

# MASTERCLASS

Visual Arts Teachers Symposium 2015

*A teacher identified professional development inservice*

- Cost** \$140 per person including lunch
- Booking** <http://www.trybooking.com/129878>
- Closing date** Tuesday May 5 2015
- Enquiries** Brigiat Maltese  
malteseb@abbotsleigh.nsw.edu.au
- Venue** Peter Duly Concert Hall  
Abbotsleigh  
1666 Pacific Highway (Cnr Ada Avenue)  
Wahroonga 2076  
9473 9999

Image: Stephanie Blair A Constructed Reality 2014

# MASTERCLASS

Visual Arts Teachers Symposium 2015

The MASTERCLASS symposium aims to investigate the delivery of the Visual Arts Stage 6 syllabus.

Presenters explore student engagement as it relates to different forms of artmaking and the development of a body of work, with an emphasis on successful strategies.

It is an opportunity to gain insight into the practices of Visual Arts educators who are leaders in terms of excellent student outcomes. Each presenter will focus on a specific media area including digital media, painting, printmaking, sculpture, installation, new media and ceramics.

Participants are immersed in the sharing of classroom experiences. In this way they are exposed to the application of specific approaches to open ended problem solving, with a view to enhancing student learning outcomes.

- 8.30 am Registration
- 8.50 am Welcome  
Mrs Judith Poole  
*Headmistress, Abbotsleigh*
- Introduction  
Brigiat Maltese  
*Head of Visual Arts, Abbotsleigh*
- 9 am Karen King and Felicity Wood
- 10 am Salvatore Gerardi
- 10.45 am Morning tea
- 11 am Daphne Flax
- 11.45 am Anthony Letsios
- 12.30 pm Lunch / GCS Gallery visit  
Lunch provided
- 1.30 pm Wendy Shearer
- 2.15 pm Andrew Thompson
- 3.15 pm End

*Every effort will be taken to ensure speakers advertised will present, however the Symposium reserves the right to make changes to the line up.*

# MASTER CLASS

Exploring strategies in teaching  
artmaking to students (Stage 6)  
and guiding a body of work

Visual Arts Teachers Symposium  
May 19 2015

*A teacher identified professional development inservice*



ABBOTSLEIGH

## Karen King

Leader of Learning  
Creative Arts  
Caroline Chisholm College

## Felicity Wood

Visual Arts Teacher  
Caroline Chisholm College

### ***The accidental ceramicists*** **Ceramics**

Karen and Felicity look at building student success from Stage 4 to 6 in a comprehensive girls high school in Western Sydney. They will particularly focus on strategies and approaches in ceramics programs.

Karen has been involved in Visual Arts Education for 25 years, working on syllabus development, HSC examinations and has worked with regional groups in professional development.

She was awarded the 2013 COFA NSW Premier's Visual Arts Teaching Award, enabling her to study contemporary artists and architects whose work has regenerated communities in France, United Kingdom and Japan.

Felicity established the Visual Arts department at the college and initiated the programs for ceramics.

Felicity has led colleagues in her work with the Visual Arts Network organising exhibitions of student work and other network events.

## Salvatore Gerardi

Visual Arts Teacher  
Ravenswood School for Girls

### ***Using printmaking in the creation of a body of work*** **Printmaking**

Salvatore looks at approaches to developing a body of work from the students preliminary experiences in various media. He highlights printmaking examples to outline how ideas and techniques can evolve.

Salvatore has been teaching Stage 6 and exhibiting as a professional artist for over 20 years.

Represented by King Street Gallery on William and a member of Sydney Printmakers, Salvatore has exhibited paintings, drawings and prints in numerous solo and selected group exhibitions, including the Wynne, Sulman, Dobell, Blake and Mosman Art prizes.

## Anthony Letsios

Visual Arts Teacher  
Homebush Boys High School

### ***Painting with Stage 6 students (boy's education)*** **Painting**

Anthony discusses the strategies and approaches to artmaking that he uses to engage students (boys) in their artmaking process, focusing on painting as a visual language.

Anthony has 24 years of experience as a Visual Arts educator since 1991, teaching Stage 6 syllabus since 1994, and teaching boys at a secondary level since 1993.

Students taught by Anthony are regularly shown in ARTEXPRESS.

He studied at the City Art Institute (COFA) majoring in Painting and Printmaking, then completed a Diploma of Education in 1990 at Sydney University. Anthony is also an exhibiting artist.

## Daphne Flax

Head of Creative Arts  
Masada College

### ***Material in space: Sculpture as a platform for creative engagement*** **Sculpture**

Daphne explores the complexities and possibilities of sculpture as a platform for creative engagement in the Stage 6 classroom. She looks at tracing the connections between formative classroom experiences and body of work production.

Daphne obtained a BA Fine Arts and Higher Diploma in Education in South Africa, and MFA ART ED from Boston University, USA.

She has taught in South Africa and at OLMC Parramatta prior to her current position where she has taught for 27 years. She is currently Head of Creative Arts and has worked within Visual Arts at Masada for 27 years.

Daphne has presented Year 12 case studies at various AIS conferences and at AGNSW teacher education events as well as at an NAEA conference in New York.

## Wendy Shearer

Head Teacher Visual Arts  
Knox Grammar School

### ***Convergent forms – merging traditional and contemporary forms, processes and ideas*** **Installation**

Wendy examines how students experiment with forms, processes and ideas offered by contemporary technology and the documented form. Specifically she will explore convergent artforms that merge traditional and contemporary approaches to practice in order to develop innovative ways of assembling, constructing and presenting concepts.

Wendy has been a Visual Arts educator for the last 20 years and has been the Head Teacher at Knox Grammar since 2001.

She has presented lectures for ARTEXPRESS, teachers' inservice days at Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery, HSC enrichment days at Sydney University and participated in professional exchange and mentor programs through the AIS.

## Andrew Thompson

Head of Visual Arts  
Newington College

### ***What does it mean and why does it matter?*** **Digital media**

Andrew discusses how students create meaning through an exploration of an idea, acknowledging that works of art are not created in a vacuum. Student choices are deliberate and meaningful. He examines the process of developing student concepts for a Year 12 body of work and some of the manifestations of these.

A Visual Arts educator for 21 years, Andrew has worked at Moree Technology HS, Northholm Grammar, St Catherine's and the International Grammar School.

His art education practice is concerned with designing opportunities to engage students in a process of gaining knowledge.

He has presented papers on art education and teaching methodologies for AIS and VADEA, consulted for the AGNSW on programs, lectured at COFA and sat on the VADEA board.

At Newington he has helped pioneer the artist in residence project and has led learning teams related to research Project Zoo and Visible Thinking.