

Media Release:

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Desert Art at the Desert Park

Immerse yourself in the traditional art, culture and stories of the desert region and learn how art and ecology meet through the Desert Art workshops being held at the Alice Springs Desert Park throughout June and July.

Alice Springs Desert Park Guide Manager Regena Medhurst said the Desert Art workshops provide opportunities for visitors to learn dot painting techniques and gain an appreciation of vibrant desert art including art symbols and stories with a local Aboriginal Guide.

“The Desert Art workshops support the Desert Park’s goals to enhance visitors’ experience and understanding of natural and cultural values,” Ms Medhurst said.

“Workshop participants can expect to gain insight into the evolution of traditional desert art and how Aboriginal art can be interpreted, as well as trying their hand at traditional art techniques like dot painting.

“The Desert Park works with local Aboriginal people in many aspects of planning and interpretation of the Park’s natural assets, to ensure the site’s cultural values are protected and the integrity of the interpretation experiences for visitors are maintained.

“The workshops are an extension of presentations that the Desert Park currently hold, with these workshops providing an opportunity for visitors to gain an appreciation of the symbols and stories used in dot paintings, and be invited to join and learn how to create symbols used in Aboriginal art.”

Ms Medhurst said the Desert Park uses habitat-based and story-driven techniques to provide visitors with an understanding of the local desert environment and the Aboriginal culture of the area, so that the Park acts as a platform for visitors to explore the ecology and culture of the region.

“Through the Desert Art workshops, visitors will gain a unique insight into what desert art represents traditionally, and how it has evolved into the desert art that is seen today,” Ms Medhurst said.

One hour Desert Art workshops are held at 1pm every Wednesday throughout June and July. Workshops are \$10 per person plus entry fees to the Desert Park, with a minimum age of six years required to attend the workshops.

For more information or to make a booking, phone (08) 8951 8788 or email asdp@nt.gov.au.

For further information on upcoming events at the Alice Springs Desert Park, go to www.alicespringsdesertpark.com.au

Media Note – for more information contact Regena on 8951 8728.

Image – Learn dot painting techniques at the Desert Art workshops.

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