La Trobe University Mildura: Kirbi

I’m passionate about my study because it’s not a 9-5 job it’s hands on, the lecturers here are really supportive, we have art forums where we have international and national artists come and speak to us and we can engage in their work. To meet a world famous photographer one week and the next week meet an Australia curator is amazing.

The best thing about La Trobe is probably the people I’ve met here. I come from a very small town, so I was too scared to go to an actual big city campus, so yeah I came here and I’ve met so many people and made a huge network for myself within the art community.

I decided to study visual arts when I was in year 12 in Broken Hill, but we didn’t have the networks there or the pathways to come to uni, I’d never really dealt with anyone who’d been to uni so it wasn’t fresh in my mind.

I’ve taken part in a lot of student enrichment programs. I’m the secretary of the Mildura Students Association where we provide parties and get together and try and create a network with the students that’s away from academic studies.

I also took part in the La Trobe Infinity Leadership program, where myself and three other students organised to teach children in year five and six about the environmental issues surrounding Mildura and then they made artwork about it and we put them in the university gallery for them and had an exhibition.

My course so far I’ve gotten my degree and this year completed Honours in visual art so I’m actually applying for Masters as we speak and hopefully that will turn into a PHD, yeah that’s as far as I’ve thought.