



Winter 2010

Newsletter



Showcasing Toowoomba and region as a vital and creative centre for the arts.

President's Premonitions

Arts Council Toowoomba (ACT) is in a prominent position leading in to our traditional peak season, namely the 'Carnival of Flowers' (CoF). However, no funding/grant body has been forthcoming, despite our most earnest application. Based on that reality, the ACT committee has revised actions to deliver some CoF artistic quality for the Toowoomba Region and its visitors to enjoy, without it costing a quantity of money. We have chosen to focus on the 2010 Artists in Gardens activities, and we invite you to artistically participate in this eventuality as outlined in this newsletter! Furthermore, ACT shall continue to diversify efforts and energies into other events besides CoF, to better engage and support you, our members. This newsletter outlines some developments toward that goal.

I look forward to ACT hosting you at our member talk with Doug Spowart and Victoria Cooper at Bon Amici on July 24th where we can come together to celebrate our artistic community.

Regards

Karl Matthews

President: Karl Matthews

Treasurer/website: Dana McCown

Secretary: Jennifer Wright (Summers)

Membership: Cath Wright

On Tour in Schools Liason officer:

Ros Billingsley

The Great Toowoomba Postcard Project:

Jennifer Wright (Summers), Dana McCown

Artists in Gardens / Avant Garden:

Mary-Kate Khoo, Kim Besley-Scott,

Jennifer Wright (Summers) , Dana McCown

Website:

WEBSITE <http://actmba.com>

Our website continues to keep up with latest happenings. If you want to know when new information has been added, click on the RSS symbol in the top right hand corner of the homepage next to Posts.

We are always happy to add news from any of our member's art activities, so please forward them to us at:

info@actmba.com

(Thanks to John Billingsley & Dana McCown for their ongoing hard work on the website)

What is BLUE?

ACT Inaugural Members Exhibition

Tentatively scheduled for next March. Member's we are giving you advance warning of this event – a first for Arts Council Toowoomba. Our theme will explore various artists' interpretation of 'Blue' and what it means to them. What is blue to you? Is it a colour, a mood, a scuffle, a truth or perhaps something else? This collaborative exhibition will showcase the diverse skills within Arts Council Toowoomba membership that includes painters, potters, performers, photographers, textile artists, and sculptors. Under the cohesive theme of 'blue', each participating member will focus on engaging the viewer in their own way with something new and blue.

You can see that we are hoping to include performers. This will be possible by individuals or group members making a short video of their work which can be combined onto a DVD to be showing during the exhibition.

More information on entry will be forthcoming in the next few months.

But we want to give you plenty of advance notice of this event so you can be thinking of how to approach the theme!

The Great Toowoomba Regional Postcard Project is back!

Let us showcase the creative visions of our region's artists at the Flower, Food and Wine Festival 16 to 19 September.

Do you have an experience, your favourite landmark or place that is quintessentially Toowoomba? What is it about Toowoomba that makes you want to stay here or come back?

How can you enter? Create an artwork either on paper, canvas, a photograph of a 3D work of art, performance or a photograph of a Toowoomba icon or event.

Take a photo or scan this artwork and print it postcard size (170 mm x 120 mm) then mount this securely on a strong A4 card for display. Make sure it is glued smoothly and that the card is strong enough to withstand the hot lights and cold nights at the Flower Food and Wine Festival.

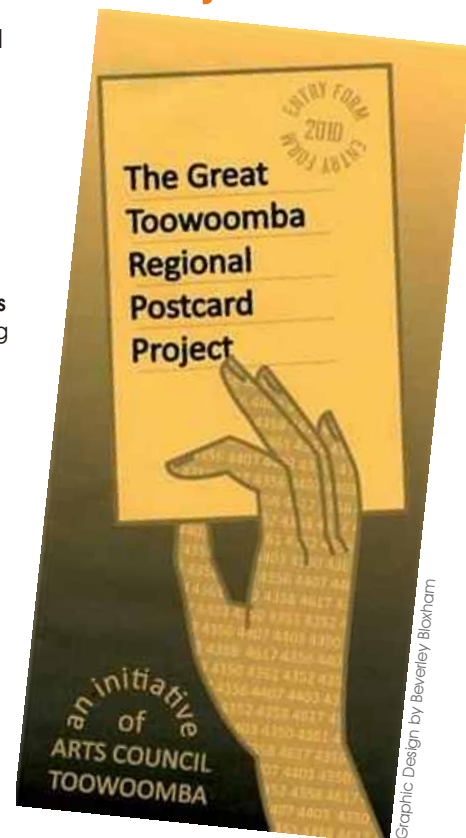
Entry forms can be obtained from the web site www.actmba.com, Murray's, Bon Amici, Toowoomba Regional Art Gallery or by emailing: info@actmba.com.

Six entries will be selected by a panel of judges consisting of Sandy Pottinger, Allan Bruce and Cherylyn Stewart and the winning artworks will be professionally framed by ARTSHOP. Artists will be invited to the Reveal function where winners will receive their awards and the festival launched.

We are looking forward to your creative responses.

Entries are due at ARTSHOP, 12 Bowen Street by 6 August.

Enquiries Jennifer Wright (Summers) 46321858



Member Profile: Sandra Jarrett



Sandra Jarrett, was born in Brisbane in 1961. After completing a teaching Diploma at Kelvin Grove Teachers College, she moved to Toowoomba in 1982 and began an art teaching career. Over the ensuing twenty-seven years she has taught students ranging from kindergarten to university and has also managed to keep producing and exhibiting her own work. In 2002 she decided to extend her understanding of the process of the studio artist and returned, on a part-time basis, to further study at the University of Southern Queensland. From the beginning of 2010 she has worked full time in her studio developing her work.

I have three children. Sarah-21 James-18 Grace-16. Husband -Michael who is very supportive and enjoys creating and sculpting himself. I love to cook and read and love a good coffee.

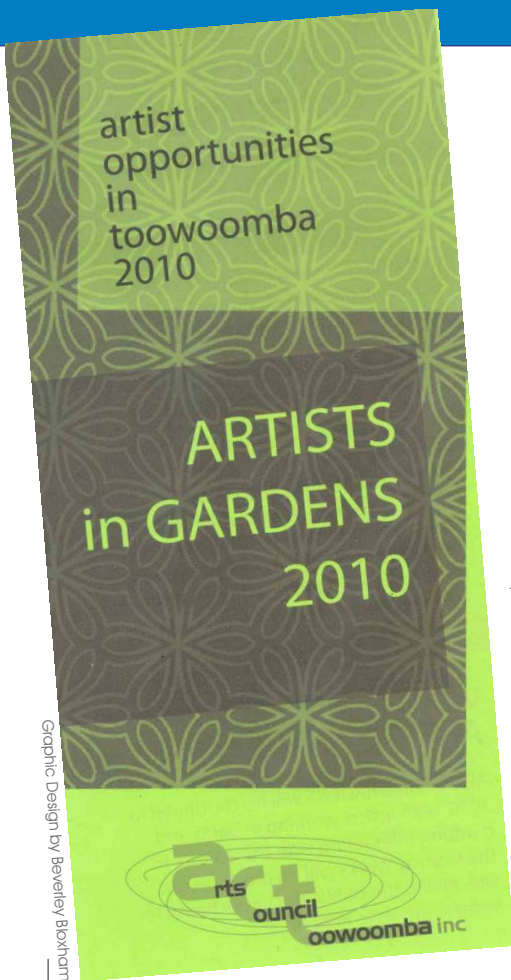
After working with hundreds of people around me everyday it is a little isolating to work at home in my studio. The radio has been great company. I am still trying to work out how to organise my studio space(which is in the sitting room of the house -outside the bedrooms), and how to separate the time for house and family work from the time for artwork. I am on a steep learning curve -in trying to make work for exhibition that is still relevant to me many months after I began making(as I am often interrupted by other commitments for long periods of time); learning about grants and funding challenges; trying to balance making work, accepting teaching jobs to supplement income, helping out in my husband's business and being a supportive mother and partner. I am finding that the road to some form of professionalism is hard, confusing and I am yet to see whether the 'gallery approach' or working just 'because I want to make things' is right for me. I am absolutely amazed at the amount of paperwork/emails/ business etc that is required to maintain an art practice. I feel that to really give this experiment justice I have to be a bit selfish and make my art come before other things that will absorb the time.

My work has always been about existence and meaning in some form or other. Its part of my personality . I am apollonarian in nature, and an extrovert - always looking for the meaning beyond and yet always busy and frenetically interacting with the world of now. I think making and contemplating ideas helps me find the calm and quiet that balances how I live.

I am grateful to the many people in my life that have been supportive and have consciously or unconsciously been mentors for me. I seem to move freely between the polarities of self-confidence and lacking any self belief at all. I am sure that this is generally the same for others???As I continue to meet new people, the fact that Toowoomba is full of really talented and creative artists is constantly reinforced and I enjoy the opportunities I have to bounce ideas off others and be challenged by new ways of seeing the world.

For the past few years I have been making big works of steel and wood and lately silicon, and often in neutral colours. This type of work has practical drawbacks. It requires more specialised equipment, is really hard to store and transport, takes longer to sell, is more difficult to exhibit in galleries, and takes a really long time to make each work. I am therefore thinking that I will need to work smaller in future.

The rest of the year is planned. I have a teaching contract this term and I have a show at the Crows Nest Gallery opening on the 12th August. I am still very much in the midst of creating for that. I have been tentatively offered a four week artist-in-residence during the Bunaberg 'Crush' Festival in October, dependant on successful funding applications, and I will be travelling to New Zealand to give a workshop in Hamilton.



Artists in Gardens:

Expressions of Interest are sought for Artists-in-Gardens, 2010.

Avant Garden will present artists with the opportunity to work 'en plein air' during the Carnival of Flowers, **18-26 September, 2010.**

Spring and the Carnival are a time of renewal and regeneration, so indulge your imagination and creative processes for the public to witness art in its wonderful diversity. We encourage artists to work in all 2D and 3D styles and to draw upon experiences characterised by the Carnival.

Artists will be stationed at a number of locations in the Botanical Gardens, Queens Park and Laurel Bank Park. Works produced on site will give the public the option of interacting and engaging artists.

A selection panel will determine the finalists in Artist-in-Gardens, 2010. A once only site fee of **\$20** is payable. Successful artists are at liberty to sell their work from the site. ACT will not be charging a commission.

Expressions of Interest forms can be found at:

<http://actmba.com/whats-on/aig>

Entries must be received before 5pm Monday 3rd August, 2010

Mail to: Arts Council Toowoomba Inc.,

Avant Garden committee:

Dear members of ACT,

The Avant Garden committee wishes to advise that unfortunately we have been unsuccessful in obtaining both Art+Place and R.A.F funding this year for an ephemeral sculptural presence in the Toowoomba Carnival of Flowers.

Despite our efforts in applying for funding, lobbying council & J2 events, and approaching Sculpture by the Sea. We have had disappointing results. We are still passionate about continuing to pursue some sort of celebration of sculpture (whether permanent or ephemeral) in Toowoomba into the future and are currently looking at grant applications for 2011.

Now we are focusing on maintaining a presence during this years Carnival of Flowers. As such we are keen to hear from our artistic community with ideas and suggestions that may be implemented *without funding*. Specifically, we are interested in the inclusion of a couple of ephemeral artworks which may or may not be collaborative, that would be installed in three or four key parks/public sites around town. The cost of artworks would be completely at the expense of the artists. ACT would curate the installation of the artworks and facilitate the liaison between artists and council. Additionally ACT would provide signage and public liability insurance. Fees for participation would be \$20 (as with Artists-in-Gardens). As Carnival offers a fabulous opportunity to promote your arts practice it would be a shame to allow this event to pass without local artistic contributions. Council love the Avant Garden concept and are still more than happy to have us complement the beauty of our parks.

If you have an idea that involves materials that are easily sourced for minimal or no outlay but are concerned you don't have time to complete an unpaid concept on your own, maybe you would consider inviting/banding together with other ACT members in a collaborative effort to realise your idea. If you are keen to contribute in whatever way shape or form, then please contact us.

Please note: At this stage we are just seeking interest in this venture. More information will follow from our Avant Garden committee after we have collected feedback from interested members.

Regards,

Kim Besley Scott, Jennifer Wright (Summers), Dana Mc Cown & Mary-Kate Khoo

Catalogue

\$20 info@actmba.com.au





What's Happening:

One of the perks of membership is that you can promote your events on the website and in newsletters. Why not take advantage?

Members Talk (for members by members)

Saturday 24th July

5.30pm Bon Amici, 191 Margaret Street, Toowoomba

Come and experience award-winning photographers

Doug Spowart & Victoria Cooper

demonstrate how they have taken artists books to a new level.

Here's a chance to get together, network with our local arts community, listen to two very talented members and see their

Powerpoint presentation.

Hope to see you there!

Please RSVP to info@actmba.com by 20th July.

Competitions/Awards



Emerging Artists - south east qld. "Future Nurture"

Toowoomba Biennial Emerging Artist Award exhibition invites entries from emerging artists who reside in south east qld whose work explores the fragile nature of our relationships with the cultural and natural environments in which we live. Closes 26 July.

For more details visit art@toowoombaRC.qld.gov.au or phone Susan Lostroh 4688 6922

Entries are now open for the 2010 Lord Mayor's Photographic Awards (Brisbane). The finalists have a chance to share in more than \$13,000 worth of prizes and will also be displayed in an innovative new format in King George Square. Download an entry form at <http://bridgemail.bigbridge.com.au>. Entries close Friday 27 August

call for entries - national

Entries now open for the Redland Art Awards 2010, a contemporary painting prize presented by Redland Yurara Art Society and Redland Art Gallery. Entries close 16 August 2010. First prize \$10,000, second prize \$4000, third prize \$2500, Meredith Foxtton People's Choice Award \$500. For details and entry form visit www.redlandartawards.org.au.

Opportunities



Exhibition planning and budget workshop - gold coast, qld

AbaF presents Exhibition Planning and Budget Workshop. This practical workshop includes tips and guidelines on developing an exhibition and bringing it on budget. Thursday 19 August, 9.30am - 1pm, the Art Centre Gold Coast. Morning tea provided. FREE. For more information or to register contact Jennifer Innes on 03 9616 0314 or jennifer.innes@abaf.org.au

Exhibitions

Reconnaissance Exhibition

A survey exhibition involving a selection of work by current USQ Visual Arts students representing the comprehensive range of studios available at the University of Southern Queensland; Ceramics, Linear Construction, Printmaking, Spatial Construction and Painting.

The work exhibited reflects the diversity of conceptual approaches and technical innovation continually evolving in the University's School of Creative Arts.

Date: 23 June - 15 July 2010, Time: 9am - 5pm, Monday to Friday

Venue: USQ Arts Gallery, Toowoomba campus, Cost: Free of charge

The Pepperina Gallery, 12 Tooth St. Nobby (07) 4696 3353 - 0416 054 539

e: pepperinagallery@netspace.net.au Photo Gallery: <http://pepperin.gallery.netspace.net.au/>

Kirby Lyons is a Toowoomba artist who has taken to the craft of Felting.

The exhibition promises to be very colourful and interesting and will be the first of it's kind for this gallery. Exhibition Opens Sunday, July the 11th at 2.15 pm. Following this, Kirby will give demonstrations of her craft at the Gallery at 11.00 am & each Friday and Sunday of the month.

Rosalie Gallery, 89 Mocatta Street Goombungee, warmly invites you to attend opening night of "the journey .. back to the future.." on Friday 9 July 2010 at 7.00pm. We are proud to host a "Retrospective Exhibition" of works by respected Sunshine Coast Artist & McGregor Winter School Tutor Don Milner.

Don offers a rare glimpse into his "artistic Journey" from the very early tentative "Years of Discovery" to recent times where it is all "Art for Art's Sake". This is a great opportunity to celebrate his artistic achievements or acquire a special something from the paintings on show. We look forward to seeing you on opening night.

Grants/funding

Arts Queensland has the Artist Run Initiative Program 2010 that will provide funding of \$150,000 to visual artists, craft practitioners and designers who are exploring innovative ways to approach, present and promote their practices. For more information please refer to the guidelines <http://www.arts.qld.gov.au/funding/artist-run.html> Applications close 30 July. call for applications - national

The Janet Holmes a Court Artists' Grant is designed to provide financial assistance to professional artists for the public presentation of their work. This funding is made possible through a generous donation from Mrs Janet Holmes a Court and the support of the Visual Arts Board of the Australia Council. Closing 15 August. <http://www.visualarts.net.au>

Skills and Arts Development: general grants that support excellence in the arts by providing professional development opportunities for craftspeople, designers, media artists, visual artists, arts writers and curators. Closing date 16 August. For further details visit <http://www.australiacouncil.gov.au/grants>

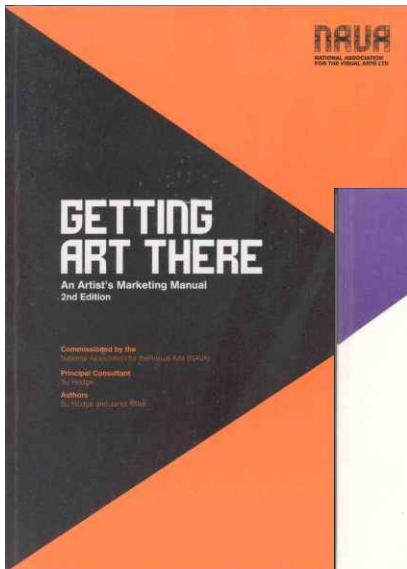
AUSTRALIA COUNCIL ArtStart Information Session Tuesday 20 July 2010, 6 - 7.45pm

ArtStart is a new grant initiative helping budding artists move from studying their artform to earning an income from it. This info session is a great chance for you to:

- hear from successful ArtStart recipients how they are using ArtStart to fertilise their careers
- ask questions and find out what activities ArtStart could fund
- find out other ways the Australia Council can support you and your art.

Theatre Rehearsal Room, Judith Wright Centre of Contemporary Arts, 420 Brunswick Street, Fortitude Valley, Brisbane QLD 4006 (corner of Berwick Street) RSVP: Laura Naimo, ArtStart Program Officer, on 02 9215 9129 or at l.naimo@australiacouncil.gov.au

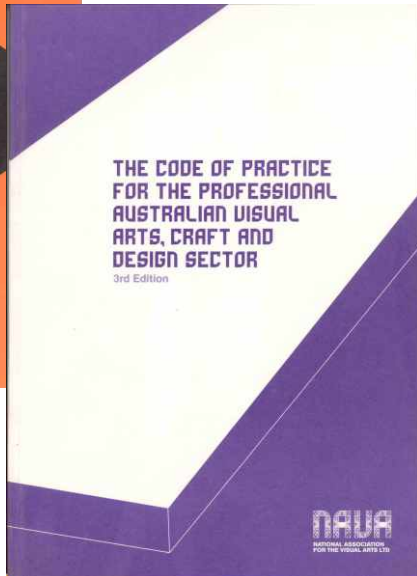
ArtStart Grant information: Closing date: 4 October 2010 Applications available online from 23 August 2010: www.artstartgrant.com.au



Books for Loan (2 week periods) See illustrations left:

National Assn. of the Visual Arts (N.A.V.A.) Publications

Getting Art There: An Artists Marketing Manual,
& The Code of Practice for the Professional Australian Visual Arts, Craft and Design Sector
- for more info email info@actmba.com.au



For Sale
 props from the ACT 2009
Performance Ephemera
 incl. 26 inflatable coloured plastic beach balls,
 25 green/white poplin picnic rugs,
 fabric offcuts - approx 5m of green or white poplin
 32 tissue boxes
 (ie. New full tissue boxes covered in yellow contact,
 & made to look like radios)
 29 used umbrellas.

Make us an offer!
 Contact: info@actmba.com.au



7th Regional Arts Australia National Conference, to be held in Launceston.

Register now for Junction 2010!
Connecting the future is the theme of the
With over 1000 delegates expected to take part,
Junction 2010 will bring together people
from across Australian and international borders.

August 26 - 29

See [queensland arts council website](http://queenslandarts.council.gov.au) for more details

Profile:

We would like to invite you to take advantage of our opportunity of promoting yourself and your practice through our newsletters (though please keep it to around 100 words). Don't be shy! Here are some sample questions you could answer.

- 1. What is your interest in the arts?
- 2. If you practice an art form, what is it?
- 3. What do you do for a living?(if not covered in above)
- 4. What is your claim to fame?

Do you have any other community interests or demonstrated skills which you would like to share with members or would be of benefit to Arts Council Toowoomba?

Meetings:

ACT meets on the first and third Tuesdays of the month at the Immunisation clinic, cnr Little & Victoria Streets, Toowoomba. We'd love for you to come join us! Tea, coffee & bikkies provided (we usually wind up at 7pm). Dates to put in your diary:

- July 6th & 20th**
- August 3rd & 17th**
- September 7th & 21st**
- October 5th & 19th (A.G.M)**
- November 2nd & 16th**
- December 7th & 21st**

Avant Garden committee

Meetings take place most Friday mornings. Please contact khoomarykate@hotmail.com if you are interested in attending.