**KEINA AND EMILY TRANSCRIPT – ARMADALE ART STORIES**

**KEINA:** Hi, my name is Keina and I'm a student at Harrisdale Senior High School and I'm 15 years old.

**EMILY:** I'm Emily. I'm from Harrisdale Senior High School as well and I'm also 15. I guess I'm pretty shy to people I don't know and don't really talk much unless I actually know you or something.

**KEINA:** Yeah. I'm usually pretty talkative when I first meet someone, but I do not like small talk. Small talk is annoying to me, I think. I think I'm going to paint myself with lots of cool colors, like blue colors. I think it describes me pretty well. Because I'm calm and kind of sentimental, sadness kind of stuff.

[I do] digital art mostly. I like drawing different characters I guess. And I really like character design and that kind of field. I want to do animation in the future. I’m half Japanese, my dad is Japanese so my dad kind of, you know, kind of beat into me Japanese television and animation. I really like Demon Slayer. Season one, season two was completely... I don't know what they were doing.

**EMILY:** I guess we were in the same science class last year. And then we kind of just became friends and now we're in the same class again.

**KEINA**: I think Emily's really kind and caring, and I don't know, she's just nice to be around.

**EMILY:** I like talking to you and stuff and it's nice to be in class. It's kind of peaceful I guess.

**KEINA:** Me and my friends usually hang out at Carousel a lot. Almost every weekend maybe. Yeah. Otherwise probably the ice rink, you know, in Cockburn. Yeah. I used to go there. I used to do ice skating professionally.

**EMILY:** Kind of same with me, I guess.

**KEINA:** Really?

**EMILY:** Yeah.

**KEINA:** Why didn’t I know that? No, I quit after Covid because it was just too hard to come back. Yeah, just before the pandemic my granddad in Japan got sick, so my dad had to fly back and then the pandemic started, so my dad wasn't home for like six months, which was really hard. I was just really sad all the time. That's why I quit ice skating as well.

Oh yeah, my dad did grow up in Japan and my mum went to Japan on a working visa at this English school in the town he lived in. And she lived there for three years and met my dad there and then they came back to Australia. I think their [parents] were really happy for them. Oh, I think because of the whole war thing [that] was going on back then, my grandma was kind of skeptical, they just did it anyway.

**EMILY:** I'm just English I guess. I was born there and kind of just moved here with my parents when I was around two and yeah, we've lived here ever since and stuff, but my family lives all the way back there so, we rarely get to meet them, and then Covid hit. I know my parents were really upset about it because before Covid we hadn't seen them in a couple of years either, so we were going to visit them in 2020 but then it hit so they were really upset about that. I felt really bored all the time with the work that we were doing because usually I'll talk to my friends and we will help each other out. But instead, I was just kind of sitting there alone at my desk just doing it.

**KEINA:** Yeah, I think it was really hard. I didn't feel like I was learning anything. I felt like my brain was kind of mushy and like I was just doing the work without thinking about it. I was also binging Glee with my mom then. So, I was like, “Oh my god, Rachel Berry,” or whatever. And it was so bad, I couldn't get anything done.

**EMILY:** I used to do dancing for like my whole life, but I kind of quit because of school because it got like, I guess as you progressed during it, it gets more intense and stuff, and I wasn't really going on to do that. I just kind of did it for fun. But yeah, now I kind of just do art. I want to have an element of it in my job, in the future of what I want to do. Like I want to be in a creative field I guess, but not really limited to anything specific. This year it's more intense I suppose with all the subjects like lecturing you, like every lesson is about exams this year because it's our first year, and then they kind of expect you to know everything from the past three years and they kind of just cram it into you. So, it's a bit more intense than last year.

**KEINA:** And people are saying that you have to do ATAR or you won't get a job and other stuff. But I did choose more art subjects this year, which really helps me out like wanting to go to school more and all that. And right now, drama's my favorite subject, because I didn’t do it last year, and I’m doing it anyway and it's really paid off.

**EMILY:** I kind of view Armadale as like a separate place [from Harrisdale] to be honest. Like I don't really compare the two often.

**KEINA:** Yeah, I think Harrisdale and Piara Waters are safer. I think it's because it's a new area. It's kind of safer than Armadale or people think it's safer. I think it's very multicultural and a safe area. Like there's not much danger or anything around.

**EMILY:** Basically, there're friendly people everywhere. The people around me who make me smile every day: family, friends, even my dog, she makes me smile a lot, I'm grateful that they're there for me.

**KEINA:** Yeah, probably my friends right now. I think I've found a really good group of people to hang out with. Yeah, they just make me feel comfortable and like, I can be myself around them. Because they just accept me for who I am.