

Berias Masseque

Country: Mozambique

Course: Advanced Diploma of Sound Production

Institute: TAFE NSW - Hunter Institute, Newcastle College



NSW Premier Barry O'Farrell presents Berias Masseque with the 2012 International Student of the Year Award

Berias Masseque is a composer, performer and producer who travelled from his home country Mozambique to study sound production at TAFE NSW - Hunter Institute, Newcastle College in 2011 and graduated with an Advanced Diploma of Sound Production at the end of the year.

During his course, Berias improved his technical skills as a music producer and acquired financial, contract and business management skills to further his musical career. He continued to perform and also found time to be involved in a number of local projects including the Hunter African Community Council where he promoted education to refugees and mentored young Africans who suffer mental illness.

Berias won the 2012 International Student of the Year Award in the Vocational Education and Training (VET category) and was highly commended for his involvement with community events such as performing at the Mental Health Day event, the Halalal Cultural Concert, Refugee Week and Zimbabwe Independence Day.

"I am so proud of winning this award. Music is such an important part of my life and working with people with mental illness is so important."

Berias recommends studying at TAFE NSW and living in the Hunter region of New South Wales.

"I love living in Australia and believe that if I can make a change in my local community, I can make a change in my state and in this country. And if we can make these positive changes, we can influence the world."

TAFE NSW - Hunter Institute is located approximately two hours north of Sydney. Newcastle is the second largest city in New South Wales and is a great study location. The Hunter region is NSW's premier wine growing area and has outstanding tourist attractions in Newcastle, Gosford and Port Stephens.

The Hunter region offers great facilities, plenty of employment, and lower living costs for international students.

"I just want to say thank you to TAFE NSW teachers and thank you Australia for every opportunity that has been given to international students to show their values and perhaps contribute to make a difference in this beautiful country."

Berias is an accomplished composer who is currently living in Newcastle while his wife completes her post-graduate studies.

Published: 28 June 2012