



## PHD STUDENT AMY CHAN

**Published on** January 6, 2020 | **in** Profiles

Deadly infections could be a thing of the past if a young Queensland woman's research proves successful.

Amy Chan, a PhD student from the [University of Queensland Institute for Molecular Bioscience](#), is in the final stages of a groundbreaking study focused on the inflammasome protein complexes that regulate inflammation in the human body. Inflammation is an important protective response that defends our bodies from infection. Ms. Chan's work is dedicated to determining how the non-canonical inflammasome is naturally switched on and off in the human body. By understanding its natural mechanisms, Ms. Chan hopes future

scientists may develop drugs to manipulate and artificially activate or deactivate Caspase-4. “If we can artificially activate or deactivate the inflammasome, we may be able to amplify the immune response at the onset of infection to kill bacteria faster and also decrease damaging immune activity during septic shock,” said Ms. Chan.

It is estimated that more than 30 million people worldwide have suffered from sepsis, resulting in approximately six million deaths annually. If successful, Ms. Chan’s research could effectively reveal the mechanisms that govern inflammasome activation and deactivation. Assisting in the immune response to infection, millions of lives could be saved globally. Ms. Chan’s research also further advances avenues from a pharmaceutical standpoint, as well as cardiology research, as non-canonical inflammasome activity may be linked to chronic heart disease.

Ms. Chan was awarded the Life Sciences Young Achiever award at the 22<sup>nd</sup> annual [Women in Technology](#) (WiT) Awards, held in Brisbane in August 2019. “What women in STEM-related fields need are female mentors. Someone they can confide in and look up to,” she said. “WiT is an inclusive network of professional women. I encourage all young women thinking of entering STEM to join an organisation where they can network and receive support from other women, it makes a tremendous difference in your professional and personal development. I believe that science is fundamental to societal advancement. I strive to get as many people excited about science as I can,” said Ms. Chan.

*Readers also enjoyed our story on [Sophie Castriota](#).*

**Posted by Jemimah Savins**

**Image via [Women in Technology](#)**

---

[← Justine Clark Architecture Prize](#)

[Filmmaker Madison Marneros →](#)

**7TH ASIA-PACIFIC STEVIE® AWARDS**  
**FEBRUARY 6 ENTRY DEADLINE**  
Get international recognition for your innovative work

**LEARN MORE**

**WOMEN  
IN BUSINESS  
AWARDS  
OF AUSTRALIA**

**mudputty**

Find and book local  
classes, activities  
and workshops

The  
**PRESTIGE  
PROPERTY**  
magazine.com

High End Homes Noosa to Byron

**BOOK  
THIS SPACE  
\$100+GST**

15,620+  
page views  
per month



---

## SIGN UP TO FREE WEEKLY E-NEWS HERE

Tweet

Like 5



---

### UPCOMING EVENTS



13 Jan - 17 Jan

2020 WOMEN FUTURE  
CONFERENCE REGISTRATION



1 Feb - 1 Mar

NORTHERN QLD AWARDS



21 Feb - 21 Feb

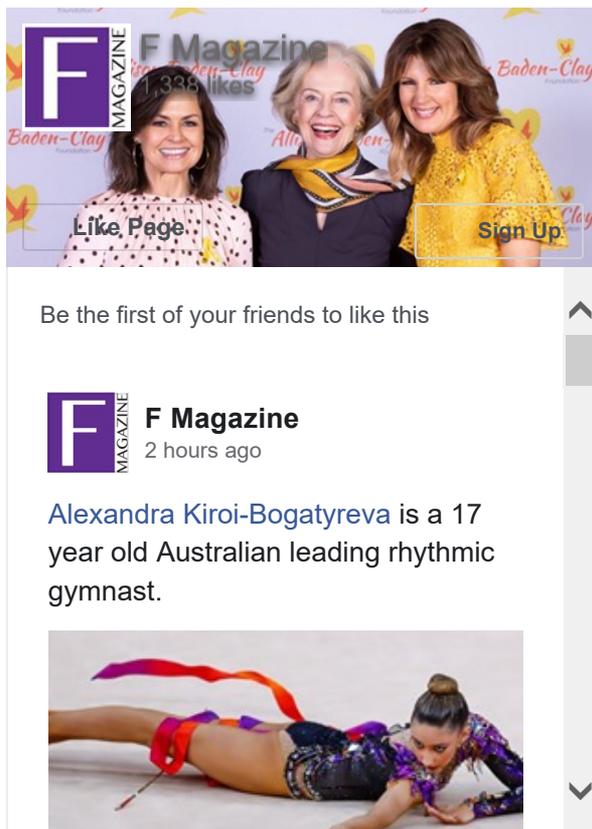
HOBART LUNCHEON



2 Apr - 5 Apr

WOMEN OF THE WORLD 2020

### LATEST ON FACEBOOK



The image shows a Facebook post from the 'F Magazine' page. At the top is a cover photo of three women smiling in front of a 'Baden-Clay' event backdrop. Below the photo are 'Like Page' and 'Sign Up' buttons. The post text says 'Be the first of your friends to like this' and 'F Magazine 2 hours ago'. The main text reads: 'Alexandra Kiroi-Bogatyreva is a 17 year old Australian leading rhythmic gymnast.' Below the text is a photo of a gymnast in a purple and black outfit performing with a red and orange ribbon.

### LATEST ON INSTAGRAM



The image shows the Instagram bio for the account 'FMAGAZINE.ONLINE'. It features the 'F Magazine' logo, the handle 'FMAGAZINE.ONLINE', and statistics for 785 posts and 870 followers. The bio text says: 'Celebrating #Australian Female Success across ages, industries and lifestyles. Join our tribe. Email us your story. Sign up for our free weekly eNews.'

Emerging singer and ...  
♥ 5 💬 0

Sage advice from @da ...  
♥ 11 💬 0

Dr Lisa Gillinder is ...  
♥ 6 💬 0

Caroline Russo, @hus ...  
♥ 2 💬 0

At 19-years-old, Ang ...  
♥ 3 💬 0

Amy Chan, a PhD stud ...  
♥ 7 💬 0

[About](#) [Contact](#) [Advertise with Us](#) [Privacy Policy](#)

