



# BLACK PEARLS

**ITS BETTER, AND ITS BACK!**

The famous film course for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islanders is back, this time as a **DIPLOMA OF SCREEN & MEDIA**

*with*

**VET FEE HELP**

QPIX warmly welcomes enquiries and applications for BLACK PEARLS 2012.

- Its ABSTUDY approved.
- Under VET FEE HELP the Federal government pays your course fees to QPIX and you pay this loan back to the government bit by bit from your tax returns ONLY once you begin earning over \$47,196 a year (2011-2012). So you don't pay any money up front.
- You'll work with your fellow students to create music video clips, TV commercials, documentaries and short films, and you'll learn to write, direct, produce, operate cameras, edit and much, much more.
- Under our agreement with QUT, our graduates will be considered competitively for entry into the SECOND year of that University's film & television degree.
- We welcome applicants of all ages, from 18 up. We have often had students over 50, and we find the mix of ages is a real advantage for all students.
- The student work from BLACK PEARLS in 2009 was so good it was broadcast by NITV on FOXTEL and on the Indigenous Channel in Canada in 2010. Broadcast of the work of the 2010 class is under negotiation with NITV & SBS.
- The friendly QPIX staff of industry professionals will be on hand throughout the course to help you when you need it.
- Our graduation rates from BLACK PEARLS are very high (over 85%), partly because the course is so exciting, but also because we work on a basis of cultural respect.

**Call Lisa or Tom at QPIX for any questions and they will help you with applying.**

**Phone 07-3848 8000 or email [lisa@qpix.org.au](mailto:lisa@qpix.org.au) or [tom@qpix.org.au](mailto:tom@qpix.org.au)**

endorsed by:



Please pass this on to your friends and family, or post it on your community or office notice board.

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## BLACK PEARLS 2012 Fact Sheet

<b>What</b>	BLACK PEARLS is a nationally accredited training program from which students will graduate with a DIPLOMA OF SCREEN & MEDIA (CUF50107).
<b>Where</b>	Training will take place at QPIX, 22 Warwick St, Annerley, Brisbane, with film shoots at locations around Brisbane.
<b>When</b>	BLACK PEARLS is planned for commencement on Wednesday the 20 <sup>th</sup> of June 2012.
<b>Who</b>	BLACK PEARLS is open to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders from anywhere in Australia who are not enrolled in school. Applicants will be 18 years of age or older by the start date of the course.
<b>Why</b>	To ensure that the Indigenous community have the technical skills, contacts and know-how to bring Indigenous stories to the screen, and to secure more jobs in the mainstream media.
<b>Course Fee</b>	\$15,000 – but this can be covered by the Federal Government as a long-term loan under VET FEE-HELP as explained above. (we can explain more when you call)
<b>Duration/Timing</b>	24 weeks, 3 days a week (Wednesday to Friday) 10am – 5pm, plus some Saturdays & evenings, as they are needed when in production.
<b>Training</b>	BLACK PEARLS is a hands-on TV and film production course where students learn how to make music video clips, TV ads, short films and documentaries by doing it. The training is all focused on learning by doing.
<b>After Graduation</b>	Volunteer attachments may be arranged with production companies if available, which can lead to paid Attachments based on performance, and those who wish can apply to enter second year of QUT's film & TV degree.
<b>Living Expenses</b>	BLACK PEARLS is ABSTUDY approved so funding can be sought from Centrelink and elsewhere.
<b>Pre-requisites</b>	No prior film experience or training is required but if you have none, we do require examples of the prospective student's creative work in writing, painting, photography and so on.
<b>Eligibility</b>	Only available to applicants of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent and must be at least 18 years of age to enter the course.
<b>Application Process</b>	Please call QPIX 07-3848 8000 for the application form and for more details about the course and how to apply.
<b>Application Deadline</b>	5pm, June 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2012

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# ABOUT QPIX

## production /S training

QPIX Ltd is Queensland's screen industry development centre. We provide advanced professional development for filmmakers who have finished their University or TAFE (VET - Vocational & Educational Training) courses, working with them in film production in order to advance their careers. We also provide professional development in screen and media to the broad community.

Our other services to industry include advice, information, production opportunities, equipment hires, production services, and product development Laboratories.

In addition to the above, we also run the QUEENSLAND SCREEN INDUSTRY ACADEMY, delivering a very advanced form of VET training that is based almost entirely on production. This is why we say, "production /S training." Our training is so rich in production opportunities; filmmakers often decide to take our courses after they have finished their degrees at University.

One of these courses is our BLACK PEARLS Diploma of Screen & Media for Indigenous filmmakers, in which students create and produce television commercials for actual businesses; music video clips for working bands; documentaries on those bands; documentaries on other subjects; and short dramas. It is a feast of creativity in an industry setting.

QPIX Ltd is a not-for-profit company, dedicated to building an innovative, sustainable and globally competitive Australian screen industry. The most important role given to us by Industry and Government is to spot talent and help it grow and blossom.

We believe there is a prodigious amount of talent hidden away in the Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander communities, and we are determined to help bring that talent forward onto the national and global stage.

Though QPIX Ltd operates as commercial not-for-profit company, it also works under triennial agreements with Screen Australia and Screen Queensland. It is a founding member of the national industry development alliance, Screen Development Network (SDN).

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