

# Newsletter



No 2 December 2003



TWEED SHIRE CITY OF THE ARTS 2003 - 2005

Welcome to the second edition of the *Tweed Shire City of the Arts 2003 - 2005 Newsletter*. Produced every three months, the newsletter aims to keep you informed about the two-year program, and to provide you with dates and contact details for up-coming events and activities.

If you wish to receive the newsletter via email please contact Pamela Veness on (02) 6670 2440 or email [pamelav@tweed.nsw.gov.au](mailto:pamelav@tweed.nsw.gov.au). You can also download a copy of the past and current Newsletters from [www.tweed.nsw.gov.au](http://www.tweed.nsw.gov.au) go to *Tweed Shire City of the Arts* and follow the links.

On behalf of Tweed Shire Council and the Community Cultural Advisory Committee, I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy, peaceful and productive New Year. We look forward to your continued involvement in this exciting two-year cultural program.

## Progress Report September 2003 - December 2003

### *Tweed Shire City of the Arts 2003 - 2005 DisAbility Arts Forum Celebrating International Day of People with a Disability*

Over 200 people from across the region attended the *Tweed Shire City of the Arts 2003 - 2005 DisAbility Arts Forum* held at the Tweed Civic Centre on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> December, 2003.

The two-day program, which was developed as Stage 1 of a broader two-year DisAbility Arts Program, engaged a wide range of participants in an interactive forum to identify and plan the direction for on-going arts and cultural activities.

Maggie Groff, Project Manager and Council's Aged and Disability Worker produced a sensational two-day program containing a diversity of presentations, panel discussions, performances and creative workshops. Maggie said, "This has been an outstanding opportunity to showcase DisAbility Arts in Tweed Shire. We want to encourage people with disabilities to fulfill their potential artistically in a community that knows their abilities and is supportive of their needs".



MULLUMBIMBY RESOURCE CENTRE  
performing the Aboriginal story of creation "The Creation"



Dame Edna (Maggie-Anne Leybourne) congratulates Stand-Up Comedians Bill and Corey from the Tweed Valley Respite Service



The Forum was MC'd by Maggie-Anne of BAM Promotions, ensuring a light-hearted and thoroughly enjoyable progression of events. Helen Connors and Kiersten Fishburn from Accessible Arts in Sydney attended the forum and assisted in setting the agenda for the next stage of the project.

*Highlights from the two-day program included:*

- a entertaining drama and performance from Arcadia Choir and Tweed Valley Respite Service trained by singer Andrea Szabo
- a inspirational presentation by author, Miranda Yeend on experiences in world travelin a wheelchair and the challenges of publishing a book
- a Performance Art piece by Josephine McKinnon - a beautifully crafted contemporary exhibition and performance that spoke of the journey of her healing through art
- Local artists - Mixed Aussie Nuts, Arcadia Choir, Centaur Primary School Signing Choir, Mullumbimby Resource Centre and performers from Tweed Valley Respite Service

Panels held over the two days helped to identify projects the disability community wish to pursue. Over the two days the audience heard from service providers such as the Department of Ageing Disability and Home Care, Southern Cross University, Kingscliff TAFE, Accessible Arts, Zenith Productions, Tweed River Valley Fellowship and Tweed Valley Respite Service.

The large and open verandah of the Tweed Civic Centre was transformed into a wet area and creative arts space. Local Artist Virginia Catts and Cr. Barbara Carroll from Tweed Valley Respite Service facilitated an interactive art workshop which was thoroughly enjoyed by all participants.

Disability Arts specialists Kristen Foster, Jana Ross and Gabrielle Smith conducted workshops in drumming, dancing and movement. It was a thrilling experience to see so many people enjoying such artistic harmony.

**What's next?** Forum papers and outcomes will be published in the new-year and surveys conducted during the forum are currently being collated to identify arts projects to be undertaken over the next two years. A Project Coordinator will be appointed in late January 2004, as will a Steering Committee to drive the project into its next phase.

**Project Partners:** NSW Ministry for the Arts, Tweeds Clubs via the Community Development Support Expenditure (CDSE Program), Tweed Shire Community Options Project, Tweed River Valley Fellowship, Tweed Valley Respite Service Inc, Tweed Shire Council Community Services Division.

**Want to know more?** Contact Acting Project Managers, Maggie Groff [maggiieg@tweed.nsw.gov.au](mailto:maggiieg@tweed.nsw.gov.au) or Lesley Buckley [lesleyb@tweed.nsw.gov.au](mailto:lesleyb@tweed.nsw.gov.au) , or phone (02) 6670 2440



DRUMMING WORKSHOP – DisAbility Arts Forum

CENTAUR PRIMARY SCHOOL enjoying lunch





### **Tweed Shire City of the Arts 2003 – 2005 Homegrown Filmworks – Welcome to our new Coordinator**

Anne Chesher was recently appointed to coordinate the Homegrown Filmworks Project. Anne has a wealth of experience in the film industry after beginning her studies at the London International Film School and the Australian Film Television and Radio School. Anne has 15 years professional production experience in short film for screen and television, media education and community events.

Anne's role as coordinator will be to manage the day-to-day operations of this project. Working in collaboration with the existing Project Working Team, Anne will organise schedules and resources as well as facilitate information and workshop sessions.

Anne, who is looking forward to working with the untapped talent of the Tweed said, "This timely project provides an opportunity for local filmmakers to connect and develop their art in the region. At this stage there is no centralized network or forum for filmmakers to come together on the Tweed and I hope this will be a front runner for an ongoing film-making culture in the area".

Please see *Dates for the Diary* for further information on upcoming events/activities

**Want to know more? Contact, Project Coordinator, Ann Chesher on 0418 289 632, or [anne.chesher@media-ed.com](mailto:anne.chesher@media-ed.com)**

### **Tweed Shire City of the Arts Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Project – Community Stories**

Indigenous writer Melissa Lucashenko has just completed a series of workshops with members of the Tweed's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community. *Community Stories* has been produced by the Northern Rivers Writers Centre as part of the National Lit Link, 2003 Program.

Melissa's experience as a published writer and her natural ability to share that experience and knowledge enabled those involved in the workshops to feel more confident with recording and writing community, family and personal histories. *Community Stories* has provided the foundation and inspiration for the following two-year program of arts activities.

The next step in the process will be to engage a coordinator to facilitate and drive the project. Expressions of Interest for a part time, short-term contract will be advertised in mid January 2004. The position will be an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander identified position and will suit those with experience in project management and/or community cultural development practice.

**Project Partners:** NSW Ministry for the Arts; Australia Council; Tweed Clubs via the Community Development Support Program (CDSE) and Tweed Shire Council.

**Watch this space for further updates.**

**Want to know more:** Contact Lesley Buckley, Acting Project Manager and Cultural Development Officer for Tweed Shire Council on (02) 6670 2440 or email [lesleyb@tweed.nsw.gov.au](mailto:lesleyb@tweed.nsw.gov.au)



## **Tweed Shire City of the Arts 2003 – 2005 - Logo Design, Website and Highway Signage**

- Logo Design

### **TAFE Art Students participate in the City of the Arts**

We are proud to announce the winner of the Tweed Shire City of the Arts 2003 – 2005 Logo Design. Kylie Jury, a design student from North Coast TAFE, Kingscliff Campus has recently received a \$300 City of the Arts Professional Development Award for her winning design.

Students from North Coast TAFE were invited to submit ideas and concepts to be used to brand and promote the two-year arts and cultural program. Approximately 20 designs were received from 8 Design students.

The quality of all proposals was outstanding and it was a very difficult choice for the judging panel. Kylie's design was chosen for its simplicity and style as well as its capacity to be translated into a variation of presentations.

Kylie Jury said, " It's a privilege and a great opportunity having my design selected for the Tweed Shire City of the Arts. The Tweed Valley has given me enormous inspiration for my creative work. The development of the design was derived from a simple brushstroke reflecting the natural beauty and vivid colours of the environment."

Ian MacArthur, Head Teacher Art and Media at Kingscliff TAFE said "It is pleasing that the design students at Kingscliff have been given the opportunity to work on a "real world" brief. The project continues to develop our links with the local arts industry and the community more broadly. We value the opportunity to form mutually beneficial relationships that provide students with appropriate learning experiences to showcase their achievements and promote design within the community".

The NSW Ministry for the Arts, through the City of the Arts Program, has provided the Shire with a marvelous opportunity. This is the first in a series of Professional Development Awards that will be delivered under the umbrella of the Tweed Shire City of the Arts 2003 – 2005. The initiative aims to develop partnerships with key service and educational agencies in order to maximise and support the local Creative Arts Industry.

- Website

**City of the Arts is now online [www.tweed.nsw.gov.au](http://www.tweed.nsw.gov.au)**

Many thanks to Scott Dunstan from Council's IT division who has spent many hours designing, developing and maintaining the new website.

- City of the Arts signage

The new *Tweed Shire City of the Arts 2003 – 2005* logo will soon grace our highway, welcoming visitors to the City of the Arts.

**What's coming up and dates for the diary:**



**Launching the City of the Arts 2003 – 2005 Place Making and Policy Program**

As part of the Tweed Shire's City of the Arts 2003-2005 Cultural Program, Council will host *Sustainability & Public Placemaking* - a National Forum on innovation in Public Art and Design to be held in Murwillumbah on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2004.

The event will bring together representatives from stakeholder groups - (*eg, Indigenous & Regional Public Artists, Architects, Landscape & Environmental Engineers, Property Developers; National, State and Local Government Environmental and Civic Planning & Design Sectors*) to discuss and debate environmentally responsive and responsible public place-making.

Forum Convenor, Dr. Glenda Nalder of Griffith University, a founding member of Council's Community Cultural Development Advisory Committee, says, "The pressure for urban, commercial, and civic expansion south of the NSW-Queensland border has presented unprecedented challenges for preserving and growing the Tweed Shire's unique natural and constructed environments.

This forum will introduce stakeholders to Council's newly adopted Public Art and Place-making Policy – a strategic goal of the Shire's Cultural Policy which aims to preserve, develop and promote the heritage, distinctiveness and identity of the Tweed's built and natural environment."

"We anticipate that there will be hot debate around the key concepts of 'sustainability' and 'distinctiveness' as they are understood by the various sectors. Participants will help devise strategies to ensure that development in the shire is based on culturally relevant and meaningful design."

The forum panels will comprise stakeholder group representatives (*eg, Indigenous & Regional Historians & Public Artists; Coastal and Hinterland City & Village Precinct Architects, Landscape & Environmental Engineers & Property Developers; National, State and Local Government Environmental and Civic Planning & Design Sectors*).

**Project Partners:** NSW Ministry for the Arts, Griffith University, Tweed Shire Council, Tweed Arts and Cultural Organisations.

**Dates for the Diary:**

- **OPENING and POLICY LAUNCH - Friday Evening 13 February, 2004 at 6pm DST**

**Venue:** The NEW Tweed River Art Gallery, 2 Mistral Road, Murwillumbah

- **FORUM on SUSTAINABILITY and PUBLIC PLACE-MAKING: A PARTICIPATORY MODEL - Saturday 14 February, 2004 from 9am - 4pm (Daylight Saving Time)**

**Venue:** Murwillumbah Civic and Cultural Centre, Tumbulgum Road, Murwillumbah.

**Want to know more?** Contact Tweed Shire Council Community Cultural Advisory Committee Member & SADE Project Manager, Glenda Nalder, 0417 740186 Email: [g.nalder@griffith.edu](mailto:g.nalder@griffith.edu)



## **Science Art Festival 2004 – 21<sup>st</sup> Century Renaissance**

The 2004 Science-Art Festival program has been finalized. This interactive program titled, 'The Quest for an Ennobling Society', will bring together artists, scientists, environmentalists and the community to discuss and interpret Symbols of Our Age.

### **Program Dates for the diary:**

#### **1. Symbols of Our Age (Seminar One)**

Discover the synergy of Art and Science by the creation of Symbols, text, dialogue and artwork

**Date:** 31<sup>st</sup> January 2004 from 9am to 5pm

**Venue:** Murwillumbah Civic and Cultural Centre, Tumbulgum Road, Murwillumbah

#### **2. Open Forum Lectures with Distinguished Guest Speakers**

Understanding the infinite Universe – Reuniting art and science.

**Date:** 1 February 2004 from 9am to 5pm

**Venue:** Murwillumbah Civic and Cultural Centre, Tumbulgum Road Murwillumbah

#### **3. Symbols of our Age (Seminar Two)**

Concert and Artist's presentation/explanation of artwork

**Date:** 15 February, 2004 2pm – 5pm

**Venue:** Murwillumbah Civic and Cultural Centre, Tumbulgum Road Murwillumbah

#### **4. Symbols of Our Age Art Exhibition and Concert**

**Date:** 27 February – 10 March 2004

**Venue:** City of the Arts Space, Tumbulgum Road Murwillumbah

**Project Partners:** NSW Ministry for the Arts, Tweed Shire Council, Science Art-Centre

**Want to know more?** Contact Irene Brown, Science Art Centre on (02) 6679 5442 or email [pope@science-art.com.au](mailto:pope@science-art.com.au)

## **City of the Arts Space to be launched in the New Year**

The Tweed River Art Gallery will be officially launched on its magnificent new site in early February 2004. The former Art Gallery (*Proudfoot Building*) will then become the creative hub for the City of the Arts. The Space will provide an accessible resource arts space for our community to participate in the two-year program of arts and cultural activities.

**Watch this space for official opening date**



**Want to know more?** Contact Tweed Shire Council Cultural Development Officer, Lesley Buckley, 02 66 702734, Email: [lesleyb@tweed.nsw.gov.au](mailto:lesleyb@tweed.nsw.gov.au)

## **Homegrown Filmworks Stage 1 Launch**

Every visual artist's dream has come true in the Tweed thanks to the new exciting Homegrown Filmworks project funded by the NSW Ministry for the Arts.

All writers, filmmakers, production teams, individual technical crew and interested members of the community now have the opportunity to submit their story ideas and skills for screen production consideration. The project aims to showcase the rich and broad cultural diversity of the region. Six winning story ideas will be produced into short films culminating in a special screening event in November 2004.

This is the project Tweed storywriters and filmmakers have been waiting for - not only a sponsored opportunity to portray the wonderful life and landscape in our region, but also a chance to create and develop a centralised film-making culture in the Tweed.

Stage one of the 12 month project will be launched with an Information Evening outlining project guidelines and providing details on how to submit a story will be held at the Regent Cinema Murwillumbah on Thursday 29 January 2004 at 7.30pm.

**Project Partners:** NSW Ministry for the Arts, Griffith Univeristy, North Coast TAFE, Screenworks, Local film producers Pandion Pictures, JD Productions, Tyalgum Community Media, Community Technology Centres and the Regent Cinema

**Date for the Diary:** Thursday 29 January 2004

**Venue:** Regent Cinema, Murwillumbah

**Want to know more?** email Project Co-ordinator Anne Chesher on [anne.chesher@media-ed.com](mailto:anne.chesher@media-ed.com) or call 0418 289 632.



Centaur Primary School Signing  
Choir performing John  
Williamson's "A Christmas Tree" at  
the DisAbility Arts Forum at Tweed  
Heads Civic Centre Auditorium