



Media Release:

12.11.09

Exhibition Applications Closing Soon

Local artists and art organisations are encouraged to put the finishing touches on applications to exhibit their artwork in the Araluen Galleries, with submissions closing on Tuesday 17 November 2009.

Now in their 25th year of giving local artists an avenue to show their art the Araluen Arts Centre has an Exhibitions Programming Committee that meets three times a year to assess applications and will be holding their final meeting for 2009 on Wednesday 18 November 2009.

The Exhibitions Programming Committee includes visual arts staff from the Araluen Arts Centre and a representative from the local arts community, currently represented by the Watch this SPACE artist run initiative.

Araluen Arts Centre Director Tim Rollason said applications are judged on aesthetic merit and expected community interest, with the overall program aiming to reflect the distinctive arts activity, cultural heritage and artistic values of the central Australian community.

"Striking the balance between meeting the increased demands for space, supporting the local arts industry and providing both locals and visitors with the opportunity to access the best local and touring exhibitions is the top priority for the Exhibitions Programming Committee," Mr Rollason said.

"Although the 2010 Program is yet to be finalised, the Araluen Arts Centre will continue the tradition of supporting solo exhibitions of local emerging and established artists along with annual and biennial exhibitions held by local arts organisations.

"Next year is shaping up to be a stellar season with the 36th Alice Prize, Alice Springs Beanie Festival, Advocate Art Award and the Desert Mob 20th Anniversary Exhibition to name a few."

Local artist Ron Talbot submitted an application earlier this year to feature his works as an exhibition and will hold his first solo exhibition *East to West* at the Araluen Arts Centre in 2010.

"I encourage fellow artists and local arts organisations to put in their applications so we continue to build on the tradition of local artworks being featured within the Araluen Arts Centre," Mr Talbot said.

Mr Rollason said 2009 has been an outstanding year with the Araluen Arts Centre increasing its membership base from 50 to 220 members.

"An end of year 'Bollywood' themed party will be held for the Araluen Arts Centre members next month to say thank you for their ongoing support, with the general community also invited to attend."

All successful exhibitions for 2010 will be publicly announced at the Araluen Arts Centre's 2010 Program Launch to be held on Friday, 26 February 2010. To download an application form or for more information about the Araluen Arts Centre go to www.araluen.nt.gov.au

Ends

Media Note – for more information contact Tim Rollason on 8951 1126

Image – Araluen Arts Centre Curator Kate Podger with local artist Ron Talbot discussing works for his solo exhibition *East to West* to be held at the Araluen Arts Centre in 2010

Issued: 3.45pm Thursday, 12 November 2009

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