

2021-

22

CORPORATE
PLAN
For the period
FY 2021-2025

AFTRS Australian Film Television
and Radio School

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01 PURPOSE AND VISION

The Australian Film, Television and Radio School (AFTRS) was established by a bipartisan Act of Parliament in 1973 to provide education, training, and research to the screen arts and broadcast sector.

The School's foundation had a cultural imperative. The *Australian Film, Television and Radio School Act 1973 (AFTRS Act)* recognised the power of national storytelling and the need for Australians to have access to world-class content made by Australians for Australians. It also recognised the critical role of formal education and training in creating a thriving industry of highly skilled practitioners. And while the industry AFTRS was created to serve has undergone significant change since 1973, this imperative holds. AFTRS must continue to graduate the best creative talent in Australia who can meet the sector's needs, from grips to production accountants, composers to radio producers, to ensure Australians have access to world-class Australian content.

OUR MISSION:

Delivering world-leading creative education across the nation, so Australian talent and culture thrive at home and around the world.

OUR PURPOSE:

Working hand-in-hand with our screen and broadcast industries, AFTRS is a global centre of excellence that provides Australians with the highest level of screen and broadcast education, training and research.

OUR VISION:

We believe that a country is shaped by its stories, and in an increasingly complex world, Australians have never needed good stories more to understand who we are and who we can be. As the national screen and broadcast school, AFTRS' job is to train the talent who can create these stories.

Our pursuit of excellence is Australian in its nature and global in its ambition: it is empowered by the strength of First Nations cultures and the rich diversity of our society. We champion the artistry and skill demanded by excellence and the essential need for ethical, inclusive collaboration.

OUR VALUES:

Creativity

We value different ideas, experiences and knowledges in the pursuit of creative and innovative outcomes.

Excellence

We are leaders in our fields, and we strive to be adaptive and agile in the face of an ever-changing Industry.

Community

We work together with respect, responsibility, reciprocity and accountability. The strength of the AFTRS community comes from our commitment to being inclusive.

Courage

We are curious and resilient, listening with an open heart. We persevere, we embrace the unfamiliar, and we are committed to having courageous conversations and working through moments of fear and difficulty.

Generosity

We share our skills, knowledge and stories with a sense of abundance and are equipped and honoured to help tell each other's stories.

OUR STRATEGY:

To meet our purpose in an increasingly dynamic and expanding operating landscape, this year, AFTRS launches its new five-year corporate strategy, *Creating the Future*. The strategy is built upon three pillars: national reach, excellence and sustainability.

National Reach

As the national screen and broadcast school, talent across Australia must be able to access our world-class training and educational opportunities. Our curriculum must be flexible in its delivery and reflect the breadth of Australian screen and broadcast culture in its design.

Excellence

As one of the top screen and broadcast schools in the world, AFTRS is committed to the pursuit of excellence in all that we do. Our unique approach to screen and broadcast education is driven by a close working relationship with industry, a transformative curriculum that fosters deep skill-building, creative experimentation and an understanding of the power of collaboration. Our graduates are sought-after for their outstanding craft skills and artistry. They are enterprising, highly creative and professional. They understand the power of Australian story, underpinned by First Nations culture, enriched by the diversity of our country, to engage, entertain and connect audiences.

Sustainability

Finally, we must ensure that our work in delivering world-class education across the country is sustainable. Our offering is scalable and adaptive, allowing us to grow our business and meet local, regional, and state and territory need while working to the capacity of our staff, our school resources, and our industry.

02. INTRODUCTION

The AFTRS Council, as the accountable authority of AFTRS, presents the 2021-22 AFTRS Corporate Plan, covering the period FY 2021-2025, as required under section 35 (1)(b) of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013 (PGPA Act)*.

AFTRS is accountable to the Australian Government through the Minister for Communications, Urban Infrastructure, Cities and the Arts and is administered through the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications. It operates under the AFTRS Act and receives Commonwealth support through an annual appropriation in the Budget.

AFTRS' Portfolio Budget Statement outcome is:

“Support the development of a professional screen arts and broadcast culture in Australia including through the provision of specialist industry-focused education, training, and research.”

03. ENVIRONMENT, FACTORS, AND FOCUS

AFTRS is a cultural agency funded by the Commonwealth Government through the Office for the Arts in the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications to provide the industry with the talent and skills it needs to thrive.

We are also a fully self-accrediting Higher-Education provider. In July 2021, we were one of three institutions who were successfully admitted into the new Provider category status of University College¹ under the new Higher Education Standards Framework (Threshold Standards) 2021, reflecting the “high national standing and performance of AFTRS” both within our field and across the higher education sector more generally.

Driven by the rise of digitisation, both the screen and broadcast and educational sectors have been in states of change over the last decade, and COVID-19 has only accelerated this rate of change. This strategy recognises that change is and will be a constant in our new world. It positions AFTRS as an organisation that is nimble and able to identify and adapt to change without losing sight

of its fundamental remit to excellence and providing high quality, industry-partnered training across Australia.

For the screen and broadcast industries, there are now multiple ways of making and engaging with content. There have never been more opportunities for skilled Australian content-makers to engage audiences worldwide and earn revenue from their creativity. Australia and New Zealand have over 2.5 million active TikTok users². The number of Australians making money from TWITCH, a platform where users watch each other play online games and tournaments, has increased over 350% in the last two years³. And a recent PwC report found that Australians are “one of the highest per capita spenders on video games in the world”, with total gaming and esports revenue reaching \$3.403 billion in 2020⁴.

While AFTRS remains committed to its legacy areas of excellence, it must also embrace and support the rise of these new platforms and the skills, knowledges and capacity-building needed to ensure Australian content continues to cut through the ‘global content deluge’⁵ and engage local and international audiences.

Similarly, our educational offerings need to be relevant to an emerging generation of content-makers and compelling to life-long learners looking to upskill in this new digital world. Our new flexible delivery strategy will draw from our particular AFTRS brand of hands-on learning, and the AFTRS campus, with its professionally equipped, world-class facilities, will remain the vibrant creative hub of our school activities. We know that micro-credentials are increasingly important to employers and learners seeking to keep up with digital innovations and emerging skillsets in a way that traditional qualifications cannot⁶. Flexible delivery will allow us to offer a range of pathways and modalities to deliver learning that combines face-to-face and online, part-time and full-time, in bite-sizes as well as substantive, to ensure that Australians across the country are able to access the training they need to upskill or discover and pursue careers in the screen and broadcast industries.

3.1 SCREEN AND BROADCAST INDUSTRIES

This is a time of extraordinary growth in our screen and broadcast industries.

While COVID-19 brought with it adversity and struggle, it also accelerated our industry’s transformation from a domestically-focussed sector to a successful global player generating billions in revenue and tens of thousands of jobs for Australians. This transformation has been driven by the resourcefulness and ingenuity of the sector and the government. AFTRS has a critical role to play in supporting this growth and ensuring that the industry has the skills, capacity and new knowledges it needs to stay at the forefront of global production.

In a period of creative and economic opportunity, a notable area of growth and innovation is the PDV sector. The global screen industries are integrating digital production processes and technologies with traditional

crafts and methodologies at a lightning pace. And with the success of the government's PDV offsets, major international players, such as the Disney-owned VFX company Industrial Light & Magic (ILM), have moved to Australia, bringing with them large-scale projects and a demand for skilled local talent. The NSW Government estimated that more than 500 local jobs would be created with ILM's arrival⁷. They have also estimated that around 30% of the jobs created by this new activity will have to be recruited internationally due to the local PDV skills shortage. The need for local training is clear and pressing.

A particularly exciting area for training is in 'Virtual production'. This methodology, driven by the agile application of game engine technologies, has the potential to transform both the creative and financial paradigms of traditional filmmaking. New business opportunities are manifold, but skills gaps in meeting this growth are acute.

Working closely with industry through regular industry advisory panels and a triennial industry skills survey, and our close curriculum partnerships, our courses will target both immediate and longer-term industry need. Over the next year, AFTRS will prioritise industry-partnered training in the PDV area, with an initial focus on virtual production, so that Australia can meet its skills shortage and take full advantage of this time of extraordinary global innovation.

3.2 INCLUSION AND BELONGING

Reflected in the strategic focus areas of outreach and inclusion, AFTRS prioritises its commitment to ensuring that the school and the screen and broadcast sectors represent all Australians and are culturally safe for all Australians.

As the national screen and broadcast school and a centre for Australian creative excellence, our engagement with First Nations knowledges and values is of paramount importance. Led by a new First Nations and Outreach Division, the strategy embeds First Nations cultural values in all that we do. In the period of this corporate plan, this will include a review of our Award-course curriculum and targets for partnerships with First Nations communities and First Nations-led organisations so that our activities are led by community needs and priorities.

We are adopting a new strategic approach to diversity and inclusion, reframing our focus from diversity and its emphasis on visible differences to principles of belonging and inclusion that seek to embrace each individual's unique offering and allow that individual to excel in an environment where they are heard, safe and welcome. These principles will inform how projects and programs are developed externally through the new First Nations and Outreach Division and internally through the People and Culture Division.

Over the next year, we are committed to developing a curriculum designed to foster cultural capacity within AFTRS and the Australian screen and broadcast sectors and build bridges from under-represented groups across Australia into AFTRS through meaningful, community-led partnerships. We will continue to work with state and territory agencies to bring talent from under-represented groups and commissioners together through our Talent Camp initiative, and we seek out talent at career pathway events across Australia.

Over the period of this Corporate Plan, as we develop our flexible delivery strategy, AFTRS will grow its training partnerships with regionally-based organisations. AFTRS continues to prioritise and grow its student support mechanisms, including financial, to assist students from under-represented backgrounds to thrive at the School.

As we work to build an inclusive culture at AFTRS, we will also continue to promote best practices on Australian screens through research projects and our leadership role in the Screen Diversity and Inclusion Network (SDIN).

3.3 INNOVATION

As a leading creative institution, innovation and experimentation are at the heart of everything we do.

Demonstrating our responsibility in the AFTRS Act to "conduct and encourage research", research is at the centre of the school's activities this year. In the first year of our new five-year strategy, we are developing a faculty-driven research program that will bridge industry knowledge and academic expertise to drive projects with practicable, immediate, yet rigorous outputs for the industry.

As processes, practices, and technologies have changed, so have the pathways people take to enter and progress through our industries. In consultation with state and territory screen agencies, AFTRS is launching a research project examining what this means for talent coming into the industry, existing practitioners working in our industry, production companies seeking new talent, and agencies looking to support this talent. It will provide valuable data and action points on how government agencies, higher education, and private enterprise can better support practitioners in this new world.

AFTRS will continue to engage in new industry-led partnered research projects, committing specifically in the FY 2021–22 to two new industry partnered initiatives and a First Nations-led research partnership. This year the school will also launch its Futures Lab—a physical and conceptual space that will support the industry to do the experimentation, testing, and research it needs to stay at the forefront of this fast-moving digital world. It will host emerging technologies, starting with a virtual production training facility, and offer industry teams structured opportunities to use this space for their experimentation and learning on honing their business models and creative projects to gain new audiences.

04. STRATEGIC DIRECTION, DELIVERY, AND PERFORMANCE

The AFTRS' Corporate Plan has been designed around three strategic pillars: National Reach, Excellence, and Sustainability.

This year is the first year of the new AFTRS five-year corporate strategy, *Creating the Future*. The new strategy draws together AFTRS mission, vision and reflected purpose, addressing a changing operating environment that has new risks and opportunities to be considered, and articulates the principles that support the School's ambitions of providing all Australians access to our world-class learning, offering the highest level of screen and broadcast training, and that we are adaptive, resilient and fit-for-purpose. The principles supporting each of the pillars inform the strategic areas of focus expressed in the School's corporate performance measures and activities.

PILLAR 1 NATIONAL REACH

First Nations
Outreach & Inclusion
Flexible Delivery

Areas of Strategic Focus:
1.1 First Nations Culture
1.2 Outreach & inclusion

PILLAR 2 EXCELLENCE

Learning & Teaching
Research
Industry Engagement

Areas of Strategic Focus:
2.1 Talent development
2.2 Industry skills training
2.3 Research & innovation

PILLAR 3 SUSTAINABILITY

Business Development
Resourcing
Creativity & Wellbeing

Areas of Strategic Focus:
3.1 Effective Organisation

PILLAR 1. NATIONAL REACH

Giving all Australians access to our world-class learning.

As the national screen and broadcast school, AFTRS engages, upskills, and supports the most talented learners in all states and territories.

The pillar of national reach is supported by two strategic areas of focus –First Nations culture and outreach & inclusion.

STRATEGIC FOCUS: 1.1 First Nations Culture

Embedding First Nations values within AFTRS by including First Nations’ knowledges, voices, values, and pedagogies to build the capacity and knowledge of our staff, graduates, and industry.

What? (Desired result)	How? (Key Activities)	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Embedding First Nations values within AFTRS through the inclusion of First Nations’ voices, values, knowledges and pedagogies to build the capacity and capability of our staff, students, graduates, and industry to co-create an environment that is culturally, spiritually, socially, intellectually, and emotionally safe	Grow First Nations Community Stakeholders & Projects	2 First Nations-led partnerships per year			
		2 MOUs in place with First Nations Community Controlled organisations per year			
		Support 2 First Nations media and education conferences per year			

STRATEGIC FOCUS: 1.2 Outreach & Inclusion

Supporting under-represented talent across Australia to learn, make and work in the Australian screen and broadcast industries and building an inclusive school culture that celebrates all Australians. Creating a flexible and responsive model of delivery that allows us to capitalise on established strengths delivering face-to-face learning in our world-class Sydney campus.

What? (Desired result)	How? (Key Activities)	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Ensure AFTRS reflects Australian society by supporting diversity across its activities	Deliver courses across the country	3,000 participants in industry training per year			
		50% course enrolments outside of NSW			
		1 partnered industry event per State and Territory outside NSW per year			
	Partner with community organisations and high schools to build bridges from under-represented communities into AFTRS	8 CALD community-led projects across Australia per year			
All Australians can access our world-class learning	Create a flexible model of delivery that capitalises on AFTRS' strength in delivering hands-on practical learning	Develop a flexible delivery framework	Begin implementation of a flexible delivery framework	Continue implementation of a flexible delivery framework	Continue implementation and review flexible delivery Framework
		2 interstate delivery partnerships per year across industry training and award courses			
		Award 30 scholarships to students across Australia per calendar year	Award 32 scholarships to students across Australia per calendar year	Award 34 scholarships to students across Australia per calendar year	Award 36 scholarships to students across Australia per calendar year

PILLAR 2. EXCELLENCE

Industry aligned and forward-facing.

Working together with industry, AFTRS offers the highest level of screen and broadcast training. Our graduates are sought-after for their outstanding craft skills and artistry. They are enterprising, highly creative, and professional. They understand the power of Australian story, underpinned by First Nations culture, enriched by the diversity of our country, to engage, entertain and connect audiences at home and around the world.

The pillar of excellence is supported by three strategic areas of focus –talent development, industry skills training, and research & innovation.

STRATEGIC FOCUS: 2.1 Talent Development

Empower student learning through an experiential curriculum that is inclusive and flexible, and national in its reach and enable teaching excellence.

What? (Desired result)	How? (Key Activities)	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Educate and train new talent to help grow and support the industry	Deliver accredited courses	300 award course enrolments per calendar year			
		100 award course graduates per calendar year			
Empower the learning of screen and broadcast storytellers and practitioners through an inclusive, experiential curriculum	Build and implement a Teaching & Learning plan enshrining AFTRS unique approach to creative pedagogy	Annual review of Teaching & Learning plan against creativity & inclusion criteria including discipline reviews			
		Review curriculum against First Nations Strategy	Delivery of Systems Audit of Curriculum Terms of Reference including audit methodology and timeline against First Nations Strategy (2021 objectives)	Undertake an audit of curriculum	Deliver findings of curriculum audit

STRATEGIC FOCUS: 2.2 Industry Skills Training

Creating future-oriented, industry-aligned learning environments that are accessible and transformative and provide pathways to life-long careers in the screen and broadcast industries. Partnering with industry in the design, development, and delivery of courses.

What? (Desired result)	How? (Key Activities)	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Ensure Australian screen and broadcast practitioners have the high levels of skills required to compete in an increasingly global marketplace	Deliver industry-aligned training	75% of recent graduates are applying the skills they learnt in their AFTRS course professionally			
		Annual consultation with industry stakeholders, including Industry Advisory Panels and triennial skills survey			
	Partner with screen & broadcast stakeholders to provide targeted training	10 industry training partnerships per year			

STRATEGIC FOCUS: 2.3 Research & Innovation

Providing the industry with the new knowledge it needs to keep Australia at the forefront of global innovation. Supporting a culture of enquiry, exploration, and rigour through the School's research programs.

What? (Desired result)	How? (Key Activities)	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Drive innovation in the screen and broadcast industry and practice-based education through research	Develop a faculty-driven research project that bridges industry knowledge and academic expertise	–	2 industry research projects disseminated per year commencing in FY2022–23		
		1 First Nations-led research partnership per year			
Provide industry with new knowledge to keep the nation at the forefront of global innovation	Partner on values-driven, future-focused industry research projects	2 industry partnered research projects per year			

PILLAR 3. SUSTAINABILITY

Adaptive, resilient and fit-for-purpose.

The School has a suite of scalable, adaptive, face-to-face and online offerings that allow us to grow our business whilst meeting local, regional, and state and territory demand for graduates in a sustainable way for our staff, our school resources, and our industry.

The pillar of sustainability is supported by a strategic area of focus —an effective organisation.

STRATEGIC FOCUS: 3.1 Effective Organisation

Ensuring infrastructure, work, and curriculum design facilitate and supports collaboration, connectedness, and creativity. Developing long-lasting strategic partnerships with organisations that share our values delivering incremental revenue and reach.

What? (Desired result)	How? (Key Activities)	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Ensure an adaptive, efficient, and sustainable business that supports AFTRS as a global centre of excellence for screen & broadcast education, training, and research	Support good practice through the School's diversity initiatives and inclusion network groups	AFTRS staff is representative of the community (reflective of ABS census) 51% Female representation and at a leadership level 9% People living with a disability ⁸ 3% First Nations			
	Develop and implement staged Environmental Plan	Annual review environmental action plan and practices in line with industry best practice			
Ensure the organisation is financially sustainable and scalable		Increase own-sourced funding to 26%	Increase own-sourced funding to 27%	Increase own-sourced funding to 28%	Maintain own-sourced funding of 28%
	Infrastructure Audit	Annual review of Building & Technology Plan against the priorities of the Corporate Strategy			

05. OPTIMISING RESOURCES AND CAPABILITIES

As detailed in the Portfolio Budget Statements, the Commonwealth Government has allocated \$22.738 million to AFTRS for the 2021-22 financial year.

AFTRS has budgeted to generate an additional \$9.3 million to supplement its operations for the financial year. AFTRS makes revenue from several sources, primarily through student fees for Award courses and short course programs and revenue from corporate offerings. Combined with the Government appropriation, this own-sourced income creates a total revenue budget for 2021-22 of \$32.0 million.

Throughout the period of this Corporate Plan, AFTRS aims to grow its own-sourced income, including increasing its online course offering, expanding the national reach of its Award courses and engaging in new partnerships to ensure its financial sustainability.

AFTRS has a Capital Management Plan, covering acquisition and updating of technical resources and facilities to support its activities across each year of the Corporate Plan. The School reviews its budget plan annually. Supporting the Corporate Plan's strategies, the capital management plan allows flexibility across FY 2021-2025 to adapt to equipment and facility needs and meet the needs of AFTRS's diverse student population.

The School occupies a purpose-built campus in the Entertainment Quarter at Moore Park in inner-city Sydney, NSW. AFTRS has the option of extending the current lease (ending in 2023) through to 2036.

To improve workforce planning and optimisation, AFTRS will continue implementing a workload model that ensures an Average Staffing Level of 145 is achieved and sustained.

The School's technology capability allows for integration and automation of systems responsive to student needs at scale. Its further development will again improve AFTRS' capability to deliver online courses of education and training to achieve greater scale, revenues and impact. In addition, the AFTRS Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system is being further enhanced to engage even more with potential students, alumni and the broader industry.

06. RISK MANAGEMENT AND OVERSIGHT

Over the last period, AFTRS has worked to embed a risk culture in the organisation, and we will continue to strengthen this over the next four years.

AFTRS' risk tolerance is set out in the Business Risk Register. The risk register is continually evolving and is a 'live' document reviewed by the AFTRS Executive team monthly. Risks are categorised as strategic, operational, financial, people related, or regulatory and governance related. Ratings of risks are determined using a matrix that specifies the possible occurrence of the risk (from 'almost certain' to 'rare') and the consequence of the possible occurrence's (from 'insignificant' to 'severe').

The register prioritises risks according to the Executives Top 10 Risks, Emerging Risks and Business-As-Usual Risks. Each risk is also assigned an inherent rating and also a residual rating that considers the mitigation strategies and actions specified. Ratings are assessed and adjusted as appropriate with changes in the external environment and the implementation of the mitigation strategies.

The Finance, Audit and Risk Management Committee oversees the organisation's Risk Management Framework and Risk Register to ensure the requirements of the PGPA Act are being met. In addition to an annual review of the framework and business risk register, the Committee examines the applicability, management and mitigation strategies of particular risks identified as among the Top 10 business risks.

In the first quarter of FY 2021-2022, the School will undertake the annual review of the Business Risk Assessment and its mitigation strategies. The School will continue to respond to the impact of COVID-19 on AFTRS' ability to operate and deliver on its key education and training objectives and will be included as a high priority in the organisation's risks.

Other risks that have been historically included in the organisational risks comprise the School's government appropriation, reputation and relevance, educational standards and quality, appropriate student support, revenue targets around its business and short course offerings, and technology innovation. These continue to be areas of importance.

The review will continue to be informed by the Corporate Plan (FY 2021-2022); however, it will also encompass the ambitions of the new five-year Strategy 2021-2026 and any further identified associated risks related to the School's strategic activities.

07. COOPERATION

AFTRS works closely with government agencies and industry to achieve our purpose of being a global centre of excellence, providing Australians with the highest level of screen and broadcast education, training and research.

Over the next four years, AFTRS will continue to liaise closely with the office of the Minister for the Arts and with the Arts Industry area of the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications. In addition, we have strong relationships with other portfolio agencies, and in particular, the Department of Education.

We have built close associations with industry bodies, including Screen Australia, Screen Producers Australia, the State-based screen and broadcast agencies, the National Film & Sound Archive, and the Screen Production Guilds, ensuring our common objectives' success. We will continue to lead industry-wide initiatives, as we did with the COVIDSafe Production Guidelines, to support, sustain and grow the current boom in production.

The School continues to seek out opportunities with these organisations through partnerships and collaborations to strengthen student and graduate outcomes, create new knowledge for the screen and broadcast industries and harness the potential of creative and cultural enterprises for the broader benefit of Australian society. With support through the Australian Government's Location Incentive, the School has been able to develop industry partnered training initiatives with partners including Industrial Light & Magic and Matchbox Pictures.

The School is working towards partnering with Screen Australia on research and training, including script development and upskilling, and is preparing further research ventures with Screen Australia and the State agencies on career pathways, that will allow us to consider how we work best as an industry to ensure we have a robust and resilient talent pathway and our sector has the skills and talent it needs.

AFTRS is a member of the ARTS8 (the Australian Roundtable for Arts Training Excellence). Each year, along with the other leading performing arts training organisations, we come together with the common aim of training and developing Australian storytellers in a variety of storytelling formats. In addition to the regular ARTS8 annual project, the School will be involved in Yagunda Barbindu (Today – Tomorrow) project, a retreat to be held 'On-Country' providing selected students to work under the guidance of and with Indigenous industry professionals, with the emphasis on looking at the ways in which we create from a First Nations perspective.

Outside of the ARTS8 arena, AFTRS and NIDA work closely at a curriculum level and are seeking to build a framework for student collaborations, shared staff training, alumni networking, and the development of a partnered annual showcase.

In the broader industry, we collaborate with the public and commercial broadcasters, as well as production companies and content makers, to provide student internships and other opportunities for student development. We have relationships with international companies like Marvel and Disney, and local production companies, like Jungle Entertainment and CJZ both of whom provided real world production briefs for our students. Students studying for a Master of Arts: Screen Business Leadership course also complete a live exercise in an international organisation or company as part of their course. This has included the Australian Broadcasting Union and Infinity Studios in Singapore. We also work with local and international Film Festivals to show and promote content made by AFTRS students.

In celebration of the UK/Australia Year of Culture, a program that explores and celebrates the relationship between Australia and the UK across the arts, creative industries, and higher education, AFTRS in partnership with the UK's National Film and Television School (NFTS) will lead a week-long program of online events. The program will include alumni-in-conversation, staff plenaries on inclusive practices, speed networking and valuable pitching exercises for students.

As an educational institution, we partner with universities both in Australia and overseas. We are currently exploring curriculum-sharing opportunities with tertiary partners and have a student exchange arrangement with Emerson College in Boston, USA. We are also designing learning opportunities with FutureLearn, an online learning platform that is partnering with Austrade to promote Australian learning excellence internationally.

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⁸ 16% of Australian population is living with disability – of that 53% participate in the workforce