hobart college

HOT WOK: International students at the food fair, from left, Ling Tze Ping, Edgar Ho and Bong Ai Nee.

Launch pad for life

By ELYCE KLOTZ

HOBART College offers students from all walks of life the opportunity to develop in a tolerant and aesthetically pleasing environment.

The college is housed in what started life as the Tasmanian College of Advanced Education. The style of architecture is a throwback to its birth in the early 1970s.

This alternative environment blends comfortably with the interesting characters who have walked its corridors for over 20 years.

Located at Olinda Grove, on Mt Nelson, Hobart College has one of the largest international student programs in Tasmania and provides all its students with the ability to experience many different cultural traditions.

One of these cultural events is the annual food fair which enables all to enjoy a tantalising selection of authentic delicacies.

Hobart College is also renowned for its contributions to the drama community, with its massive theatre available for private and commercial use.

With a history of high achievers, an awesome environment and inspiring teachers, it is clear that Hobart College has it all.

Dedicated workforce behind the scenes

By RUQAYYAH CUFF

THEY tend to blend into the background but when you can't find your way they are there to guide you.

They are the VET Entertainment students, who put in an unbelievable amount of effort and overtime to make Hobart College's productions flow smoothly and look professional and to ensure safety for the crew and audience.

Students undertaking the VET Entertainment course don't have to leave the campus to get work experience; Hobart College has an excellent working theatre, producing up to eight of its own shows a year, ranging from dramas such as Ariel Dorfman's *Widows* to full-scale musical productions like this year's *Fame*.

Students undertaking the course can select one of two strands: either technical stage management, which includes building sets, lighting, sound effects and the projection of images; or the Front of House option which includes box office, meeting and greeting, ushering and cleaning.

During the course the students get a chance to pick up a wide range of skills including dealing with people and their complaints, first aid and management skills.

Occupational health and safety is a critical part of the course. The students learn evacuation procedures, resuscitation and first aid.

The course takes 300 hours, with 150 hours being work placement and 150 training. However, the hard-working VET students often put in a large quantity of overtime outside school hours.

In the first show of the year, *For the Term of His Natural Life*, everyone in the crew worked 150 hours-plus during the two-week production.

No matter how much time it takes from their personal lives, they all seem to love it.

"I'm glad I'm doing this course even though it takes up all of my time — and by all I mean *all*," VET Entertainment student Sera Goldstone said.

ALMOST FAMOUS: A big scene from Hobart College's current stage production, *Fame*.

Musical traces path of would-be stars

THE musical *Fame* is the latest quality performance from the team at the Hobart College Drama Centre. *Fame* follows the lives of several central characters as they make their way through performing arts school. It is a spectacular production with an enormous cast and catchy tunes from the 1980s. The show runs until July 10.

College radio a boon for budding DJs

"Hey, you're listening to STAX FM with Patrick and Garry on a beautiful Thursday here on Mt Nelson kicking it off with . . . "

SO begins a broadcast on Hobart College's very own radio station, STAX FM.

Hobart College is the only school in the region that offers students access to a hands-on course on radio announcing.

"Radio gives students an opportunity to make product and present it in the form that is the most powerful medium in Australia today," radio teacher Peter Rogers said.

In reality STAX FM doesn't broadcast on an FM frequency. Instead, it goes to air over a PA system spread throughout college recreational areas.

Student DJs play their music for the college community to enjoy during recess and lunch times.

College students have also been able to jump onto a real FM station during a time slot once a week on the university broadcaster, Edge Radio.

On June 28, the radio class hosted a superstar of Australian radio, Triple M's Doug Mulray.

In a live broadcast Doug imparted the wisdom of years of experience in what he described as "a tough industry".

He was enthusiastic about the college radio: "[It's] a great way of becoming familiar with the notion of talking too much in a closed room and taking it into the commercial area," he said.

GARRY RICHARDS and PATRICK FARRELL

BIG DADDY: Radio star Doug Mulray at STAX FM flanked by student DJs Garry Richards and Patrick Farrell.

Top mechanics

TWO former Hobart College students, Aaron McKibben (DJ Motors) and Chris Newbon (Co-op Toyota), have been named top apprentices of the year for Mazda and Toyota respectively. The awards covered Victoria, NSW and Tasmania.

This page produced by:
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