Talented students score nominations

CHEVALIER College students Serena Mevissen, Elizabeth Ferguson, Jessica Rusconi and Ricky Prohm have received an exceptional five HSC Showcase nominations for their major works in English, dance and music.

Talented writer Serena Mevissen was excited to receive the call from BOSTES last week advising that she was nominated for the Young Writers Showcase 2014, an anthology of some of the extraordinary major works in print, sound and visual media submitted for the HSC English Extension 2 course.

Serena will find out in March if her work is included in the final publication produced by the NSW Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards.

Dance student Elizabeth Ferguson has received not one, but two of the coveted Callback nominations, for both her HSC core performance and her major study performance. Callback is the showcase of exemplary performances and compositions by HSC students of dance and to receive two nominations is exceptional and a testament to Elizabeth’s commitment and hard work.

With an offer to study at Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts and two other applications pending in Victoria and Queensland, Elizabeth will have some big decisions to make in the coming weeks.

More good news was received by Jessica Rusconi with a Callback nomination for her core composition in dance.

Jessica said her choreography was about the daily routine of waking up to an alarm clock and always wanting to press the snooze button.

“IT was performed by the very talented Sarah Tomlinson from Year 9,” Jessica said.

“I changed the intent of my composition about three weeks before the trials and I guess it’s pretty lucky I did.”

Next year Jessica wants to be immersed in dance classes in Sydney and dreams of joining a dance company and travelling around the world before coming home to a small town and starting her own studio.

Talented musician Ricky Prohm is already well-known as a performer in the Southern Highlands and can often be seen busking in Corbett Plaza.

His distinctive slide guitar and singing style has earned him an Encore nomination for his HSC major work.

Chevalier College Leader of Learning for Performing Arts Monica Waples said this was a great achievement.

“Anyone nominated for Encore would have received full marks (20/20) for three of their four performance pieces,” Ms Waples said.

Ricky’s plan for 2015 is to focus on his band Compass with school friends Sam Wilson (bass) and Tom Zachary (drums) before studying music full-time in 2016 at the Australian Institute of Music.

Chevalier College is delighted for each of these four students and also wishes to acknowledge the work and dedication of their teachers, Jenny Murchie (English), Sarah Milsted and Erin Whipp (dance) and Trudee Green (music) who have helped guide these talented students towards their dreams.

College staff keenly await the final selections for these awards.