

ELIZABETH CAMPUS



Tasmanian
Polytechnic

SCHOOL OF ROCK

MATHEW KLUVER

THE Elizabeth Campus journalism class has been working at Edge Radio on the student-driven *School of Rock* show this year.

Edge Radio opened in 2003, with the *School of Rock* program starting not long afterwards.

School of Rock is a platform for young people to voice their opinions on community radio.

Edge is one of few radio stations to allow students to produce and present their own radio shows.

Education coordinator Vanessa Armstrong, who works with the students throughout the 16 unit course, says she admires their enthusiasm.

"I love their unique take on the world and being able to help form their ideas into a one-hour radio show which is then

broadcast to greater Hobart and the world via our online streaming," Vanessa said.

Students have the chance to think up ideas and content, interview touring bands and artists and choose the music they want to play.

But Vanessa admits that at first some students are hesitant to get on air.

"It is nerve-wracking to start with, but in the end almost everyone enjoys it," she said.

"It is great to watch people grow and at the end of the year the students get to prepare and produce a live broadcast from their school."

This experience can also be a pathway into the industry, with many students choosing to attend a follow-up advance holiday program afterwards.



ON AIR: Elizabeth Campus students Caitlin Schultz, Freya Veska and Amanda Robinson broadcasting from the Edge Radio studio.

More than 100 volunteers help run Edge Radio, many of whom are *School of Rock* alumni who have gone on to

present regular shows.

School of Rock is broadcast from 4pm weekdays on 99.3FM. Edge Radio is broadcast 24 hours a day,

seven days a week, and features a mix of arts, local music, entertainment and local journalistic content.

Campus connects

STUDENTS at the Elizabeth Campus have been treated to a youth fair organised by Student Representative Council members.

Luring students out into the cold on May 12 was achieved with a free sausage sizzle and live entertainment courtesy of music students and the band Mess O'Reds.

A variety of stalls and representatives from community and government organisations set up outside the library undercroft to give advice and information. There was a great student turn out, an uplifting and happy atmosphere — a fantastic result for the SRC.

AMANDA ROBINSON

Music students mentored

HANNAH FOLEY

MUSIC composition students at the Elizabeth Campus have the privilege of learning under acclaimed composer and flautist Constantine Koukias.

On top of their regular music classes, students have weekly mentoring from Koukias, exploring different techniques and devices, and advising on the students' own work.

Koukias began composing in his last year as a student at New Town High School and has enjoyed a flourishing career. He is known for his pioneering work



MENTORED: Music student Joanne Thomson with Constantine Koukias.

in contemporary opera and musical theatre, as well as his orchestral and chamber compositions.

Elizabeth Campus mu-

sic teacher Jennie McDonald asked Koukias to tutor her composition students, having known him for years.

"My speciality is edu-

cation, and his speciality is composition. If we work together then you've got the best of both worlds."

Ms McDonald hopes Koukias will help students to explore techniques they hadn't looked at before.

For those wishing to become professional composers, Con believes "one needs to have great teachers, work hard and listen to lots and lots of music, basically live in a music library."

Koukias has mentored numerous successful composers. Perhaps an Elizabeth Campus student will be the next.

AMANDA ROBINSON

Mia Donnet-Jones, 17: No, because students should have freedom of choice.



Declan Hogan, 16: Yes, it can be rather distracting whilst I am attempting to maintain concentration on campus throughout my studies.



Emily Eiszele, 16: No, it gives students a break from work.



Tarik Stoneman, 16: Yes, because it's distracting and leads students off topic.



Emily Thorp, 16: No, because it gives students something to do in their free time.



Jack Chugg: No, access to Facebook can be useful in school, for instance a politician's page can include some great information on current affairs.

This Mercury School Page was produced by the students of Chris Sierink's journalism class at the Elizabeth Campus, with thanks to all sponsors.

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F: (03) 6231 4704
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E: John.Robinson@RobinsonLaw.com.au
251 Elizabeth Street,
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For enquiries about The Mercury's School Page please contact the following

Editorial: Damian Bester
Ph 6230 0736

Email: besterd@dbl.newsldt.com.au

Advertising: Peter Carey
Ph 6230 0546
Email: careyp@dbl.newsldt.com.au

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