



Museum & Art Gallery
of the Northern Territory



MEDIA RELEASE

31 AUGUST 2006

People's Choice Another Telstra Award Highlight

The public has until Sunday to select its favourite entry in this year's 23rd Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award held at the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory (MAGNT).

MAGNT director Anna Malgorzewicz said attendance figures at this year's exhibition had been strong with many visitors taking up the opportunity to vote for their favourite entry.

"More than 12,000 people have visited the Telstra Award exhibition since it opened three weeks ago and more than 1000 votes have been received during that time," Ms Malgorzewicz said.

"Votes will be collected up until 5pm on Sunday with the votes counted on Monday.

"There were 82 finalists for this year's Telstra Award and the artist who designed the most popular work as judged by the public will receive a certificate acknowledging their achievement."

Ms Malgorzewicz said many of this year's entered works among the final field of 82 had also been acquired, including Ngoia Naptaltjarri Pollard's *Swamps west of Nyirripi* that took out the \$40,000 Telstra Award.

The MAGNT has acquired eight works, including Wingu Tingima's *Kugkarrakalpa*, which was purchased for the Collection by the Museums and Art Galleries of the NT Foundation.

She said acquirers ranged from private collectors to interstate institutions.

Ends

Media Note – For more information contact Anna Malgorzewicz on 8999 8220



The 23rd Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award is supported by the Visual Arts and Craft Strategy, an initiative of the Australian, State and Territory Governments.