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## MEDIA RELEASE

# Top End students star in new photo show

The lives of primary schoolchildren living in four remote Top End communities are the focus of a new photographic exhibition that opens at the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory (MAGNT) on Friday, 2 June 2006.

The result of collaboration between the National Museum of Australia in Canberra and the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, the *Snapshots of Remote Communities* project has involved the children documenting their own communities and sharing their stories using photographs, written work, oral histories and visual arts.

*Snapshots* photographs, which also appear on the National Museum's website and in local exhibitions at each school, show friendships, animals, farming, fishing, local landmarks, transport and isolation, and the children enjoying community life.

They have been captured by Northern Territory public school students from Adelaide River School; Douglas Daly School and Dundee Beach School, and Middle Point School

"The *Snapshots* program involves giving disposable cameras to children in remote areas so they can explore what makes their communities so special to them," said National Museum schools officer Colleen Fitzgerald.

"We're also showing kids what museums do, and how they tell a community's stories – as well as adding a rich body of work to our collection."

The exhibition at the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory in Darwin opens on Friday, June 2 2006 and will be displayed in the Discovery Centre.

Kate Smith, Education Manager at the Discovery Centre said: "This is a busy time for us at MAGNT so this exhibition gives the students the opportunity to showcase their school, friends, family members, environment and peculiarities of life in a remote part of Australia to a wide audience.

"All but one school will be at the official opening on 2 June 2006, so this provides students with some kudos for all they have done in exploring and interrogating what it is that makes their community so special.

"They have the opportunity to see their work displayed in a genuine museum setting."



**Northern Territory Government**

Department of Natural Resources, Environment and the Arts

Previous *Snapshots* programs have involved schools in New South Wales, central Australia and Tasmania.

Student photographs can be seen on the National Museum's website at:  
[http://www.nma.gov.au/exhibitions/community/snapshots\\_of\\_remote\\_communities/](http://www.nma.gov.au/exhibitions/community/snapshots_of_remote_communities/)

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*The National Museum of Australia is a Federal Government Agency*



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