



STEPH CARTLEDGE

BECKWORTH ALUMNI - WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



STEPHANIE CARTLEDGE

Years at Ballarat Grammar: 2004 - 2014

What Art and Design subject(s) did you study when you attended Ballarat Grammar?

I studied Visual Communication Design, Art and Studio Art

What did you enjoy about these subjects?

I enjoyed seeing what my peers were working on and creating in the same space as me. Bouncing ideas off each other and being collaborative, whilst having complete creative freedom too!

What skills do you believe you gained from studying these subjects?

From writing annotations to exploring new mediums, the process involved in documenting the final outcome was invaluable. I used these same exploration techniques at University and work.

What did you create in your Art and Design subject(s) which you are most proud of?

I created a swimwear brand and label in VisCom, a large-scale graphite pencil drawing in Studio Art and finally a 'coral' dress made all from 100% wool products in Studio art. I am the most proud of coral dress created in Textiles, not only did it take the longest time, but I learnt the most new techniques in the process. I was also able to enter a lot of fashion competitions with this garment which was amazing to see what students at other schools were creating too. I'm also proud of this garment as it was one of the first pieces of art I've created making a political/environmental statement. My other works were to improve skills or simply because I enjoyed the subject matter and process.

What were your biggest achievements in Art and Design when you were at Ballarat Grammar?

I would say getting selected for NextGen with my graphite drawing, and placing in the Australasian Wool Show Fashion Awards with my textiles garment would be highlights. Although, I was mostly proud to be the Art and Design Captain in my final year.

What was one of the most valuable things you learnt during your time in the Beckworth?

I learnt that if you are willing to put the time and energy into your work and show that you are passionate, your art and design teachers will, in response, will give a lot back to you (time, patience, advice etc). As a junior designer working with senior designers in the industry - it's the same concept. A lot of the things I learnt at the Beckworth Centre were in many ways directly transferable to work in the industry.

What do you do now?

I work as a Graphic Designer (Visual Communication). I have just left my full time design job where I worked alongside a Creative Director in Melbourne and am now making the transition to working freelance.

What are your major achievements since leaving Ballarat Grammar?

I have worked as a graphic designer at a few places since leaving School/University. A highlight in my last job was working with clients such as Footlocker and Melbourne Central, where I had great illustrative briefs. One major highlight was being an artist selected to create an illustration for the Sesame Street exhibition in Melbourne Central.

Would you suggest studying an Art and Design subject in Year 12?

Absolutely. I always loved the playfulness and freedom allowed in these classes. I also remember it as a great way to break up my other less creative subjects.

Would you suggest the creative arts as a career?

I absolutely would, although, for me there wasn't any other option. I knew for sure a creative career was the only choice for me. So, if you are passionate enough about your creative field, I'd say go for it. Creative careers can be tough and competitive, but incredibly rewarding when you're working doing something you love.



2004 - 2014

GRAPHIC DESIGNER