



Marion Scrymgour

MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES, ENVIRONMENT AND THE ARTS

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NT's richest Art Fellowship on offer

Arts Minister Marion Scrymgour today called for applications to the new Declan Aputimi/J Bird Public Art Fellowship that offers an exciting new skills development opportunity for artists worth \$20,000.

"This is the Territory's richest arts fellowship, and shows our ongoing commitment to excellence in public art and support for our leading artists," Ms Scrymgour said.

"As a government, we are committed to supporting the creation and management of imaginative public art.

"We aim to provide opportunities for artists to work with builders, architects, developers, local government and private and public institutions to incorporate public art in innovative and creative ways.

"Public art is an integral part of the Northern Territory's look and feel, and adds meaning to our environment."

Ms Scrymgour said the new Fellowship will encourage artists to grow and enhance their skills to then design fresh works of significant quality.

"The Declan Aputimi/J Bird Public Art Fellowship offers artists a different approach to professional skills development by including mentorships, formal study, training, residencies or professional research nationally or internationally."

Ms Scrymgour said the successful Fellow will explore new processes and methods which in turn will help them make significant contributions to public art in the Northern Territory.

She said the Fellowship, named after deceased prominent Indigenous and non-Indigenous sculptors would become an annual initiative.

"Declan Aputimi was a leading Tiwi song man, painter and sculptor from Bathurst Island who brought international recognition to the Tiwi people through his art.

“J Bird was a prominent Territory writer and passionate sculptor, who tragically lost her life two years ago.”

Artists need to submit their application by 15 March 2007. All applications will be assessed by an independent specialist panel appointed by the Minister for Arts and Museums.

Guidelines and application forms for the new Declan Apuatimi/J Bird Public Art Fellowship are now online at the Arts NT website www.arts.nt.gov.au or by contacting Arts NT on 08 8999 8981.