Lights, action, camera!

What do a rat, classical music and New York have in common?

They are the key elements in The Unlikely Maestro – a short animated film which won Tropfest in New York this year.

The story of a rat who dreamed of being a world-class conductor was created by Tristan Klein and Nick Baker, Sydney men who have been friends since kindergarten.

For Tristan, the journey to becoming a world recognised illustrator has been an interesting one.

“To be honest, I didn’t do well in high school and I didn’t enjoy it much,” Tristan said.

“After school I didn’t think uni was for me and I drifted into the hospitality business – first as a café all-rounder and then as a chef.”

Everything changed when Tristan decided to study Design and Illustration at Design Centre Enmore.

“I started with the Design Certificate IV, and by the end of the course I felt illustration design was for me.

“TAFE doesn’t fluff around. It’s intense, fast paced and very rewarding.

“The teachers and assignments get you out of your comfort zone. The teachers also help you realize your potential and show you how to play to your strengths.”

While Tristan sometimes found it hard going combining study with the need to work, he said the best thing about TAFE was the support he received from his teachers.

“TAFE has shown me that learning can be fun, and anyone can excel with the right teachers.”

When asked what he’d say to other people considering going to Sydney TAFE, he said “do it”!

“It’s such a fun experience if nothing else. You get so much out of it and make some great friends.”

To other students wanting to work in the design and illustration industry, he advises “never give up”.

“It took me six months of applying for jobs on Seek every night until I finally landed a job in the print and design industry.

“And even then keep sending out portfolios, keep looking for your ideal job, and keep doing what you love doing,” Tristan said.

So like the humble rat who saw his passion and dream come true, Tristan’s training and hard work is paying dividends.
Study at Sydney TAFE and see the world

At Sydney TAFE students have the opportunity to go on study tours throughout the world. In fact, we have been successful in gaining funding under the Federal Government’s new AsiaBound funding for seven tours.

- Vet Nursing to Indonesia (Sep 2013)
- International Trade to China (Oct 2013)
- Film and TV to China (Oct 2013)
- Hairdressing and Beauty to Malaysia (May 2014)
- 40K Volunteering to India (June 2014)
- Fashion Technology to India (June 2014)
- Hospitality Management to Singapore (Aug 2014)

A new and interesting component of the program is funding for basic language training. We will provide this in-house and our groups travelling to China and Indonesia will be learning basic Mandarin and Bahasa Indonesia from our own teachers.

Fashion design and technology

Fifteen fashion design and technology students travelled to India to learn about ethical manufacturing systems. The aim of the tour was to encourage them to build sustainable contacts with one of Australia’s leading manufacturing partners.

They visited traditional artisans and manufacturers. They learned about cultural difference and saw firsthand the positive aspects of how the garment industry can change the quality of lives for the workers in India.

The tour, conducted by Artisan Culture will run again next year.

The benefit of this experience is I now have contacts within the industry that will help me achieve what I am looking for when completing my final range. I enjoyed seeing the process of my work being created in front of me (this is where the hard work really pays off).

Rebecca Dallas

It opened me up to see how people work and that a country like India is able to be ethically sustainable with their products.

Natalie Jones

The most valuable element of the experience was making contact with local artisans and seeing the process of outsourcing.

Ella Moorehead
Sydney TAFE students use their skills to help Indian communities

Three Sydney TAFE students participated in the 40K Foundation volunteering project in Bangalore, India.

40K is a youth led Australian based non-profit organisation which is successfully creating joint venture projects aimed at building capability and sustainable income sources for impoverished communities on the outskirts of Bangalore, India.

Design Centre Enmore’s jewellery and object design students, Tanya Da Silva and Maija Frankovich, worked on the Roka project. Women from the quarry were taught to create necklaces designed by the students and made from granite dust clay. This will create a source of income for them. The aim is to help break the poverty cycle in the local village by empowering women with new found sustainable skills. Profits will go towards educating children.

Giles Roberts, who is currently studying the film and television course at Randwick College, created social film stories focusing on the journey of this year’s 40K participants.

The program will be offered to Sydney TAFE students next year as well.

Participant Tanya da Silva said it had been a fabulous experience.

“I am so grateful that I got the chance to have this life experience and it was very beneficial for me.

“I learnt about being part of a team, living in poverty stricken areas, and working with rural communities and social enterprise.

“It was great getting to go over with 40K since they have fantastic values and mission as an organisation. It was evident in everything they did.

“I really liked that they had a focus on personal growth and leadership development for everyone participating in the program.”
It’s all the go at AutoCel!

Sydney TAFE boasts a state-of-the-art training facility purpose built for our transport technology students and apprentices.

And it’s not only these people who are benefitting from the excellent facilities and industry experienced teachers.

It’s a common occurrence for high school students to tour the area and ask questions about what sort of training is offered.

Also groups from overseas come especially to AutoCel. In fact a group of students from Busan Automotive Meister High School in Korea will be visiting in October.

Head teacher Peter Denison said AutoCel was going from strength to strength.

“At Ultimo we’ve had a long relationship with several automotive industries and their support for AutoCel has been terrific,” Peter said.

“Vehicle manufacturers have been fantastic in the donations and support with vehicles and equipment to our light vehicle, spare parts, marine and motorcycle sections.

“The industry current equipment gives our students a great advantage over other providers in these training areas,” Peter said.

The first dedicated NSW Nissan class recently welcomed the delivery of a new Nissan Almera ST and other Nissan components to use in their workshop.

A partnership between WPC Group, Nissan and Sydney TAFE has been established as part of the national NISSMAP (Mentored Apprenticeship Program) to train Nissan’s future technicians.

“It’s great to see WPC Group and Nissan supporting the development of apprentices,” Peter said.

Pre-apprenticeship program

Are you considering becoming an apprentice but not sure if it would suit you? Then why not complete a pre-apprenticeship program?

One person who’s glad he did is Brendon Seng.

WPC Group included Brendon in the 2012-2013 pre-apprenticeship course at AutoCel, where Brendon spent three weeks covering five subjects. WPC Group organised for one week of work experience.

The result was that Brendon was offered an apprenticeship with Ryde Motor Group.

Robert Papparlardo from Ryde Motor Group explained that the four week program gave Brendon a head start over all the other apprentice applicants.

AutoCel will host several pre-apprenticeship programs in November, December and January in the fields of automotive, motorcycle and marine.

Anyone interested in an automotive pre-apprenticeship should submit their resume and covering letter to recruitmentnsw@wpcgroup.org.au

If you’d like to know more about all the pre-apprenticeship programs through AutoCel contact Peter Denison peter.denison@tafensw.edu.au
Tasting success for female apprentices a hit

In August, eight female cookery students and apprentices from Sydney TAFE graduated from the 2013 Tasting Success Mentoring Program.

Since its inception in 2007, more than 50 women have participated in the Tasting Success Program. Co-founded by Lyndey Milan with Sydney TAFE and supported by the NSW Office for Women’s Policy, Department of Premier and Cabinet, it aims to inspire talented female chefs in NSW to reach their full potential within the hospitality industry.

When Hannah Holden found out at the beginning of the year that she was to be mentored by Peter Gilmore from the Quay restaurant she exclaimed she was “giddy with excitement!”

At the end of the experience Hannah said she was grateful to be given such a wonderful opportunity and to be paired with such an inspirational mentor.

“I really enjoyed seeing how beautiful Peter’s work is, the large variety of produce and the ingredients I’ve never seen before,” Hannah said.

“As silly as it sounds, one day when I was butchering pig jowls I felt really trusted and part of the team. I was doing something new and exciting.”

Tina Nguyen who was mentored by Kylie Kwong said it had been liberating working with Kylie and meeting other great chefs.

As well as cooking with Kylie at the Billy Kwong restaurant, Tina accompanied Kylie to the Taste of Sydney festival and Eveleigh Markets. A highlight of Tina’s time was being with Kylie when she was interviewed by Channel Seven.

“[The program] has allowed me to see the various options I have as a cook/chef and restaurateur. Learning about Kylie’s experiences and success will help me make my choices in future,” Tina said.

Both Hannah and Tina received scholarships, sponsored by HTN-Hospitality Employment Solutions and Clubs NSW.

The program has given students from Ultimo and Sutherland Colleges, a unique opportunity to be mentored by some of Australia’s most renowned chefs. This year they included Peter Gilmore, Sean Moran, Kylie Kwong, Alex Herbert, Martin Boetz, Paris Cutler, and Uwe Habermehl.

Students received hands-on advice and access to a network of senior chefs and industry professionals.

They also experienced first-hand the workings of high end restaurants and catering establishments and were involved in everything from assisting in menu and recipe development to working with their mentors on publicity events, cooking demonstrations, food styling and photo shoots.
Sydney TAFE’s award winning students

2013 saw some of Sydney TAFE best and brightest students recognised for their achievements.

Amanda Vlahos
Certificate III in Accounts Administration
Petersham College Achievement Award

Amanda is a student at Sydney Secondary College, Blackwattle Bay Campus. She studied TVET accounts through Petersham College.

“I really like all aspects of business. I think accounting can be applied to anything. It’s not limited and there’s so much opportunity for growth.

“Communication is the key for anything.

“I love studying TVET. It gives you a lot of skills outside of what you’re studying, because when you go to school it’s the same routine, but for TAFE it’s for longer. You have to get time management skills to get all your homework done. It prepares you for things in the future because you’re not always going to have the same routine as in school. I also like meeting new people.

“Not only are you learning a skill for the future but you’re studying for your HSC. That’s such a good combination. You can finish school with a head start on everyone else. Employers are going to value that and it’s so good for yourself to feel you’ve accomplished something that not many people have.

“In the future I’d love to be a financial controller. In my work placement I met an amazing person, Edward Sierra the financial controller at Cushman and Wakefield who inspired me and made me want to do what he did.”

Rebecca Stafford
Certificate III in Business Administration
Trainee of the Year

Working as a trainee Rebecca said she had learned so much.

“I worked closely with my supervisor to meet my goals.

“I think studying a traineeship is the best way to start your career because you have studying and actual experience in an office.

“Most positions for business, they want experience. I think a traineeship works well.”

When Rebecca was in Year 10 she had no idea what she wanted to do. Her career adviser suggested business administration so Rebecca took it on as a TVET subject. From there her interest was sparked.

When asked to define what a personal assistant was, Rebecca said it was someone who was “joined by the hip” to their manager.

“They’re with them most of the time. They are needed – they need to organise everything and keep it under control. They need to ensure their manager can relax and not stress out.

“For the first four months of my traineeship it was all about the department, showing me what he does and coaching me, but now I’m an active part of the team.”

Rebecca now has full-time employment with the Department of Employment and Communities.
“With tourism you have more of a variety of information you can use in whatever career path you want to take on. You learned about different cultures and their beliefs. You respect what they respect and take into consideration their religion.

“With the language barriers you have to communicate not only through speech but with your hand signals and body language.

Jarryde said his tourism teachers were really good because they had all worked in tourism.

“It gives us a lot of opportunities and a broader insight into tourism itself. The teachers help us a lot, not only education wise, but stories they tell about the customers they’ve had.”

Jarryde said his work placement at Sydney Tower was a really good experience “just meeting different people”.

“On the first day at Sydney Tower I was a bit nervous because I didn’t know what people would ask, but I know about Sydney and Australia so it all went very well.”

In fact Jarryde’s placement went so well that he was advised they would happily offer him a job once he had turned 18.

Jarryde said the TVET subject provided a lot of opportunities in other career paths.
A cut above the rest

One young man with a bright future is Zachary Trindall.

Zac recently won the TAFE delivered Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Gili Award.

The TAFE NSW Gili Awards celebrate and recognise the achievements of Aboriginal TAFE NSW students, staff and programs that have contributed to Aboriginal communities through training and education.

Currently a student at Tempe High School, Zac is doing a TVET construction course.

So what makes Zac stand out above the rest?

According to Rosemary Ayoub, TVET Coordinator at Randwick TAFE and his teachers Steve Edgecumbe, Nic Preston and Mark Hawkins, Zac is hungry for knowledge and a delight to teach.

He has been attending TAFE for two years and his effort and commitment have never wavered.

“He is continually demonstrating that he is thinking and problem solving by regularly asking relevant questions that relate to his experience, understanding and future aspirations,” Rosemary said.

“His Randwick TAFE construction teachers say Zac is by far the best TVET student they have seen.

“His host for work experience in Year II spoke highly of him and made a point of calling TAFE to speak of Zac’s professionalism, dedication, talent and amazing work ethic.

“He has encouraged Zac to seek an apprenticeship with him when he finishes school,” Rosemary said.

Randwick Carpentry Head Teacher, Mark Hawkins said that Zac was already working at the level of a mainstream apprentice or even higher.

“It is inspiring to see a young person so focussed and motivated,” Mark said.

“He is a great student and a pleasure to teach. He is the sort of student that inspires you to go that extra mile.”

1300 360 601
sydneytafe.edu.au

Find us on Facebook
facebook.com/TAFESydneyInstitute

Follow us on Twitter
twitter.com/sydneyinstitute

> Design Centre Enmore
> Eora
> Petersham
> Randwick
> St George
> Sutherland
> Ultimo