



Brenda Amato has done something amazing!

In 2017, when she was 14 years old, she founded the ERCWA Multicultural AFL Umpiring Academy – the first of its kind in WA, and perhaps Australia.

Bringing cultural diversity into AFL Umpiring has been a long term objective of the AFL and Brenda is smashing barriers by introducing umpiring to multicultural young people. Her umpires have broken cultural stereotypes, inspired mainstream Australians with their professionalism and skill and brought a strong sense of cultural harmony to the community.

Brenda was born in Uganda before migrating to Australia with her family in 2007. Shortly after her arrival, she joined the Butler Falcons; a multicultural all-girls AFL team run by ER Camps WA.

Brenda found her passion for Australia's game through this program and was inspired to give back by empowering other young people through her Umpiring Academy.

Now in its fourth year of operation, the Academy has developed over 60 umpires. Several have entered the talent pathway, umpiring in their respective districts and earning an income.

Brenda is considered a role model by her peers and, for her efforts, won the title of WA Young Person of the Year in 2019.