



Arts Access® Aotearoa

WHAKAHAUHAU KATOA O HANGA

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Prison arts e-news: July 2010

21 July 2010

Kia ora koutou

Tonight Arts Access Aotearoa celebrates the achievements of its stakeholders at the Big 'A' Awards 2010. I am delighted to announce that the recipient of this year's Big 'A' Prison Arts Leadership Award is Robyn Hughes, whose commitment to teaching art to prisoners in Auckland Prison spans seventeen years. Thank you, Robyn, for your inspirational teaching. You can read more about Robyn on our website (see story below), where there are also links to interviews with the media.

Robyn is a highly regarded New Zealand artist, who exhibits and lectures internationally. One of the platforms of our draft New Zealand Prison Arts Strategy is the need for professional artists to tutor in prisons. They bring a deep knowledge and understanding of the arts and their application to wellbeing. They also provide strong links to other artists, arts institutions and galleries. These links are important in the rehabilitation of prisoners because they enhance the credibility of art programmes in prisons and build relationships between the community and prisons.

This month, we feature stories about two art competitions for prisoners – one at Mt Eden and Auckland Central Remand Prisons, judged earlier this month by Moana Tipa, Arts Access Aotearoa's Prison Arts Advisor. The other is a competition for prisoners, being organised by the Prison Chaplaincy Service Aotearoa New Zealand.

We look forward to receiving your feedback about this e-news and any story ideas.

Marianne Taylor
Co-Executive Director with Jan Hinde
Arts Access Aotearoa

Quote this month ...

“From my perspective, the arts in prison give people the opportunity to develop creative talent, to use it in a constructive way and to open positive doors for the future.” – Robyn Hughes, recipient of the Big ‘A’ Prison Arts Leadership Award 2010

News this month ...

Robyn Hughes presented Big ‘A’ Prison Arts Leadership Award 2010

Auckland artist Robyn Hughes has been awarded the Big ‘A’ Prison Arts Leadership Award 2010, to be presented tonight at an awards ceremony in Parliament at Arts Access Aotearoa's Big ‘A’ Awards 2010. [Read more.](#)

FAQ: The value of arts professionals

Why pay arts professionals instead of using volunteers to deliver the arts in prisons? [Read more.](#)

Artworks inspired by Matariki

Mt Eden and Auckland Central Remand Prisons in the centre of Auckland hold around one-third of the New Zealand's remand prisoner population. Just over 500 men are held there at any one time, waiting for their cases to go before the courts for trial, sentencing, bail or transfer to another prison. Within an environment of constant change, Programme Co-ordinator Nazara Rafik facilitates arts programmes that bring an element of anchor for the prisoners who take part. [Read more](#)

Biblical theme of art competition for prisoners

A national art competition for prisoners has been organised by the Prison Chaplaincy Service Aotearoa New Zealand, working in partnership with Arts Access Aotearoa and the New Zealand Bible Society. [Read more.](#)

Pasifika focus on culture to reduce re-offending

Sixteen prisoners recently graduated from the prison-based Malaga Polynesia Programme, run at Spring Hill Corrections Facility in Waikato. [Read more.](#)

Our partners

Arts Access Aotearoa values the support of all [its partners](#), including its partnership with the Department of Corrections to deliver the New Zealand Prison Arts Strategy.

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