



September 2010



focus on ABILITY

NOVA OFFICES

NSW

- Bankstown
- Blacktown
- Bourke
- Broken Hill
- Camden
- Campbelltown
- Canterbury
- Caringbah
- Cobar
- Forster
- Hurstville
- Ingleburn
- Katoomba
- Penrith
- Port Macquarie
- Richmond
- Rockdale
- Rouse Hill
- Springwood
- St Marys
- Taree
- Windsor

QLD

- Beaudesert
- Beenleigh
- Logan

CEO Comment— Martin Wren

I made a mistake!

Rare, but nevertheless there you are. In the July Ezine I said, '34,035 viewers and voters from a remarkable 56 countries, making this competition a truly global event.' If that had been accurate I would have been right. As it is the 'final tally' was actually 40,039 views and votes and these came from a whopping 70 countries.

My apologies and please accept my unfamiliarity with Google Analytics.

You'll find a full story on the winners in this month's Ezine, and it has never been more truly said, 'you just had to be there'- at least as far as our awards presentation night is concerned.

Nearly 200 people gathered at the Hoyts multiplex complex to see our winning films and we were also able to show a few of the other highly entertaining entrants.

Winning 'focusonability' used to require diligent effort from the participants and clever use of social media certainly helped previous entrants. However,



coupled with the enormous public interest this year's 'Open' category winner walked away with the first place on the back of a huge margin, scoring almost as many votes as the other finalists combined.

My congratulations to 'Danceability' and I am really looking forward to the 2011 competition which will carry the theme: 'Focus on Employability'. NOVA returns to its roots with a competition that will highlight the skills, ability and resource that exists amongst the population of workers and job seekers that have a disability.

2010 was 6 times the size of 2009. Let's see if we can do even better next year!

“Focus On Ability 2” Presentation Evening

Rebecca- UMMPR

Some NOVA links

Watch the results video on NOVA's Youtube channel



Become a fan of NOVA on Facebook. Recommend us to your friends.



What's news at Can-Do-Ability?



Wednesday nights are traditionally quite a quiet night, but while you were sitting watching the first instalment of the Ben Cousins doco, we were off to the much-anticipated grand finale of the Focus on Ability film competition.



Run annually by Nova Employment, the competition provides a creative platform for many within the Australian disabled community to come together, support one another and share their ideas. Film-makers from student, school or open categories were set the challenge



of creating an original short video centred around the idea of 'focussing on ability'. Nova was blown away by the response to the competition with videos coming in from all over the country – sharing inspiring personal stories and experiences and coming together in showcasing the strength and ability of the disabled

community.

With 36, 000 votes coming in from 56 countries, the hype was building, and Wednesday was set to be the final instalment in the competition! Naturally, the excited umm team packed up early at the office, got on our best suits and heels and headed to the event – a major screening of all the films at Hoyts cinemas in Fox Studios.



The whole foyer was buzzing with people - with film-makers, media and many of the film's stars mingling over popcorn and champagne.

The energy and excitement was unreal, as stories were shared, photos taken and speculations were made over the winners.



Having packed out the cinema, Dance Ability kicked off the evening with colourful costumes, big smiles and upbeat dance routines. Toes were left tapping as the group showed off their moves to Grease, and set a positive vibe for the film screening. The finalists' films were shown on the big screen –an exciting debut for these outstanding entrants into the film industry!



Before we knew it the big announcements were upon us, with runners up and first place prizes awarded to film-makers in the student, schools and open categories. Jack Noble was awarded first place in the student category for his inspiring film following a day in his own life and Bates Drive Ability School came in at number one for the school's category.

The Industry Choice award went to Pete Doherty for his film 'Rolling On'. The film features his close friend Jared Martin who, despite the physical restrictions he has fought with 'brittle bone disease', has pursued his ambitions of being a 3D computer animator.



However it was Dance Ability which once again stole the show, winning a massive \$5000 for first place in the open category and treating us all to an exciting encore!

The night was a huge success and a big thank you to everyone that was involved. We loved being a part of the whole event, and eagerly await next year's competition!

Transition to Work OPEN DAYS

- | CAMPBELLTOWN
16th September
- | HURSTVILLE
17th September
- | FORSTER
21st September
- | TAREE
22nd September
- | PORT MACQUARIE
23rd September

Welcome from Transition to work in Broken Hill

Debbe Files- Broken Hill TTW Job Coach



Our boys have been busy. Jamie the young lad working on the car started transition this year, and when I asked him what he wanted to do for his first work experience he said, "I just want to get my hands dirty"...So off we went to Silver City Steel, a metal fabrication business that maintains underground equipment used in the mines in this country. Jamie completed his work experience and gained a day's work a week because as Steve the owner operator stated, "He's too good to let go." Jamie has completed his work experience at Silver City Steel and now is at a local mechanic shop doing what he loves, working, getting his hands dirty and being with the lads. Jamie's a true lad from the bush, hard working with a smile on his face

kitchen and now is doing work experience at James butchers. Adam is a wiz and he is making the best snags out here. We plan to take some and do a cook up on the barbie when the weather is warmer.



The Broken Hill trainees finished a group work experience at the PCYC maintaining their gardens. The onus was on team work, and as an extra bonus our trainees got to sit in on a team...

The local police service practicing defence. The trainees went inside the lock down shed and were privy to the guy's shootem ups and how they work as a team, they had fun.



Adam has returned to Transition to gain skills so he can do what he loves, working with food. He has many a times cooked some yummy treats in our



novaemployment.com.au

Ph: 02 9833 2500

Fax: 02 9833 2499



novatraining.com.au

Ph: 02 9833 2511

Fax: 02 9833 2499



transition.com.au

Ph: 02 9833 2500

Fax: 02 9833 2499



deafjobs.com.au

Ph: 02 4625 7888

Fax: 02 4625 5955

TTY: 02 4625 8395

Head Office
50 Chapel St
St Marys NSW 2760
Ph: 02 9833 2500
Fax: 02 9833 2499

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www.novaemployment.com.au