This has been an incredibly busy term with a number of events happening. This week we have a VET taster for students from other schools and on Thursday we have 90 Year 9 students from Princes Hill coming for a tour of the college. This is redemption week for all Year 10-12 students so it is important that students catch up on any missed work so they can pass their subjects. Semester reports are being finalised and will be published on Compass once they have all been checked.

STEM/STEAM Program Update
For some time, to meet the employment needs of the future, we have been seeking support from all quarters, for the establishment of a STEM or STEAM Centre of Excellence at NCAT involving La Trobe University and advanced manufacturing companies such as Integra Systems who are key partners in this venture. STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics, but we believe that the Arts are a key component as well.

We have met with Minister Merlino, DET personnel, local parliamentarians and people such as Nicholas Wyman to lobby for such a centre which would deliver a Year 10-13 program. This program will involve students doing an Associate degree with La Trobe University as well as being trained in entrepreneurial and design skills and having experience in industry alongside their Year 10-12 program and then completing their associate degree in Year 13 along with an extended industry placement.

This way, students would be completing courses that lead directly to real jobs and would be trained in the skills that companies need.

Senator Kim Carr, Shadow Minister for Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Industry, and David Feeney, the local Member for Batman, on Tuesday 14th June, announced as part of the federal election campaign, a pledge to invest $10 million to establish NCAT as a Commonwealth Institute of Higher Education specialising in STEM.

Arts activities
Over the past month there have been a number of Art activities. Year 10 Arts students have performed their Commedia Dell’Arte sketches to primary school students; the VCE Drama presented their performances based on the theme of “Lost;” the VCE Music Performance and VCE Music Investigations students held recital evenings; the Dance students showcased their talents at the NCAT Dance concert at the Darebin Arts & Entertainment Centre; the Create students exhibited their semester work as part of their assessment in C Wing; and the Diploma of Photoimaging students held an exhibition of their photography works at the Melbourne Arts Club, Preston. In addition there have been a number of lunchtime concerts and the Certificate IV Music students have performed at Pascoe Vale Girls College. It has been a very action packed month.

Technology activities
A maker centre has been operating every Thursday at lunchtime providing any interested student with the opportunity to work with 3D printers and electronics. Systems Engineering students have been out on excursions and all Pre-app students are out on a work placement last week of term.

I hope everyone has a refreshing break and comes back ready to make the most of Term 3.

Raffaele Galati-Brown
Principal
GRANT SVIKULIS

Grant came to NCAT from St Helena Secondary College this year to undertake our Pre Apprenticeship Building & Construction program. He has thoroughly enjoyed the school environment including the attitude towards its students. Grant has his challenges in life; he has Diabetes Type 1 and Asperger’s. As great as these challenges are and to his credit he doesn’t let these problems stop him from following his dreams.

Grant began playing baseball in 2011. His first club was Greenhills Montmorency where he has played for 3 winters refining his skills with the assistance of the coaching staff. His passion for baseball grew so much that when he was asked in 2014 to play summer competition with the Doncaster Dragons he jumped at the opportunity. Around this time Grant started to get some recognition for his fast pitching and solid hitting ability. Grant also tried out for the U16 State Team and made it to the last round. Grant has a solid disciplined work ethic with regular baseball training sessions at his local ground and batting cage.

In July 2015 Grant played in the Ripken Tournament at Myrtle Beach in America with the Australian Kookaburras. Grant had a great tournament in America and with his contribution, the Kookaburras won their first ever game in four years. Grant learnt a lot from the American teams he played against. He particularly loved their aggressive style of play and has incorporated this style into his own game. Soon after arriving home from America Grant made the Victorian Under 18s Team and played in the National Championships in Blacktown NSW in January 2016. Grant won MVP (Most Valuable Player) in his grade for his summer season with Doncaster Dragons early this year.

Now another wonderful opportunity has presented itself and we are thrilled for Grant as he will be playing for the Perth Heat Colts in America. He will be playing four tournaments in Portland Oregon between 22nd June – 20th July 2016. During this time he will be billeted out with host families and eat and sleep baseball with some of America’s finest young men. Who knows where this will lead for him? Good luck Grant!

Thank you to Grant’s proud family for the photos and inspirational story.

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CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>20-24th June</td>
<td>Pre App Work Placement Week</td>
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<tr>
<td>21st June</td>
<td>VET Taster Day for external students</td>
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<td>24th June</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 2</td>
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<td>11th July</td>
<td>Term 3 starts</td>
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<td>25 July-5 Aug</td>
<td>Year 10 &amp; VCAL Work Experience</td>
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<td>9th August</td>
<td>Information Evening for Prospective 2017 Students 6.00pm</td>
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<td>18th August</td>
<td>Parent Teacher Student Conferences 12.00pm – 7.30pm</td>
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Keeping up with the Arduinos ...

Integrated Technology students are really excited about the Arduino Kits they are working with. This activity enhances the program and makes it more “STEM like”.

Arduino is an open-source electronics prototyping platform based on flexible, easy-to-use hardware and software. Artists, designers, hobbyists and engineers can create interactive objects or environments.

An Arduino is like a small micro programmable computer and it interacts with the world through electronic sensors, lights, and motors. Basically, it makes hard-core electronic projects accessible to anyone. It’s the ultimate tinkering tool! Most students can easily navigate the user-friendly operating systems of today’s electronics but few have any idea on how these devices work. Students are exposed to the “nuts and bolts” of technology. Students must plan and visualise the use of space, use math to calculate voltages, use critical thinking to solve problems and troubleshoot, perform programming in C++ and use a variety of other 21st century skills to execute a project.

A sample of the projects pictured is a RFID (smart card) access control system, an automatic distance measuring device and a temperature control system.

Michael Stewart  
INTEGRATED TECHNOLOGIES TEACHER

Carlos Rosales

Carlos has worked as an electrician in Australia since 1974 working in mines, the car industry, construction, health and manufacturing. From 2006 he taught Certificates III and IV in Electrotechnology at RMIT. He received an Outstanding Good Teaching Award and fell within the top 20 across the whole of the School of Engineering at RMIT campuses. The award recognised how highly students valued the learning experience in his program.

Carlos came to NCAT in 2012 to teach the Certificate II in Electrotechnology. He continues to do electrical contracting work when time allows.

NCAT works closely with industry and the Electrotechnology area is no exception. NHP is the biggest electrical manufacturer in Australia and the college has an excellent relationship with the company. Both NHP and Ramset Fasteners send representatives to the college to present their products so the students can see the different types of equipment available. These visits also illustrate to the students another pathway option available to electricians.

Louise Terranova  
VET RTO MANAGER
Visual Arts: 3-Dimensional Studies

During Term 1, full-time Visual Arts students investigated sculpture through lectures and workshops, collaborative projects and an independent design process.

Through the design process, students must carry out and document their Art practice, from the seed of an idea through to a completed Artwork or series of works.

Students work at their own level to develop skills in creative thinking, planning, research, concept development, design, application of materials, documentation, critical thinking and metacognition. Both new and continuing students progressively build their capacity to direct their own learning becoming increasingly independent and confident in the application of these complex processes.

Photography by Irene Alessandro
Visual Arts: 3-Dimensional Studies

This year’s sculptural works took many forms: students worked with clay, paper, sculpey, fabric, plaster, thumbtacks and with cast objects.

The many and varied personalities in our group were evident in their diverse approaches to the development and aesthetic qualities of their work.

We were incredibly lucky this year to begin an ongoing collaboration with our wonderful people of Photo Imaging Centre, in particular Irene Alessandro, who taught our students product photography techniques while taking the most beautiful photographs of their work. These photographs will be an invaluable contribution to their Artistic portfolios and we thank her most sincerely.

Please come and visit us in B-Wing and see some of our 3-dimensional works on display in the corridor.

Kylie O’Malley
Visual Arts Leader
Lost

The Drama department has been very busy over the last few weeks, with various performances.

On the evening of Friday 26th May, our reservation sheet was fully booked for the VCE Drama performance ‘Lost’.

The night began in the dimly-lit corridor, with the audience being led by Laura throughout A-Wing, making them feel lost. The dark corridors soon became creepy and haunted, as students peered from within darkened classrooms with torches to reveal their scary facial expressions. Eerie sounds played over the P.A. system as the audience experienced ‘Theatre of Cruelty’.

Eventually the audience ended up in the Drama room, stepping on leaves and bark, to watch four non-naturalistic performances. Each group researched, scripted, rehearsed and prepared a half-hour performance based on the idea of being lost. The ensemble task requires after-school rehearsals and many hours of extra commitment to prepare. Each group went to extensive lengths to produce their plays and the performances were executed with passion and commitment. Congratulations Drama students, you should be very proud of your work!

Thanks must go to Charlie Lennox-Hill, Jack Baker, Mat Rodd & Zac Lister for their assistance with sound and lighting for the performance. Thanks also to Stephanie Patchett-Walsh, one of our Diploma Photoimaging students, for her wonderful headshots that were used in our programs.
Commedia Dell’ Arte Performance

Year 10 Drama students spent semester one preparing their Commedia Dell’ Arte performance ‘The Red Hat’. The comedic show tells the tale of two young lovers who are destined to be together but a wayward red hat continually prevents their wedding from occurring.

Over a period of two weeks, the Year 10s ventured to local primary schools, equipped with their costumes and masks, which they had designed and produced themselves in art, to put on their show.

The performances were a resounding success; they engaged their young audiences and had them in fits of laughter. One primary school student asked the actors if they could perform again.

Well done to the entire 10A class for the enthusiastic performances they gave.

We would also like to thank St Mary’s Primary and Charles La Trobe College (Olympic Village) for allowing our year 10s to perform at their schools. We hope this program can be continued in the years to come.

Laura Bryan
Drama & Media Coordinator
After many weeks of planning, the NCAT Formal was held at The Centre – Ivanhoe on Friday 10th June. Students and their guests were dressed in their best and looked amazing.

After a short welcome by the student organising committee (pictured right) attendees enjoyed a three course meal and music from DJ Paul McWaters. Most attendees were still dancing right up until the last song, an ACDC classic, and then it was all over for another year.

It was no surprise that The Centre event staff for the night were full of praise for the exceptional manners and conduct of our NCAT students and their guests. We expect nothing less from our students.

A big thank-you must be given to the four students who gave up lunchtimes and spare time to organise this event: Neve Hill, Kiara Tranquilli, Nikky Rogalski and Breanna Nguyen, (pictured). Thanks also to Irene Alessandro for taking photos all night.

Michelle Andrews
Assistant Principal/Senior School Leader
Music@NCAT

Congratulations to the VCE Music Performance (Unit 3) and VCE Music Investigation students who performed at our recital evenings on Tuesday 31st May and Thursday 2nd June.

Both recitals were well attended by students, parents, siblings and friends. These recitals provide students with the opportunity to showcase the works that they have been rehearsing throughout the first semester. It was a delight to hear how well students performance programs are progressing.

Two more recitals are scheduled on 13th and 15th September at which students will perform their full performance programs in preparation for external assessment by the VCAA in October.

Again, congratulations to all performers.

Dr Peter Myers
HEAD OF MUSIC/ VCE MUSIC TEACHER

Olivia Little (voice) accompanied by Michael Gidley (guitar)

The BAND – Michael Gidley (guitar), James Drew (drums), Kaila Harrington (voice), Brea Hayes (bass) and (out of view) Dominic Altimore (piano)

Andrea Magill (voice)

Olive Tranquilli (voice – solo)

Nicky Rogalsky accompanied by James Smioth (guitar) and Nick Harris (cajon)
Café Series – Lunchtime Performances

Certificate II Music band, “Platypuss” (pictured), perform at the Café Series at NCAT on Wednesday 15th June at lunchtime along side four other acts.

Other performers on the day were Sarah George, Heath Comans, Kaitlyn Thomas, Darcy & Niamh Crowe and Violet Tolhurst.

Matt Rodd
Certificate II Music Teacher
Congratulations!

Congratulations to Massimo Sette who was offered an apprenticeship with bespoke furniture maker GDA Furniture.

GDA Furniture produces bespoke fine furniture for clients and also manufactures furniture and joinery for architects and interior designers.

Massimo completed work placement and a trial period and has been offered an apprenticeship in furniture making. Massimo has displayed a natural talent and genuine interest in this field.

Myself and all the staff and students at NCAT wish Massimo great success as he moves into his new career.

Nicholas Frewen
Furniture Making Teacher

Dance

The Year 10, VCE VET/Certificate II and VCE Dance students presented their annual Dance Concert at Darebin Arts Centre on Wednesday 15th June.

Styles learnt and performed were - Year 10: Lyrical, Jazz and Cheerleading. VET: Ballet, Hip Hop, Latin/Samba, Paso Doble and Rumba, African, Lyrical Hip Hop and Contemporary. VCE: Contemporary. VCE students also presented their own technical solo choreography.

The following students were selected to showcase due to excellence in their respective styles. Sarscha Lewis presented her Hungarian National Character, Mikayla Di Mauro performed her Tap solo, Damian Seddon and Tehayali performed their Hip Hop duo and Macey Evans performed her Contemporary Solo.

We will have photos in the next few weeks. The video is available for purchase up until end of term, Friday 24th June for $25 from the office. Thank you to everyone who attended.

In other Dance news, Jess Polities (pictured) was awarded third place in the UDO Hip Hop Dance Competition on Saturday 28th May progressing through the rounds to the final for the Under 18 freestyle section. Congratulations Jess!

Lee-Anne Di Stefano
Dance Coordinator