

Olivia our top young business women

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Olivia Maragna named the Telstra Young Business Woman of the Year in Queensland.

A STONES Corner businesswoman has been named the Telstra Young Business Woman of the Year in Queensland.

Olivia Maragna won the award after establishing financial planning firm Aspire Retire Financial Services five years ago.

The 31-year-old from Camp Hill is currently writing a plain English book on superannuation for novice investors.

She said even with industry and market “ups and downs”, businesses could still thrive.

Ms Maragna credits part of her success to working with business mentor Cindy Campbell and being prepared to do whatever was necessary to grow her business.

“I try to surround myself with businesses and people that inspire and motivate me to do great things and I am immensely grateful for everything I have or have achieved,” Ms Maragna said.

“I play to my strengths which are mentoring, training, delegating and explaining things simply so that our business leverages the ‘teach a man to fish’ principle.”

Ms Maragna also attributed her success to finding a balance between work and family, which includes husband and business partner Stephen Degiovanni and three stepchildren.

She said her business model, which depended on developing and refining systems and procedures, was largely responsible for Aspire Retire receiving its independent financial planning licence in a record three days.

Ms Maragna holds a bachelor of business from QUT and is a chartered accountant. She will go to Melbourne for the national awards.