

22 March 2010

## Entries closing soon for 2010 Telstra Art Award

Time is running out for Indigenous artists to submit works in the 27<sup>th</sup> *Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award* with entries closing Friday, 2 April 2010.

Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory (MAGNT) Acting Director Darlene Lion also reminds artists entering the inaugural Telstra New Media Award that they still have until Friday, 30 April 2010 to submit their new media entries.

"The Telstra Art Award always attracts a high number of quality entries and we're looking forward to seeing some of the exceptional and diverse Indigenous art entered in this year's Award," Ms Lion said.

In 2009 the Telstra Art Award received more than 300 entries with the pre-selection panel selecting approximately 100 works for the final judging.

Telstra Group Managing Director, Strategic Marketing, Kate McKenzie said Telstra was pleased to offer the inaugural Telstra New Media Award with the theme of 'Connections', for the 27<sup>th</sup> Telstra Art Award.

"This is a new and innovative direction for the Telstra Art Award. We're excited to see how new technologies will be used by Indigenous artists to create works that explore different modes of artistic expression," she said.

Indigenous new media artists have an extended entry period to allow time to develop works related to the 'Connections' theme with entries closing Friday 30 April 2010.

Important dates to remember for this year's Telstra Art Award are:

Friday, 2 April 2010 – Entries for all categories except the Telstra New Media Award close

Friday, 30 April 2010 – Entries for inaugural Telstra New Media Award close

Saturday, 7 August 2010 – Judging begins

Friday, 13 August 2010 – Telstra Art Award winners announced/Exhibition Opens (evening event)

The Telstra Art Award comprises the \$40,000 Telstra Award and \$4,000 to other categories including; the Telstra General Painting Award, the Telstra Bark Painting Award, the Telstra Work on Paper Award and the Wandjuk Marika Memorial 3D Award (also sponsored by Telstra) in addition to the Telstra New Media Award (\$3,000).

In 2010 the Telstra Art Award will celebrate its 27<sup>th</sup> year and is the longest running art award dedicated to the work of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists. It is considered the premier national event in the Australian Indigenous arts calendar.

The 27<sup>th</sup> *Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award* exhibition opens, and award presentations will be made, on Friday, 13 August 2010.

For an entry form, please contact the Award Coordinator at the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, GPO Box 4646, DARWIN NT 0801, phone 08 8999 8203, email [natsiaa@nt.gov.au](mailto:natsiaa@nt.gov.au) or go to [www.magnt.nt.gov.au/natsiaa](http://www.magnt.nt.gov.au/natsiaa).

**For media inquiries or interviews please contact Anne Marshall on 08 8999 4730**

The 27<sup>th</sup> *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



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