



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

A creative HOME GROUND in Warnbro

28 May 2010

The AWESOME Arts Creative Challenge kicked off at Koorana Primary School this week with a contemporary art project "HOME GROUND," supported by BHP Billiton Nickel West. Over two weeks, Warnbro's bright young things will be challenged and inspired to create artworks that explore their idea of 'home'.

AWESOME artists-in-residence Minaxi May and Tania Ferrier have been working with the budding young artists to discover the kinds of dwellings and houses people live in throughout the world, and create an artwork that reflects their home and community.

"Koorana Primary School is a wonderful community, we have been welcomed with open arms from staff and students alike and so far we've created a massive cardboard city scape and a tent using fabrics, ropes and pegs," said Ms May.

"We've also taken portraits of each person and talked about a space of their own that they regard as special, so its been a rewarding and uplifting opportunity to discover and explore sense of place through young people's eyes," she said.

The artworks created will be unveiled at a community celebration at Koorana Primary School 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:

Tegan Thorogood
Communications & Marketing Manager
AWESOME Arts Australia

T: 08 9485 0560
E: tegan@awesomearts.com
W: www.awesomearts.com

TANIA FERRIER BIO

Born 1958 and raised in Perth, Tania Ferrier's art practice has focused on painting, having majored in this area at Curtin University. Concurrent to her art practice she has worked in the film industry, as a set decorator, both locally and in New York, where she lived from 1988 to 1992. While overseas her "Angry Underwear" fashion project, painting on woman's long line bras, garnered international press and her first solo exhibition in Perth in 1989. Besides a feminist theme in her work, she has also made strong statements through her exhibitions, "The Bicentennial Series", "Penal/Pleasure Island" and "Rottnest, light and dark", which look at local, colonial history through researching texts and interpreting them through painting and drawing. These and other works are now in major local and regional collections and in the Art Gallery of Western Australia. Tania has also received numerous grants, awards and residencies and in 2010 she was the set decorator for the movie version of "Cloudstreet".

MINAXI MAY BIO

Known for her multidisciplinary art practice, for over ten years established artist Minaxi May has exhibited throughout Australia. Tagged:Celebrity.Change.Commodity toured extensively with Art on the Move funding, additionally being included in the WA School Curriculum. In 2009 Kaleidoscope was exhibited and Morphology was specifically commissioned for Illume at Campbelltown Arts Centre, NSW. She has been awarded residencies at Old Customs House and Fremantle Arts Centre, Gunnerly in Sydney, and PICA, Perth. Minaxi explores digital and collage processes, sculpture and installation. Investigating themes of popular media culture and their impact on notions of beauty, consumerism, design and the everyday, her art is typically identified with a spectacular use of colour, repetition and play. At present she is working towards a collaborative exhibition Plasticity at Heathcote Museum and Art Gallery. Minaxi has had extensive experience in lecturing and community art with diverse organisations including AWESOME Arts since 2005. Currently she is a tutor and PhD candidate at Murdoch University.



Creative Challenge is proudly supported by BHP Billiton Nickel West.



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