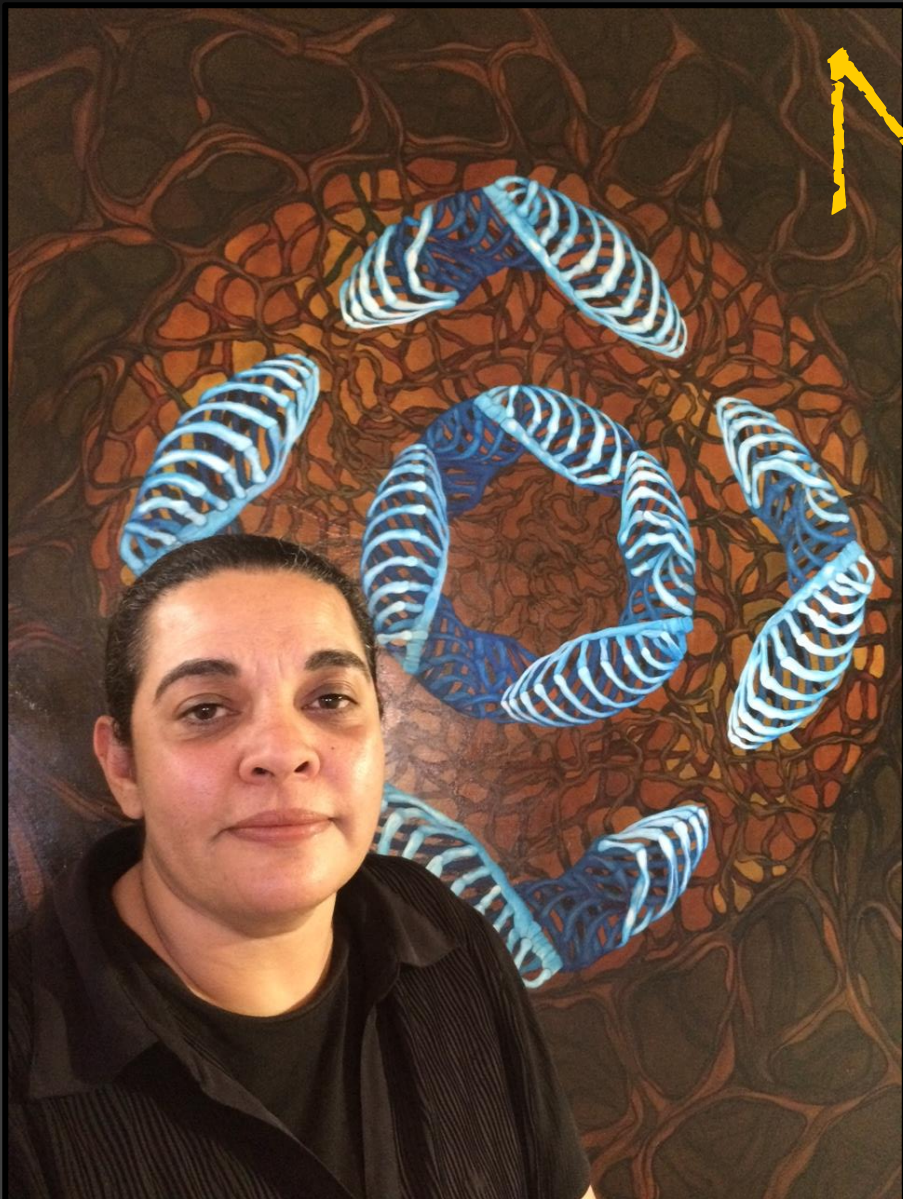


Networking Tranby project: Student Experiences around Glebe



Nicole Phillips

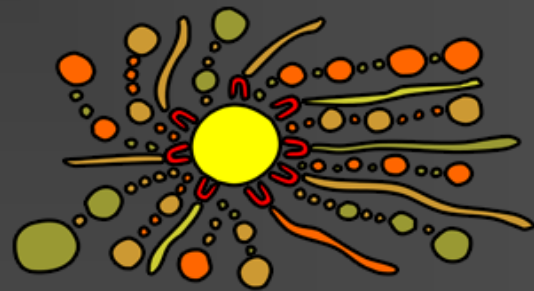
Nicole grew up in Grafton. She remembers the town:

‘There was a huge division in Grafton between the Black and White – still is.....And the only thing that divides it is the bridge.....there’s over town and over south and all the blacks hang on the south side. Nicole believes that it has only gotten worse over the years, nothing has changed.’

Nicole’s family moved to Sydney when she was a teenager and lived between Petersham and Waterloo. Nicole attended Glebe High School and spent a lot of time in this particular neighbourhood.

Nicole worked in animation for 10 years at Aboriginal Nations Australia animation studio on *The Dreaming Series*. The series was broadcast on the ABC and is now currently screening on NITV.

*Aboriginal Nations
Australia Pty Ltd. 2016.*



Nicole wanted to study at Tranby to expand her knowledge of politics. At UTS someone had questioned her about why she enrolled in Aboriginal Studies:

‘Why are you studying that? You’re an artist!’

I said: ‘Well I’m also an Aboriginal!’

‘Its just like we’ve lost our way....if some Aboriginal organisations are too successful, the Government just shuts them down. Why does that happen? That’s what I want to know!

‘I’m not going to be teaching art for the rest of my life. I want to fight for our people! I want to be part of some sort of avenue where blackfellas can be self-determined. ... I need Tranby and so does everybody else I think!’

Then she went to Eora to do a diploma in Fine Arts. At last she got to do the painting she loved. But Nicole wanted more: ‘That was a Fine Art diploma, it had nothing to do with the politics’.

So Nicole came to Tranby in 2014 to do Applied Aboriginal Studies.

After that she went back to Eora to do *Aboriginal Studies for Professional Community Practice*. Now she has become interested in doing further study in community development.

Through this time, Nicole has been teaching Animation at UTS