Successful Information Evening
On Tuesday 10th May, we had the first of our information evenings of the year for prospective students. The evening was well attended. Parents and students were very impressed with our programs and facilities and particularly by the talks by current and past Student Leaders Heath Comans, Katherine Nghiem and Dave Serpell and by Louise Interligi, one of our parents who spoke about her son’s journey at NCAT.

I want to publicly acknowledge and thank all the students and staff who helped in the organisation and running of the evening and making it such a successful night. Students led at every turn directing parents, giving out information, promoting areas and taking groups on tours around the college. We want to grow our numbers for 2017, so please don’t hesitate to promote our programs to students and to parents of young people whose interest and passion lies in what we have to offer at NCAT.

Capital Works Funding
The college was allocated $2.85 million in the recent Victorian Government budget for capital works to our Arts and Admin buildings. Whilst we are grateful that some funding has been provided, this is much less than what we expected and less than what we need. We are currently having discussions with our local Member Robin Scott and Officers from the Infrastructure Branch of the Department of Education with a view to obtaining more appropriate funding.

Staff Professional Development Day
To minimise disruptions we have moved the Staff PD day to Tuesday 7th June, the same day as the General Achievement Test for VCE students doing any Unit 3&4 scored subject. It also falls in the same week as the Report Writing day which is Friday 10th June so classes are disrupted during only one week and not two. This means that with the exception of students doing the GAT students will not be required at school either on the Tuesday or the Friday.

Photographic Exhibition by NCAT Diploma Students
Our Photo Imaging Diploma students are having an exhibition of their first semester’s work at the Melbourne Arts Club in Preston, from the 15-19 June. I invite you all to go and have a look at their work.

Dance Showcase on 15th June
The Year 10, 11 & 12 VCE and VET Dance students are working hard on their repertoire for the Annual Dance Concert which is being held at the Darebin Arts and Entertainment Centre on the 15th June. We have very talented students who will be performing Ballet, Hip Hop, Jazz, Contemporary, Lyrical, African, Latin, Cheerleading and Tap; it is sure to be a great night and I urge you to buy a ticket and come along to a fantastic evening.

Tickets are $18 and are available from the College office. I have included some stills from last year’s concert.

Raffaela Galati-Brown
PRINCIPAL
**NCAT Formal on Friday 10th June - 7pm to 11pm**

We are delighted that some 180 students and guests have committed to coming to the formal at The Centre, Ivanhoe. Full payment for tickets to the formal must be made by Thursday 26th May to confirm catering numbers and no refunds can be given after this date. Tickets will be distributed to students from the office in the week leading to the formal, from Friday 27th May. It is critical that students do not swap tickets or sell to others; all tickets must be organised and allocated through the office.

When picking up formal tickets students will be required to sign the Formal Agreement.

**Semester 1 Exams for Year 11 VCE students and Year 10s: 3rd to 9th June**

All Year 10 and Year 11 VCE students will have mid-year exams which begin on Friday 3rd June and continue to Thursday 8th June.

Please note that there will not be any exams for Year 11s or 10s on Tuesday 7th June as this is a Professional Development day for staff. Some VCE Year 11 students will be required to sit the GAT - see below.

Year 10 students will attend their usual VET classes on the morning of Wednesday 8th June, but will not have their usual session 5/6 class enabling them to have exam study time ahead of Thursday exams.

Exam timetables will be distributed to parents and students via Compass in the next 2 weeks.

**General Achievement Test (GAT) and Year 12 VCE English exam**

All VCE students undertaking a unit 3/4 scored subject must sit the General Achievement Test (GAT) on Tuesday 7th June (10am to 1.15pm). Only students sitting the GAT are required to be at school on this day. No usual timetabled classes will run due to this day being a PD day for staff.

A letter will be posted to parents and students via Compass in the next 2 weeks with more details about the GAT.

VCE Year 12 students doing scored assessment will also have an English practice exam on Monday 6th June and may have other practice exams on Thursday 9th June.

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**CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS**

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<td>School Council Meeting</td>
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<td>3rd June</td>
<td>Year 10/11 Exams begin</td>
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<td>7th June</td>
<td>General Achievement Test (GAT)</td>
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<td>10th June</td>
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<td>13th June</td>
<td>Queen's Birthday Public Holiday - Students do not attend</td>
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<td>15th June</td>
<td>DANCE Concert - Darebin Arts &amp; Entertainment Centre</td>
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<td>21st June</td>
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<td>24th June</td>
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STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN THE Fit2Drive WORKSHOP

On Thursday 14th March, students from the VCAL Sports Leadership Program were privileged to participate in the Fit2Drive (F2D) Workshop. This was a half-day session that supports students to make good decisions when faced with risky driving situations, both as passengers and as drivers, in terms of their driving safety.

The overall purpose of the F2D Workshop is to reduce youth road trauma. Students discussed issues for young drivers and passengers with Di from Victoria Police and a real life case study presented by Brad (pictured) from the Metropolitan Fire Brigade.

To conclude the F2D workshop, students developed a Personal Plan involving strategies to cope with dangerous situations and stay safe on the roads.

STUDENTS VISIT THE University OF MELBOURNE

On Thursday 21st April the VCAL Sports Leadership students visited the Harry Brookes Allen Museum of Anatomy and Pathology at the University of Melbourne. This houses Australia’s largest collection of real human tissue specimens and historical anatomical models and gave students a unique insight into the human body.

Students were guided by anatomical expert Eliza and were provided with a rare opportunity to explore the museum’s valuable educational resources alongside University of Melbourne students completing their medical and related anatomical studies.

This museum is only open two days a year to the general public and is reserved for students studying anatomy.

Jamie Lyngcoln
VCAL Sports Leadership Program
Visual Arts Fashion Week

Fashion Week is a much-anticipated annual event on the Visual Arts calendar – rather a misnomer though, as it now stretches itself over a few weeks rather than one. In this, our eighth year of running the event, students were challenged to work in groups of four to design, create and shoot a headpiece and bodice using only paper.

The first day, groups had to research, negotiate and design their piece and then present their concept board to the class for feedback. Once their design was refined, they had one week to work together to create the piece.

Our students worked exceptionally well together this year, solving problems and making decisions together.

The final pieces were outstanding – antlers seemed to be an unintentional theme throughout the groups, but each piece was completely unique in its design.
Once the pieces were complete, students planned their photoshoot including props, lighting and makeup. On the day of the shoot, they met with makeup artist Fiona Middleton, who talked to them about her career in the Fashion Industry and gave them advice on their models' makeup. Groups then ran their photo-shoots in one of our photographic studios, with guidance and support from the tireless and wonderful Irene Alessandro. The resulting photographs are beautiful and a great testament to our students' creativity, hard work and effective collaboration as well as the incredible support network they have to work with at NCAT.

This project met learning outcomes for the VCAL Personal Development Skills as well as the Certificate III in Visual Arts unit on collaborative creative projects. We are now looking at exhibition opportunities to show off the students' beautiful work.

Kylie O'Malley
VCAL Visual Arts Coordinator
The focus for VCAL Personal Development Skills during term one and into term two is road safety. As part of this unit the students organised and participated in a training session conducted by Chris Fisher from SysTec, RTO. The session took place on 17th March at NCAT.

First the students viewed a presentation about cars. They learnt about how cars operate which included discovering what ESC stands for; Electronic Stability Control, what the tachometer does, what an engine oil dipstick is, the ideal seating position and what to do if you have an accident.

Before the students did the practical tasks of the training they had to match the car component names to the images on an activity sheet. Once outside they examined Chris’ car and completed a vehicle safety check list. When William checked the oil dipstick he discovered that Chris’ car actually needed oil.

Students received a Certificate of Attendance from SysTec and they would like to thank Chris for his valuable contribution to their program.

Cate Button
GENERAL VCAL

KEYS 2 DRIVE is providing a free driving lesson to learner licence holders (overseas licence holders are not eligible), which brings the learner and their parent/supervisor together with a keys2drive accredited professional driving instructor.

The Keys 2 Drive free lesson aims to change the way learners drive by changing the way they learn, helping them ‘Find Their Own Way’ to becoming a safer driver.

The free driving lesson introduces the Keys 2 Drive practical learning approach to learner drivers and their parent/supervisors, and offers examples of how it can be used when learning to drive a car. Participants get lots of great advice and information about how to practice and what to aim for. The aim of the keys2drive learning approach is to help P platers achieve the six month - zero harm target; in other words, drive for six months without hurting themselves or others. It’s a goal designed to build the skills necessary to drive safely for life. For more information visit www.keys2drive.com.au

VicRoads L2P Learner Driver Mentor Program

This program assists learners under 21 years of age, who do not have access to a supervising driver or vehicle, to gain the driving experience required to apply for a probationary licence. For more information visit www.vicroads.vic.gov.au

Leanne Peros
STUDENT SUPPORT OFFICER
Australian Education Union Photo Shoot

“What an amazing school, this place is remarkable!” These were the words from the AEU photographers and journalist who visited NCAT on Friday 29th April. The Australian Teachers Union contacted NCAT after someone told them that we do some “interesting stuff”, little did they know they were in for an eye opening surprise.

We began our day in our Photo Imaging Centre (PIC) where Mick Sirianni gave them a tour of the facilities. Coming from photographic backgrounds they were truly amazed at the professional level of equipment and studios. Next we moved onto Visual Art, Music, Instrument Making and finally Engineering. The story was pretty much the same in each department; they couldn’t believe what they saw and experienced.

Time after time they commented on how remarkable our college is. Probably the most impressive comments were about our students and staff. They went on to explain that they have visited quite a number of schools collecting images for their publications but they had never worked in a school that made them feel so welcome and met them with such enthusiasm everywhere they went. In particular they were impressed with the mature and mutually respectful relationships they saw between students and staff. I personally lost count of the number of times they said, “Wow, I wish I’d gone to a school like this.”

A huge thank you to all of the departments that were involved in the shoot, as I understand how disruptive these sort of events can be. Our students demonstrated enormous pride, confidence and enthusiasm towards what they were being asked to do. As well as a deserved thanks to all the students and staff who were photographed, a special mention must go to Alex Watts in Certificate III Musical Instrument Making, who came all the way from Shepparton with his Mum for the day.

The AEU will grant permission to NCAT for the use of all the images taken on the day. Thanks Amy, Meredith and Carolina and the AEU.

NCAT crew, you did us proud.

Mark Russell
Marketing Coordinator
Music@NCAT

On Wednesday 20th April, the distinguished trumpeter, Tristram Williams recorded a trumpet solo in the NCAT studio which was composed by the Head of the NCAT Music Department, Peter Myers.

Tristram is an outstanding musician who maintains a busy international career as a leading soloist, ensemble musician, improviser and educator. He has appeared as a soloist with orchestras in The Netherlands, Belgium, Germany, France, Britain, USA, Japan, China and Australia. Tristram is particularly interested in performing new and challenging music and frequently appears on stage at new music events that showcase local composers.

The work by Peter Myers that Tristram recorded is entitled *Entasis,* which is a term that refers to the curvature in pillars in ancient Greek architecture. It is an extremely demanding work designed for virtuosic performers.

Recording this work at NCAT provided a unique opportunity for Technical Production students to work with one of Australia’s leading classical trumpeters. Under the direction of Zac Lister, students were tasked to research techniques for recording trumpet in a studio setting. They were responsible for choosing microphones and deciding on their placement to produce the best possible recording.

Tristam’s recording of *Entasis* by Peter Myers will appear on the Melbourne Composers’ League’s (MCL) forthcoming CD featuring the music of Australian composers and performers.

We are very fortunate and proud to have Peter Myers, an accomplished musician and composer, as Head of the NCAT Music Department.

Ensemble Exchange

VCE Drama students attended an ‘Ensemble Exchange’ on Tuesday 26th April at the Malthouse Theatre. We were joined by four other schools. Each school had 20 minutes to present their Drama Ensemble work.

The day was run by Eli Erez and Vanessa O’Neill (Youth and Education Manager at Malthouse). It was a great opportunity for students to receive feedback on their performances and to see what other schools had created. At the end of the day there was an opportunity for all schools to mingle and to develop skills for the end-of-year exam.

NCAT Drama students have been rehearsing during lunches and outside of school hours, refining their work before our May 27th performance. We welcome all parents, friends, students and staff of NCAT to come along. Please see the ‘Lost’ poster or contact Laura, for further details.

Laura Bryan
Drama & Media Coordinator
Northern College of The Arts and Technology presents...

LOST

AN EVENING YOU’LL NEVER FORGET

When: 7:00pm Friday 27th May (doors open at 6:45pm)
Where: Entrance via A-Wing (meet at the front office)
Who: Performed by VCE Drama students
Cost: Gold coin donation
RSVP: Contact the front office to reserve a seat