



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

A creative HOME GROUND in Leonora

27 May 2010

Budding young artists from Leonora District High School have been hard at work this week on the Creative Challenge "HOME GROUND" project, supported by BHP Billiton Nickel West. The young people have been working with professional artists Helen Seiver (WA) and Luke Shelley (NSW) to create an inspiring array of artworks that explore their idea of 'home'.

Over a two-week residency, the artists and young people will work together to discover the kinds of dwellings and houses people live in and create artworks that reflect their home and community.

"We've had a wonderful time so far and we've created a giant cubby for us all to sit in and talk about all the kinds of houses and homes people live in all over the world and the materials they are made of," said Ms Seiver.

"We've also made paper sculptures and fantasy towers from straw, string, play dough and wire that we've hung from the ceiling, and we went on an excursion to Gwalia today to look at inventive ways of constructing and building with found and used materials," she said.

Helen says that the residency has been a fun and rewarding experience for her and Luke as artists, with a very warm welcome from the Leonora students.

"The kids are just great and they invited us on a bushrangers bike ride yesterday where we went to a place they call the 'gravel pits' and we ended up doing BMX jumps!" she said.

The artworks created will be unveiled at a community celebration in Leonora at the end of the fortnight, where teachers, parents and community members will be invited to enjoy the home-inspired creations.

The artworks created will then be showcased in an exhibition at the 2010 AWESOME International Arts Festival for Bright Young Things held in the Perth CBD this November.

Creative Challenge is AWESOME's year-round regional program that visits ten regional and remote communities in Western Australia, with two artists-in-residence sharing their skills over a two-week period. HOME GROUND is lead by Lead Artist Louise Snook and a team of twenty artists from all over Australia, including performers, filmmakers, new media artists, dancers, sound artists, photographers and visual artists.

AWESOME's programs and events inspire and encourage creativity amongst young people throughout Western Australia.

(ENDS)

For more information, high resolution images and artist interviews, please contact:

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HELEN SEIVER BIO

Helen Seiver is a studio artist living in the South West of Western Australia. She works with found objects exploring their unique quality of suggesting time, place and era. Since graduating in 2000, BA Visual Arts (Hons), she has created numerous works for solo and group exhibitions, won awards and is represented in many collections. Her mixed media arts practice includes sculpture, installation and painting.

LUKE SHELLEY BIO

Luke is a Sydney based visual artist. He commenced a Bachelor of Fine Art at the National Art School in 2003 and graduated with a BFA honours, in printmaking, in 2007. Luke's works are developed to express various environments, from marine ecosystems of surrounding Sydney to desert habitats of Central Australia. He held his first solo exhibition in 2008 in Alice Springs after completing a two-week residency program supported by Watch This Space gallery, Araluen Arts Precinct, and Arts NT. From there he has exhibited extensively in solo and group exhibitions through Sydney and Melbourne. Luke's works are held in many private and corporate collections including Australian Works on Paper, Gosford Regional Gallery, and the Brian Tucker collection.



Creative Challenge is proudly supported by BHP Billiton Nickel West.



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