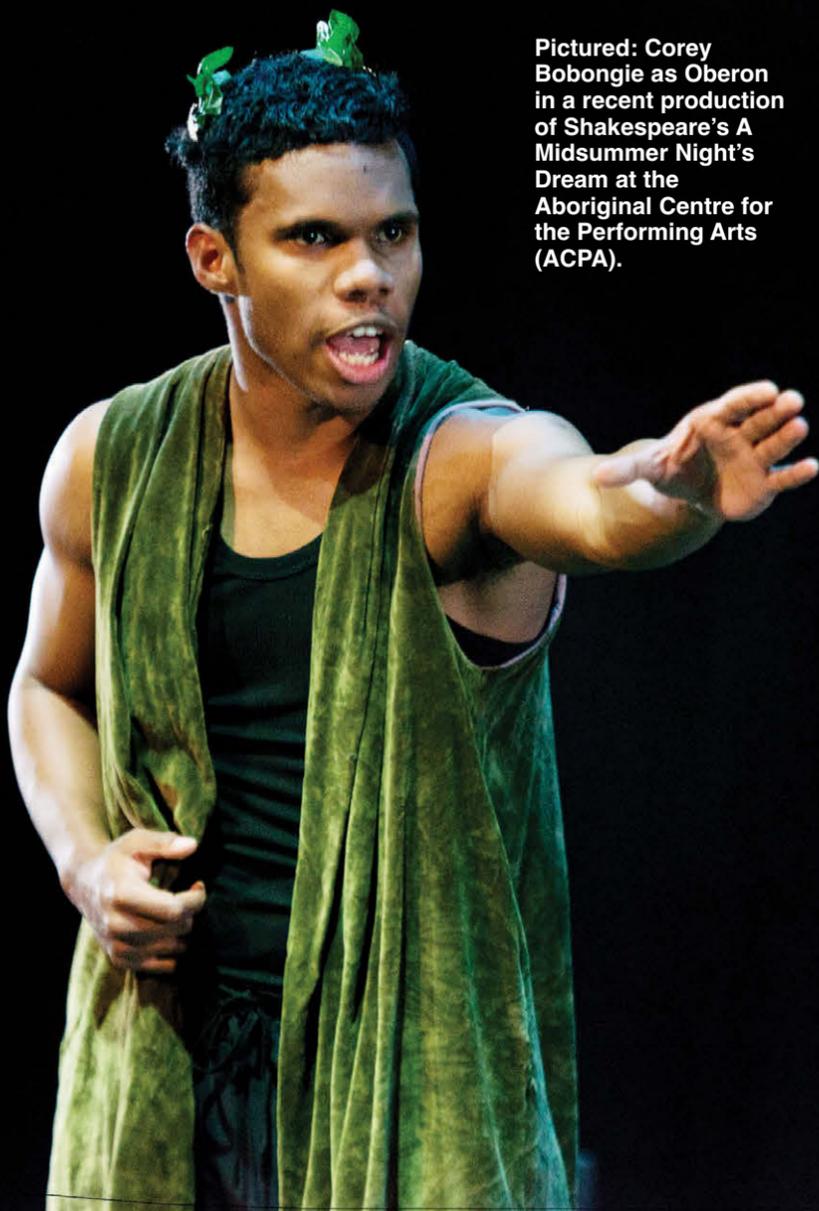




ACPA students prepare for the world stage



Pictured: Corey Bobongie as Oberon in a recent production of Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at the Aboriginal Centre for the Performing Arts (ACPA).

FROM inspirational gospel music to Shakespearean comedies and international events, ACPA students are given enviable opportunities to launch their entertainment careers.

Performing in the opening and closing ceremonies for the Commonwealth Games earlier this year was certainly a highlight for diploma and advanced diploma students at the Aboriginal Centre for the Performing Arts (ACPA).

Livestreaming

Livestreaming the *Melodies from Heaven III* show to nearly 5000 viewers, taking on multiple roles for an ensemble production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and performing contemporary cultural fusion in China have also showcased ACPA students' diverse talents recently.

"ACPA is the only training centre in Australia offering nationally accredited courses that incorporate all performing arts genres, including classes dedicated to Indigenous cultural fusion," ACPA chief officer, Dr Dimitri Kopanakis said.

"While our programs honour a rich heritage, we're actually preparing students for careers in today's global performing arts and entertainment industry.

Opportunities

"Giving students opportunities to perform different types of sub-genres, from the traditional to the contemporary, means they have to develop the discipline, versatility and resilience that this industry demands, as well as their technical skills and creative expression."

Performing at major venues and with high-profile artists – combined with mentoring from award-winning teachers – has motivated ACPA students to commit to their studies, resulting in a steady student retention rate of 80%.

ACPA is also proud of the students' completion rate, which is significantly higher than the national average for diploma and higher level courses.

"Being able to put on their CVs that they've performed with or taken a class with artists from Bangarra Dance Theatre,

actors from NIDA or ARIA award winners gives ACPA students a very significant advantage," Dr Kopanakis said.

"Plus, ACPA is an affordable alternative for talented school leavers who want to find a career path for their creativity."

Auditions

Auditions for future ACPA dance, acting, music and singing students will be held on Tuesday and Wednesday, September 25-26, at the Judith Wright Centre of Contemporary Arts in Fortitude Valley, Brisbane.

ACPA will also offer auditions in some Queensland regional centres until October.

Although ACPA is supported by the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland and the Department of Employment, Small Business and Training, emerging artists from all over Australia are welcome to audition.

Information

More information is available on the ACPA website www.acpa.edu.au or by calling 07 3216 1490.

Lisa leads the way in medicine



PROFESSOR Lisa Jackson Pulver AM has been appointed Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Indigenous Strategy and Services at the University of Sydney and will commence the position on October 15, 2018.

Professor Jackson Pulver is an Aboriginal woman and the first known Aboriginal person to receive a PhD in medicine at the University of Sydney. Her family come from areas including south-western NSW and northern Victoria, northern NSW, eastern South Australia, as well as from Wales and Scotland.

An accomplished advisor, researcher and educator – particularly in the areas of Aboriginal health, data collection, analysis and management and strategy – Professor Jackson Pulver is currently Pro Vice-Chancellor Engagement; Pro Vice-Chancellor Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Leadership; and Provost Parramatta South Campus at Western Sydney University.

Among many achievements, Professor Jackson Pulver played a key role in the development of a designated Aboriginal and

Torres Strait Islander health unit, Muru Marri, in the Faculty of Medicine at UNSW and was the inaugural Chair of Aboriginal Health. She cites one her proudest achievements as co-founding the Shalom Gamarada Scholarship Program at UNSW, offering residential scholarships to Indigenous students studying medicine and other disciplines.

University of Sydney vice-chancellor and principal Dr Michael Spence said he was delighted Professor Jackson Pulver had accepted the role.

"The selection panel and I have been enormously impressed with Lisa's commitment to embed belonging and key Aboriginal frameworks and world views into initiatives across the education, research and government sectors, as well as into the RAAF where she is a specialist reserve member," he said.

"This commitment dates back to her medical student days where she was a founding member of Sydney University's Wokal Kangara (meaning 'one blood') Aboriginal Students Association through to more recent membership on the NHMRC's committee for improving the health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

and current roles with institutions such as the Australian Medical Council, the Australian Bureau of Statistics and Universities Australia.

"Professor Jackson Pulver's leadership and program and policy development skills have enabled the advancement of Aboriginal peoples as well as the broader academy of students and staff at the institutions she has contributed to. We look forward to her bringing that invaluable strength and sense of purpose to Sydney."

Professor Jackson Pulver said she was looking forward to rejoining the University of Sydney in October.

"The University of Sydney gave me the opportunity to enter tertiary education; I was the first in my family to do so," she said.

"I'm honoured to be able to return in a very different capacity and give back to the university's staff and students in this way."

Dr Spence also thanked Professor Juanita Sherwood for her superb work while acting in the position since September 2017.

"The university owes Juanita an enormous debt of gratitude for the grace and leadership she has shown during this time," he said.



Professor Lisa Jackson Pulver AM