

KOOLARK NEWS

MARCH 2021

Artwork by Anthea Corbett

Kaya (welcome) to all new and continuing students. It was an unusual start to the year with the delay of semester one of TAFE, but we are happy to see that everybody is now back on campus and settling into the swing of things. It's been a little while since Koolark has released a newsletter, so we hope you enjoy this edition.

Message from Mara West



On behalf of the AEETC I wish all 2020 graduates best wishes for your futures. We hope you have gained knowledge and skills that will lead to great employment opportunities. As you commence your careers, always remember that North Metro TAFE and Koolark will always be there to support you.

To the new incoming students a big Welcome to North Metro TAFE. We hope you settle into your studies well and achieve the outcomes that you seek. The Koolark Centre is there for your use and support, use it well. We hope 2021 will be a great year for you all and if you have the time we would be very happy to see you at the AEETC meetings. Best wishes to you all.

Mara West

Member, Governing Council
Chair, AEETC



Meet Kevin Wilson



Why did you choose to study at North Metro TAFE?

I've always had an interest in anything art related. I began doing graffiti when I was younger which landed me in some trouble with the law and down a path I knew there was no longevity in and would probably leave me in some serious trouble. I decided to take that love for design and learn the skills to turn it into a legitimate career or at least try to find another outlet for my creativity.


Do you have a message for other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students?

Get in there and study something! There is so much support at TAFE from lecturers and Koolark Centre if you need any help along the way. The Koolark centre itself is a great resource to yarn and relax between the stresses of TAFE life. Those few years studying have been an awesome experience and I'm actually upset that I'm not there anymore!



Share your story

If you're a student and would like to share your story we'd love to hear from you. Tell us about your studies or even share a story about your family and culture.



A look back at 2020 and what's to come in 2021:

Despite last year being a difficult year for many, starting with terrible bushfires and a pandemic, there have also been lots of great things to come out of 2020 and we'd like to share a few highlights:

Congratulations to our Police Cadets who graduated with their Certificate III in General Education. Some of these students will now go on to apply for the Police Recruits later this month.

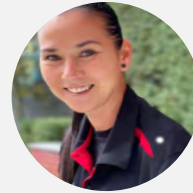
On that note we would also like to welcome aboard our newest Police Cadets. We will be running three blocks of study throughout 2021 to support the next cohort of cadets in achieving their dreams and aspirations of becoming Police Officers.



A big congratulations to one of our students, Nina Taylor, for winning the award of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander of the Year.

We are very excited that as part of the Perth Metronet Project, this year will see us working closely with Alstom, the contractor responsible for building railcars for Western Australia's growing rail network. This partnership will see Alstom, in collaboration with North Metro TAFE, and the Koolark Centre support (two or three) cohorts of Aboriginal students through mechanical and electrical trades. This will provide many jobs and a long and rewarding career for these apprentices.

Meet our new Koolark Mentor



Phee-Lee

Phee-Lee is a proud Noongar woman from Perth (region) with strong community connections. Phee-Lee has over 15 years of experience working in both the education and community sectors. She brings with her a wealth of knowledge and experience developed through her roles in support coordination, mental health recovery, advocacy, mentoring, and community engagement.

Phee-Lee is committed to walking side by side with her clients, learning together. She can provide culturally appropriate wrap-around support for students and uses a person-centred and holistic approach. Directed by the student and their specific learning requirements, she will develop a tailored plan that harnesses individual strengths to achieve study, career, and life goals.



Bunuru season: Season of adolescents

February marks the commencement of the Bunuru season which usually continues throughout March, marking the hottest time of the year with the lowest rainfall. This time of year is great for hunting and gathering, traditionally those living near the coast would catch many fish from rivers and estuaries at this time.

Contact Koolark Centre

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