



*The catalyst in developing creative, open-minded young
Western Australians who are engaged with the world*

Karratha stories to become AWESOME Art

12 August 2009

The AWESOME Arts Creative Challenge kicked off in Karratha last week with 'OPEN BOOK', a contemporary story-telling project for young people, supported by Woodside. Over the next two weeks, the bright young things of Karratha Senior High School will be challenged and inspired to create their own version of a 'book'.

AWESOME artists-in-residence Michael Wise (sculpture and installation artist) and Sophie Martin (actor, singer and voice artist) have been facilitating workshops to explore the stories, ideas and identity of the young people to then create a 'book' that reflects the culture and environment of the Karratha community.

"I'm really looking forward to this project to enliven personal stories through singing and improvisation," said Ms Martin.

"I hope to inspire, support and enrich the creative community in Karratha," she said.

As the OPEN BOOK project is open to interpretation, the 'book' could take form as a sculpture, song, installation, performance or all of these.

The 'book' will be unveiled at a celebration this week at Karratha Senior High School, where teachers and parents are invited to enjoy the works created by the students.

The Creative Challenge 'OPEN BOOK' project will travel to ten regional and remote communities in 2009 with each residency culminating in a local celebration of the works created. These artworks will then be showcased in an exhibition at the *AWESOME International Arts Festival for Bright Young Things* held in the Perth CBD in November.

AWESOME Arts works to inspire and encourage creativity amongst young people and aims to be the catalyst in developing creative, open-minded, young Western Australians who are engaged with the world.

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For more information, images or artist interviews please contact:

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SOPHIE MARTIN BIO

Sophie Martin is an Actor, Singer and Voice Artist and has just completed her experiential training as a Voice Movement Therapist.

Currently based in Sydney, she has taught voice and movement in the University of Southern Queensland Theatre Department in Toowoomba, as well as running numerous workshops all over Australia, the USA and the UK. Her work centres on finding emotional connections and resonance as well as creating flexibility and colour within the voice.

Sophie completed a Bachelor of Theatre Arts in 2001 at the University of Southern Queensland where she won the Theatre Arts Award.

Sophie is really looking forward to her Awesome Arts project as a way to enliven personal stories through singing and improvisation and as with all of her work she hopes to inspire, support, and enrich the creative lives of the Karratha Community.

MICHAEL WISE BIO

Michael works with contemporary art processes of environmental, sculpture/installation, aerosol stencil painting and relational art. His experimentation with relational art engages the viewer to become actively involved in the outcome of the art process. His current studio practice is experimenting with the heat transference of colour images for aluminium cans, as well as experimenting with solar powered take-away containers. Michael has experience working in a wide range of media that has indoor / outdoor applications.



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