**VCE Product Design and Technology in Top Designs 2013**

**A note from Leanne Compton, the VCAA Curriculum Manager, Design and Technologies**

The Top Designs Selection Panel carefully and methodically applies criteria when selecting work for the Top Designs exhibition.

Criteria for selection for Product Design and Technology include:

* The work demonstrates the requirements of the Scope of the task and the Study Design
* The overall work for the student for the SAT has achieved an A+ or A
* The work meets the assessment criteria at a very high standard, using innovative, unique approaches
* The production work is accompanied by an exemplary folio that demonstrates research and thorough development of ideas
* The folio documents and the production work demonstrate safe workshop practices
* The production work meets exhibition constraints that are determined by space and weight restrictions.

This year, while numerous entries met the above set of criteria in fashion/textiles, there was only one that did in the wood/metal/plastics category. There were many students who achieved an A+ using this medium who might have been successful should they have applied. It is recommended that teachers encourage all A+ students to apply to Top Designs.

An additional factor was that, in a number of instances, the folios unfortunately demonstrated a lack of adherence to safety measures, evidenced by the inclusion of photographs of unsafe practices and machinery that was not properly guarded.

Teachers and students are strongly encouraged to explore how the student work on show does display the required qualities to inform their School-assessed Task work in 2013.

In order to provide students with examples of work of the quality required and to affirm the importance of the media of wood metal and plastics we decided to take the opportunity to display work of past exhibitors from Top Design and showcase what they are achieving since they completed their VCE.