



Further Information

Pip McConachie
Colvin Communications
Tel: (02) 8314 7178 or 0402 448 745

18 January 2008

Perth Horticulture Apprentice wins the Ultimate Apprenticeship

Cragie resident, Daniel Wheat has won his Ultimate Apprenticeship, a trip to Singapore to attend the Singapore Garden Festival and witness the global gardening teams try to take out the Gold medal.

Daniel Wheat entered the Ultimate Apprenticeship competition run by SkillsOne.com.au at the end of last year and was amazed to find out he'd won.

"When I got the call from SkillsOne to tell me I'd won the trip to Singapore I was absolutely speechless, honestly, the lady asked if I had any questions but I just couldn't speak.

"I've only been working in horticulture for 10 months for the City of Perth and still have 2 years left of my apprenticeship, so to get the chance to see some of the world's best gardeners making their art at the Singapore Garden Festival is amazing.

"I'm so excited about the opportunity to learn from the best gardeners in the region and see all the new ideas that are out there and I know that this is going to open my eyes to how exciting my career will be," said Daniel Wheat.

The Singapore Garden Festival is the first international garden show to be held in the tropics and brings together and showcases creations from the world's top award-winning garden and floral designers under one roof.

Daniel will travel to the festival in Singapore from 25 July to 1 August 2008 and will be amongst more than 200,000 visitors from Singapore and around the world.

Kathryn Lees from SkillsOne said that the experience that Daniel will have would give his horticulture career a huge kick-start.

“Winning a prize to travel to Singapore and see what the world’s best gardening teams are coming up with is obviously going to be hugely advantageous for Daniel’s career. It’s simply an amazing opportunity.

“Thanks to WPC Group for providing the trip to Singapore. This has enabled SkillsOne to demonstrate just how far a skilled trade can take people.

“This amazing experiential prize is valued at \$12,500, includes airfares, accommodation, transfers, taxes, guides and a learning experience like no other”

“The Ultimate Horticulture Apprenticeship is one of three Ultimate Apprenticeships that SkillsOne have given away and we plan to run similar competitions across other trade skill areas over the coming year” said Ms Lees.

The other two Ultimate Apprenticeships that have been awarded this month are for automotive, where the winner will work alongside the A1GP team in Brand’s Hatch England and for cookery where the winner will travel to Japan to work alongside some of the world’s top chefs.

ENDS

About SkillsOne

SkillsOne is the multi-media platform of The Institute for Trade Skills Excellence.

SkillsOne is made up of SkillsOne Television and the website www.skillsone.com.au which feature engaging television and web programming that focuses on people who are passionate about what they do, the exciting career opportunities available across many industries, and the skills in high-demand in the 21st century.

The TV programming airs nationally on Foxtel’s Aurora Community Channel each week in a block of programs presented as a branded channel and full broadband website featuring videos, rich content and resources. The television programs is also distributed by the Austar channel to various regional schools throughout Australia.

About The Institute for Trade Skills Excellence

The Institute for Trade Skills Excellence (The Institute) has been established to promote and advance learning, teaching and training in Australian trades education and elevate the status of traditional trades and trades education as career choices.

The Institute is an industry led, Government funded body that promotes the learning, teaching and training in Australian trades education.

The Institute for Trade Skills Excellence will achieve its vision and purpose through:

- Developing strategies to improve the profile and status of trades and encourage the recognition of the importance of trades in the general community;
- Recognising high performing Registered Training Organisations with preferred provider status;
- Fostering and recognising excellent standards and teaching in trades education and training, in areas of skills shortage represented by eight Industry Reference Groups.