



# MEDIA RELEASE



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## HON JANE AAGAARD MLA NORTHERN TERRITORY SPEAKER

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Date: 8<sup>th</sup> February 2007

### 2007 PORTRAIT OF A SENIOR TERRITORIAN ART AWARD LAUNCH

Territory artists were today invited to submit entries to the 2007 Portrait of a Senior Territorian Art Award.

The Speaker of the Legislative Assembly Jane Aagaard said that the Award provided the community with an opportunity to acknowledge the important contribution made by our senior Territorians.

“The Territory has many seniors who have achieved a lot in our community and whose portraits and personal stories could inspire younger Territorians to strive for success.

“This year the Awards will be held during Seniors Month with the public exhibition being from 18<sup>th</sup> to the 31<sup>st</sup> August with the winner announced on the 23<sup>rd</sup> August. Entries close on 20<sup>th</sup> July.”

Mrs Aagaard said the Awards would be administered by the Parliament for the first time this year.

“Following the completion of the Awards in 2005, Arts NT undertook a review and it was recommended that the Parliament, as an independent body should take over the running of the Awards.

“I am delighted that the Parliament will be operating the Awards and grateful for the support of the Government House Foundation for continuing to offer an Acquisition Award of \$5000.00 for the winning portrait.

Mrs Aagaard said that a ‘People’s Choice’ Award of \$1000.00 would also be awarded to the artwork with the highest number of votes from the public.

The 2005 winner was Tobias Richardson for his portrait of Reg Prasad. The 2004 winner was Kristy Day for her portrait of the late Wenten Rubuntja. Both winning paintings are on display in the Speaker’s Suite until 16<sup>th</sup> February.

Further information and media enquiries to Chris Grace on 8901 4159.