

PRESS RELEASE

For a third successful year, the Australian Network for Art and Technology (**ANAT**) has presented its National Summer School in Art, Design and Manufacture for artists at the Advanced Technology Education Centre (**A TEC**), Regency College of TAFE in Adelaide . During January 1991, an eclectic bunch of artists from all over Australia have attended the school to be introduced to a variety of image and object making technologies.

The Summer Schools, unique in artists training programs in Australia, were initiated by ANAT as an annual event (soon to become twice yearly) in recognition of the limited opportunities which have existed for artists to acquire knowledge of new technologies. Education of artists in this area is seen by ANAT as a fundamental key to developing and encouraging an awareness of innovation, and consequently an economy which makes use of the skills and the creative wealth embodied by the nation's artists.

ANAT and ATEC have attempted to cater for the strong interdisciplinary backgrounds of the students by providing access to a variety of equipment, from interactive video to computer aided design software and numerically controlled machines. CADDSMAN, a South Australian company, is providing the computer aided design software for the third year in a row, which enables a variety of options for the user, from solids modelling to animation.

Highlights of the course are the specialist workshops. **Sally Pryor**, a lecturer in Computing at the University of Technology in Sydney, and **John Tonkin**, a visualisation consultant with the Department of Fisheries will focus on the Creative applications of COMMODORE AMIGA computers. John and Sally are both artists in addition to being educators and technicians, and as such are familiar with the conceptual problems often faced by artists first coming face to screen with computer technology.

Artists will be introduced to the fundamental concepts of electronic networking and conferencing by a South Australian based enterprise - **Artsnet**. Artsnet is Sue Harris and Phil Bannigan, two artists who have moved into the field of information technologies in an attempt to develop an integrated electronic network for the arts in Australia.

Generous support has been forthcoming from SUN MICROSYSTEMS, PHEONIX MICROTECHNOLOGIES, the SOUTH AUSTRALIAN SCHOOL OF ART and the REYNELLA EAST, MITCHELL PARK, WOODVILLE and MAWSON High Schools. All of these organisations are providing equipment for the students to access. PETER LEHMANN WINES are once again providing the excellent South Australian wines for the Open Day which will be becoming familiar to regular attendees at ANAT events!

The Open Day will be held on Thursday 31st January where it will be possible to view works-in-progress, and speak to the participating artists. Invited guests from the high technology industry, government and education sectors will attend a luncheon which will be addressed by individuals who have been involved in the schools. This will take place from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For further details please contact Virginia Barratt at ANAT on 08 - 231 9037.
Please RSVP for the Open Day and Luncheon on the above number by 26.1.91

The Australian Network for Art and Technology is generously assisted by the Australia Council, the Federal Government's arts funding and advisory body.

