Digital Arts Program Information

What you need to know

The Digital Arts Program brings together young people who are interested in digital technology and want to develop their creativity skills with the help of mentors who are skilled in creative technologies and art media. The program will give you the opportunity to complete a Certificate II in Visual Arts while also developing your creativity skills and having fun.

We don't believe there will be any risks to you in being involved in this program apart from the usual things you might feel when learning new things. Our mentors are used to working with young people and they will be able to help you.

It is up to you if you want to join. You can pull out from the program at any time and it will be fine with the organisation who recruits you but it will not be possible to withdraw the information you have already provided.

We won't tell anyone your name when we write about what you have told us. We only want to find out how well the program works so we can make it better. This means that we will never use your name when we talk about the program. But if you tell us that something bad is happening to you or that you are unsafe the law says that we have to tell somebody in order to keep you safe and well. We will discuss this with you. All your information will be locked away and we will keep it safe.

From time to time photographs will be taken of participants to use in promotional material and presentations. You won't have to have your photograph taken if you don't want to. We will ask you to sign a form if you agree to have your photograph used.

Who are we?

Digital Arts is a national research project funded by the National Research and Data Working Group through a National Disability Research and Development Grant. The program is led by Professor Denise Wood of Central Queensland University (also called CQUniversity). If you would like to find out more please contact:

Professor Denise Wood

Email: d.wood@cqu.edu.au

Mobile: 0437 654 016

Please contact CQUniversity's Office of Research (Tel: 07 4923 2603; E-mail: ethics@cqu.edu.au) should you have any concerns about the nature and/or conduct of this research project.

This project has been approved by the CQUniversity Human Research Ethics Committee, approval number H16/02-026.

Have you ever wanted to make an interesting, engaging video that people just love to watch?

Perhaps you would like to explore your creativity by learning how to create cartoons?

Or maybe you just want to discover some new drawing techniques?

If this sounds like you, then the Digital Arts Program may be right for you. This program will help you explore and expand your artistic abilities.

What is the program about?

You will learn how to create short videos using an easy animation program. You will also learn drawing, cartooning and storyboarding and you will use these skills to develop a final video work, which you can add to your portfolio, upload to YouTube or simply share with your family and friends.

You will work on a Certificate II in Visual Arts from Central Queensland University with extra support from the mentors who will help you learn and introduce you to interesting new art media. The program will be free and you will receive a scholarship from CQUniversity.

The course materials are designed to be culturally inclusive and suitable for young people from a range of backgrounds. The project team includes people who have worked with Aboriginal young people and people in regional locations, as well as young people who may be facing some challenges at school.

Once you have completed this course, we hope you will continue your artistic careers by practicing the skills you have gained. You may wish to do further study or simply continue creating your videos at home.

Who can join?

The Digital Arts program is for young people aged 16 to 29 who have difficulties with school work due to health problems, disability or other challenges, and are of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander background, or live in rural or remote areas.

Those in regional or remote areas will be able to study online with the help of tutors and mentors.

What will you be doing?

The program aims to encourage your enthusiasm for learning by helping you to learn digital technology skills with the help of mentors who are skilled in creative technologies and art media.

The Digital Arts program will run at drop-in centers in five locations around Australia. It will start in August 2016 and will take a year to complete. Because it is a Certificate II, you may be able to incorporate the course into your year 11 and 12 studies. You will attend drop in sessions for two hours each week and should expect to do some work at home each week between sessions.

It is fine if you just want to learn how to use digital media without handing in work for assessment.

If you live in a regional and remote area of Australia, you can do the program completely online and work on creative projects with an online mentor to help you.

How can you join?

If you would like to join the Digital Arts program, please contact the site coordinator at one of the following sites and express your interest in joining the program.

- Corrugated Iron Youth Arts in Darwin
- Reservoir Neighborhood House in Melbourne
- Tutti Arts in Adelaide
- Wiltja Boarding School in Adelaide
- CQUniversity in Rockhampton

If you live in a regional or remote area and would like to join the online only program, please contact the program coordinator: Email: e.jackson -bowers@cqu.edu.au or Telephone 08 8378 4548

What are we asking of you?

The Digital Arts program is new and so we are keen to find out how well it works for you. We are interested in the difference it makes to your life. We will be asking you some questions when you first apply to join the program and two times during the year. This will take about two hours each time. We will ask you how you are going, if the program is working for you and whether you feel you are meeting your goals.

Every six months we will ask you to talk in a group about what you think of the program. We will audio record what you say and then write it down. If you don't want to do this, we can talk with you on your own. We will also ask your parents or guardian to talk with us unless you tell us that you don't want this.

The Site Coordinator will explain the program to you and let you ask questions. If you still wish to join, they will ask you to sign a consent form saying that you agree to answer questions for the research.

Contact Us

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Professor Denise Wood, Email: d.wood@cqu.edu.auMobile:0437 654 016