



**MEDIA RELEASE – Aug 09**

## **HAIR STUDENTS ON SHOW**

Students studying Hair at year's Education Centre Gippsland (ECG) put their creativity to the test competing at the annual ECG Hair Competition held at the McMillan campus.

Creations from the zany to the modern and chic were paraded by students studying Certificate 3 at ECG's Warragul and Traralgon campuses with students competing in five categories.

22 year old Shae Wishart took out five awards including 1<sup>st</sup> prize trophies in the Colour, Blow wave, and Ladies, and Men's hair sections as well as Overall Highest Score for competition work on the day.

Sarah Rickard won 1<sup>st</sup> prize for Catwalk and 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the Ladies Hair Cut, and Blow wave sections. Other placegetters included Dot Olsen, Linda Huber, Karen Kettle, Elyce Norton, Jemma Baker, and Sharon Stephenson.

Announcing the awards, Industry Judge Donata Robinson of RPR Haircare said the quality of the students work was excellent and noted the development of skills and confidence of the students since the inaugural ECG Hair Competition held last year.

Many of the students are now nearing completion of their course which will enable them to work as fully qualified hairstylists in the next few months.

ECG Coordinator Hair and Beauty Leonie Paterson said Shae and Sarah were examples of the calibre of students and the enthusiasm and commitment they have to excellence in the hair industry.

"This year's Hair Competition was modelled on the criteria of the state-wide International Hair Society (IHS) awards to give students a taste of what is expected in competition at the elite level.

Students were given 30 minutes to prepare their models in a closed room with a scrutineer and then judged by an industry panel comprising Donata Robinson, Deb Handley of Lina Patina Salon, and Nikki Miller of Cobaaz Salon.

“The show attracted an audience of around 60 guests and provided a great platform for students to hone their skills and publically show their talent, “ she said.

ECG offers Certificate to Diploma level courses for new entrants and qualified hairdressers wishing to extend their skills to specialise and this year opened a purpose-built training salon at its McMillan campus to meet industry demand for skilled hairdressers. It has close to 80 students currently enrolled in hair and beauty programs.

For more information on ECG courses phone Sharon Clements or Leonie Paterson on 03 5622 6000 or visit [www.ecg.vic.edu.au](http://www.ecg.vic.edu.au)

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**Success! ECG Hair winners and their models celebrate at the inaugural ECG HAIR Competition. First prize winners Shae Wishart and Sarah Rickard are pictured standing centre with their multiple awards.**