

MUSEUM & ART GALLERY
OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

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Telstra Art Awards Consults Arts Community

The Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory (MAGNT) announced today that they will be holding open discussions about the future direction of the Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards.

MAGNT Acting Director Apolline Kohen said the forums, aimed at Indigenous artists and those who work with the Indigenous arts industry will be taking place in Alice Springs and Darwin in late September and early October 2008 followed by a national teleconference in November 2008.

“This year the Telstra Art Awards reached its 25th Silver Jubilee year, and we feel its time to look towards the future of the awards and how we can continue to best serve the indigenous art industry,” Ms Kohen said.

“In 25 years the Telstra Art Awards have continued to grow and evolve in response to changes in Indigenous arts practice and the market as a whole, so its timely to now go back to the grassroots of the awards – the Indigenous artists and representatives – to hear their views.

“Discussions will focus on the indigenous art industry as a whole, as well as potential areas of review for the Telstra Art Awards.”

Both the Alice Springs and Darwin forums will be facilitated by Director Red Hot Arts, Lucy Kenneth and speakers include; MAGNT Acting Director Apolline Kohen, MAGNT Senior Curator Aboriginal Art and Material Culture Franchesca Cubillo and DesArt Executive Producer John Oster.

The national teleconference will include indigenous artists and representatives from across the country, as well as State and National Museum representatives.

The Alice Springs Forum will be held from 9.30-3.30pm Monday, 29 September in the Andy MacNeill Room located at the Alice Springs Town Council, corner of Gregory Tce and Todd Street, Alice Springs and the Darwin Forum will be held from 9.30-3.30pm Friday, 17 October in the MAGNT Theatre, Conacher Street, Fannie Bay.

Ends

Media Note – for more information contact Apolline Kohen on 8999 8220.

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