



2011
Hunter
TAFE
Awards



INDUSTRY AWARD WINNERS



LEE BLACK

Metal Trade Award
Certificate III in Engineering
Fabrication Trade

Sponsor: TOMAGO ALUMINIUM

Lee has a profound passion for creating items by hand and enjoys producing objects from a flat sheet to form customised and individual geometric and free form shapes. He was awarded the NSW Mature Age Apprentice of the Year Award in 2010 and believes that TAFE has given him the confidence, knowledge and abilities to excel in his industry. Lee is a motivated student who describes his TAFE experience as highly rewarding and aspires to one day own his own business and become a TAFE teacher.



MATTHEW BONNARD

Mining Award
Diploma of Underground Coal
Mining Management

**Sponsor: HUNTERNET GROUP
TRAINING COMPANY**

A volunteer brigadesman with the NSW Mines Rescue Service and team leader in the coal industry, Matthew is a confident and talented miner. He is dedicated to his career in the mining industry and has shown determination and passion to achieve high standards throughout his TAFE training. He particularly enjoyed meeting and networking with fellow students and sharing industry experiences. Matthew is devoted to his career in the mining industry and believes that by applying himself, he cannot only achieve, but can actually exceed his own expectations.



ALEX BREWIN

Electrotechnology Award
Certificate III in Electrotechnology
Electrician

Sponsor: AUSGRID

Alex has always had a genuine interest in the electrotechnology industry. From an early age he played around with electrical components, often destroying them in order to find out how they work. By the age of eight, from a 12-volt car battery, he wired a cubbyhouse complete with working lights, switches, radio and a doorbell. At 12 Alex was building his own computers, and at 17 was able to fix his father's CNC milling machinery. A highly talented and dedicated student, Alex aspires to become an electrical engineer.



JOHN BROCK

Marine Engineering Award
Advanced Diploma of Transport and
Distribution (Marine Engineering)

**Sponsor: TEEKAY MARINE
SERVICES**

Having been a seaman all of his life, John is a highly knowledgeable and accomplished marine engineer. He has received numerous service medals including the Kuwait Star and Liberation Medal, a Meritorious Unit Citation, and an Active Service Medal. John enrolled at Hunter TAFE to advance his career and has expressed interest in further professional development and skills training.



CORRIN DEDMAN

Hairdressing Award
Certificate III in Hairdressing

**Sponsor: JOICO AND
SCHWARZKOPF PROFESSIONAL**

Corrin is a people person who enjoys making people feel good, which is illustrated through her career aspirations and passion for the hairdressing industry. From the age of 14 Corrin worked in hairdressing salons and earlier this year, she started her own business. She also recently worked as a hairdresser for Alex Perry's Fashion Week Show. Upon completing her qualifications, Corrin felt that she was well educated, competent in her skills and confident to start up her own salon.



ALAN FRENCH

Music Award
Advanced Diploma of Music (Sound
Production)

**Sponsor: MGM DISTRIBUTION
AND BIG APACHEE**

After eight years as a public service court reporter, Alan decided to follow his dreams and reinvent himself in a career in which he would truly be happy. He spent five years working as a 'musician therapist' for the Red Cross in hospitals and care facilities. He then chose TAFE to advance his practical skills and technical know-how of music sound production. Alan's goal is to establish himself as a successful songwriter, producer, and would like to create a voluntary one-on-one song writing and recording service for psychiatric patients.

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BETHANY HANSON

Environmental Award
Diploma of Conservation and Land Management

Sponsor: **PORT WARATAH COAL SERVICES**

After working in the Hospitality industry, Bethany decided it was time for a career change, so she enrolled in TAFE's conservation and land management course. Bethany is a high achiever with great career direction and over the course of her training received the inaugural Hunter Land Management Award for Overall Excellence in Conservation and Land Management. She is currently studying a Bachelor of Environmental Science and now has a job that she thoroughly enjoys.



REBECCA HINDE

Children's Services Award
Diploma of Children's Services

Sponsor: **LAKE MACQUARIE FAMILY DAY CARE**

Rebecca came to TAFE as a trainee to gain recognition for her on-the-job skills she had learnt working in the child care industry. She consistently received outstanding results throughout her training, which is testament to her motivation and drive to succeed. Rebecca believes her TAFE experience has assisted her to learn how to look at different situations from a variety of perspectives, and she can now challenge herself to negotiate the best outcome.



SARAH JONES

Creative Industries Award
Advanced Diploma of Fine Arts

Sponsor: **NEWCASTLE HERALD**

A childhood passion and love of art drove Sarah to enrol in the Advanced Diploma of Fine Arts. She won the Hunter TAFE Foundation's Lord Mayor's Scholarship, was a finalist in the Carol Duval Memorial Award and the national Port Jackson Printmaking Graduate Prize. Rebecca is a high achiever and has exhibited in a number of galleries and exhibitions, and this year has enrolled in a Bachelor of Fine Arts at university.





EDWIN KENDALL

Civil Engineering Award
Diploma of Civil Construction Design
Sponsor: MIGAS

In an effort to upgrade his skills and retrain for the next phase of his life, Edwin undertook the Diploma of Civil Construction

Design. Throughout his time at TAFE, Edwin illustrated an exceptional degree of motivation and commitment to his training, which is reflected in his exceptional results. While studying at TAFE, he also worked full time demonstrating his work ethic and enthusiasm for the industry. Edwin is a highly respected professional and assisted other students with their course work.



SARAH MANNEL

Career Skills Education Award
Certificate IV in Tertiary Preparation
Sponsor: THE UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE

Sarah is an outstanding student who completed her secondary education through TAFE. She is a high achiever

receiving exceptional results and first place in English, Maths for Further Study, Investigating the Ecosystem, Biology, Chemistry, Advanced Maths and Calculus. She was dedicated, persistent and determined to perform to the best of her ability and consequently received an ATAR equivalence of 99. Sarah now has strong career goals and believes that TAFE has provided her with the skills and confidence to continue her education journey and study a Bachelor of Science at university.



BENJIMAN McCLELLAND

Plant and Heavy Vehicle Award
Certificate III in Automotive Mechanical Technology (Heavy Vehicle Road Transport)
Sponsor: XSTRATA COAL

After working on vehicles through his job as a heavy vehicle driver,

Benjiman sought an apprenticeship to further his growing interest in the mechanical field. Benjiman has a keen interest for his industry and his drive and determination has enhanced his knowledge, passion and enthusiasm. Benjiman plans to continue training so that he can one day run a workshop and own his own business.

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TRACEY MEARS

Health Award
Certificate IV in Nursing
(Enrolled Nursing)

Sponsor: **HUNTER NEW ENGLAND HEALTH**

Tracey began training at TAFE to further her employment opportunities and increase her knowledge and skills in an industry for which she has great passion. With excellent time management skills and high clinical skills, Tracey was a natural leader who facilitated study groups within the class. She is a highly efficient and skilled enrolled nurse and is proud to have set a positive example for her family, friends and colleagues.



STEVEN MITCHELL

Maritime Award
Diploma of Maritime Operations
(Deck Watch Keeper)

Sponsor: **NEWCASTLE PORT CORPORATION**

Having worked at sea for a number of years, Steven took a shore job with a tugboat company. However, the calling of the sea was too strong, so he turned to TAFE to upgrade his qualifications and return to the open seas. His hard work and dedication to the maritime profession have significantly contributed to his overall academic success. Steven also undertook the Diploma of Marine Engineering Class 3 and following the completion of his TAFE studies, he successfully passed his Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) exams.



TINA MYERS

Massage, Sport and Fitness Award
Diploma of Remedial Massage

Sponsor: **NEWCASTLE KNIGHTS**

Even with consistent high marks Tina constantly tried to improve her techniques. Tina continually looked for an alternative approach to her treatments to improve both her experiences, and that of her clients. Since completing her course, Tina has started her own business offering massage and beauty treatments as part of a cruise in the Lake Macquarie and Port Stephens areas, exemplifying her innovative ideas through her approach to the remedial massage industry.



ERIN O'BRIEN

Tourism and Hospitality Award
Advanced Diploma of Hospitality
Sponsor: CROWNE PLAZA

Erin chose a career in hospitality after discovering her passion for working with people and her joy at providing exceptional customer service. Erin has received numerous

accolades for her dedication to her studies and in the hospitality industry including; the 2010 Minister's Student Achievement Award in Tourism and Hospitality studies, the Crowne Plaza Scholarship, the Christopher Crichton Memorial Award for Best Academic Achievement, and the TAFE Advanced Diploma of Hospitality Management Outstanding Achievement Award.



CHRISTOPHER PEACOCK

Information Technology Award
Advanced Diploma of Information Technology
Sponsor: YELLOW PAGES®

After withdrawing from a diploma course in the 90's and undertaking numerous information technology

related certificates in the coming years, Christopher returned to TAFE to complete his higher-level training and gain formal qualifications and recognition of his industry experience. Christopher is an accomplished systems administrator for Maitland City Council and now manages the servers, computers, networking and equipment of the Councils eleven sites. He is highly regarded for his positive attitude, work ethic and technical capabilities.



BRENDAN REYNOLDS

Graphic Design Award
Diploma of Graphic Design and Communications
Sponsor: WHO PRESENTATION SERVICES

Looking for a new challenge and having previously worked as a

labourer, Brendan decided he wanted to utilise his creative skills and abilities in a career that he would thoroughly enjoy. Brendan's design work is of an exceptionally high standard and he continually evaluates and improves his design solutions. Team spirited with a strong professional ethic, Brendan significantly contributed to class projects and discussion. Brendan is now undertaking a Bachelor of Visual Communication Design at university.

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JACK RITCHIE

Business Award

Advanced Diploma of Management

Sponsor: **NEWCASTLE PERMANENT BUILDING SOCIETY**

With a desire to update his qualifications and enhance his capabilities, Jack undertook the Advanced Diploma of Management. Contracted by the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations, Jack is a local Employment Coordinator for the Hunter and Central Coast areas providing strategic regional employment plans. With the opportunity to further his education in a flexible manner and through workplace assessment, Jack was able to surpass expectations and achieve exceptional results.



JENNIFER SAARENPAA

Building and Construction Award

Certificate III in Painting and Decorating

Sponsor: **MASTER BUILDERS GROUP TRAINING**

A highly talented and enthusiastic DIY painter and carpenter, Jennifer, wanted a career path that she could always rely on and that would lead into other skill areas. Through her painting and decorating qualifications Jennifer believes she has become a more confident and knowledgeable professional. She has won numerous apprentice of the year awards including the NovaSkill 2010 Apprentice of the Year, gained first place in her TAFE training and won gold at the regional, and bronze at the national WorldSkills competitions.



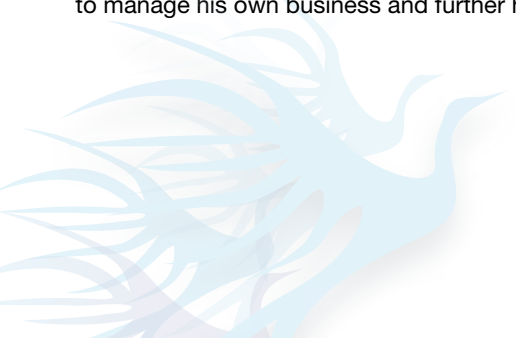
JUSTIN THOMS

Spray Painting and Panel Award

Certificate III in Automotive Vehicle Body (Specialising in Vehicle Painting)

Sponsor: **PPG INDUSTRIES**

In the three years that Justin attended TAFE as a trade apprentice, he was a consistent and hardworking student with a keen interest in the automotive industry. He received first class results every time and always sought to improve his practical work to produce a superior outcome. With attention for detail, strong determination and a willingness to learn, Justin is a talented automotive repairer. Justin's long-term career goal is to manage his own business and further his technical skills.





REBECCA WARNEST

Metals and Manufacturing Award
Certificate III in Drafting Trades

Sponsor: DOWNER EDI

With her interest in the design and drafting industry sparked by her builder father and revealed in design and technology classes at school, Rebecca realised she had a real talent and flair for the industry. Rebecca was highly committed to her training throughout her apprenticeship and was keen to advance her knowledge and technical skills to a superior level. Throughout her time at TAFE, Rebecca showed an exceptional degree of motivation and commitment to her studies, providing her with a distinction average and setting a high standard for the class.



JENIFER WATTS

Primary Industry and Mining –
Andy Laming Memorial Award
Certificate IV in Veterinary Nursing

**Sponsor: HUNTER VALLEY
TRAINING COMPANY**

Having previously studied two degrees at university, Jenifer knew that she was still looking for the right career path. Whilst travelling, Jenifer realised that she wanted a career that allowed her to travel and work overseas, as well as a career that she was passionate about, and veterinary nursing was her solution. Jenifer is a highly proficient and skilled vet nurse who has continually received exceptional grades. She has a constant thirst for knowledge and always went above and beyond to attain a superior outcome. Jenifer was an inspiration to her fellow classmates and well-respected.



HOLLY WRIGHT

Science Award
Diploma of Laboratory Technology
(Specialising in Pathology Testing)

**Sponsor: FUJI XEROX
AUSTRALIA**

After four years as a dental nurse Holly decided that she wanted to learn more about human biology and how the body functioned, and so decided to enrol in the Diploma of Laboratory Technology. She thoroughly enjoys working in the healthcare industry where she is able to give back to the local community. Holly was an exceptional student who was extremely diligent in her training. She was a self-motivated, organised student who encouraged other students to succeed. Holly maintained a distinction average throughout her training and has outstanding practical skills.