



PortAugusta

CITY COUNCIL

MEDIA RELEASE

Arid Sculptural Exhibition Winners Announced

Port Augusta's biennial Arid Festival came to a close on the weekend and the winners of the feature event, the Arid Sculptural Exhibition, have been announced.

Highly acclaimed South Australian sculptor, Greg Johns, took out the top prize and Carrieton artist, Janet Williams, won both second prize and the People's Choice Award. Twenty-one artists from across the state participated in this year's exhibition and over 13,000 people visited the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden during the exhibition period from 27 August – 2 October. This is significantly higher than any of the previous Arid Sculptural Exhibitions held to date.

Port Augusta City Council Arts Officer, Ellenor Day-Lutz, said despite bad weather conditions, the sculptural exhibition and festival was a huge success.

"This year we experienced the most extreme weather we've ever had to deal with for our Arid Sculptural Exhibition. However, I must congratulate all of the artists who participated, as most artworks survived unscathed during very tough conditions," Ms Day-Lutz said.

"Visitor numbers were also excellent for this year's exhibition and overall the Arid Festival has been a success. Workshop attendance numbers were particularly good with most art workshop opportunities sold out. It goes to show there is a demand in the community for arts opportunities and we really appreciate everyone who visited and/or participated in the exhibitions, events and workshops that were held as part of the festival," she said.

The Arid Festival is a biennial event run in partnership between the Port Augusta Cultural Centre – Yarta Purtli and the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden.

ENDS

JOHN BANKS
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
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CONTACTS:

Ellenor Day-Lutz
ARTS OFFICER
Port Augusta City Council & Country Arts SA
(08) 8641 9175
0458 868 282

Cherie Gerlach
Manager Media & Communications & Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden
(08) 8641 9108
0427 413 345

FESTIVAL AND EXHIBITION IMAGES:

<https://aridfestival.wordpress.com/image-gallery/>