

# Ready for a creative adventure

It can be hard to forge a creative career, but these students are given a helping hand

**A** LOCAL program is helping students realise their dream of a career in the creative industries.

Shuttle GC08, an arts adventure for Gold Coast Years 11 and 12 students, was launched in February, and the 20 successful applicants, from 11 schools, are now ready to embark on their journey.

Among them are four Year 12 Helensvale State High School students: Kristy Atwood, Sophie Hall, Clachere Beard and Nicole Mihelic.

During a series of seminars, they will get the chance to hear from people who have made a career out of their creativity, including painters, photographers, graphic designers, film-makers and gallery people.

Shuttle GC08 is being co-ordinated by SCISCO Career Pathways as an Adopt-a-School project.

SCISCO career advisor John Gilders said it was designed to address the limited opportunities for work placement or school-based apprenticeships in the creative industries.

"Many students become disillusioned and follow alternate career paths rather than following their dreams," he said.

## fast facts

- Shuttle GC08 participants receive a 12-month membership to the Royal Queensland Art Society, an artist's kit containing canvases, a visual art's diary and paints, 10 seminars conducted by professional artists and creative industries representatives, 10 workshops to create artworks and learn skills from industry experts, information on careers and courses in the creative industries, exhibitions at the RQAS (Broadbeach) and the Robina Art Gallery, work experience at the RQAS Gallery, networking opportunities and advice on art-training opportunities.

- The program will finish with an exhibition at the Robina Art Gallery in the September school holidays.

"Shuttle GC08 aims to show students the career options available in the creative industries and encourage them to plan, study and begin successful careers."

Mr Gilders said students boarding the program would have a vehicle to move forward in their career journey.

At the end of the project we would anticipate that students would have a greater concept of careers in the industry and have a realistic plan to follow to gain entry to training and employment.



Helensvale State High students Kristy Atwood, Sophie Hall, Clachere Beard and Nicole Mihelic with teacher Camilla White

"The program will focus on the visual arts and students will need to create an artwork for exhibition from the categories of paintings, drawings, photo-

graphy, mixed media and sculpture."

Shuttle GC08 is being supported financially by the Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF).

RADF is a Queensland Government and Gold Coast City Council partnership to support local arts and culture.