This week, Maya will go on a Rookie Reporter Bootcamp with experienced ABC election mentors, including **Sarah Ferguson, Leigh Sales** and **Jeremy Fernandez**. She will learn how to interrogate a politician, how to hunt down ground-breaking stories and how to wade through the polls and statistics to work out trends and make predictions. Once prepared for life on the road, Maya will be shadowed by BTN journalist and mentor **Emma Davis** and together they will immerse themselves in the press pack.

On the eve of the election, the documentary **Rookie Reporter Election** will air at **7pm**. Filmed through Maya's eyes, the documentary will capture her journey as she is submerged in the challenging, fast paced environment of political journalism. Audiences will meet the politicians, commentators and journalists that Maya encounters along the way, providing an entertaining way to explore both the behind-the-scenes and the public versions of Australia's election process.

TX Information:

Tuesday 7th June – Maya will be introduced as Rookie Reporter during Behind the News at 11 on ABC3.

Monday 13th June – 5 video diary blogs covering Maya's Bootcamp training experiences will be available on ABC iView

Monday 13th June to Friday 1st July – Maya will deliver daily news stories to ABC3's BTN Newsbreak at 6:50pm and daily video diary blogs will be added to ABC iView

Friday 1st July – 1130am & 7pm – Rookie Reporter half hour documentary airs on ABC3

For more information and images please contact Publicist Safia van der Zwan, vanderzwan.safia@abc.net.au, or for interview opportunities contact Producer Kala Ellis, ellis.kala@abc.net.au