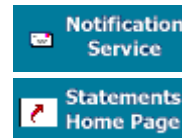


Government of Western Australia
Media Statement

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Armadale indigenous art exhibition opens next week

29/6/06

Armadale Redevelopment Authority's Moorjditch Mar-daa Award, believed to be Western Australia's first indigenous art and craft competition, has attracted more than 60 entries.

Planning and Infrastructure Minister Alannah MacTiernan, who last year initiated the award, said the exhibition highlighted the talents of the Aboriginal community.

"Moorjditch Mar-daa is Nyoongar for great painting, and this award recognises and encourages WA's established and emerging indigenous artists," Ms MacTiernan said.

"The word has certainly spread, with entries this year coming from throughout the metropolitan area and as far away as Roebourne.

"This year's work is of an impressively high standard and very diverse.

"It ranges from traditional to contemporary and includes paintings, woodprints, bush weaving, glass pieces and urban landscapes.

"The Armadale region is a significant centre of Nyoongar culture and this award celebrates the positive side of local indigenous culture."

Moorjditch Mar-daa is part of Armadale's NAIDOC Week 2006 celebrations and carries a major prize of \$5,000.

The Armadale Redevelopment Authority organises the award as part of its responsibility for ensuring that Armadale's renewal also results in social revitalisation.

The 2006 Moorjditch Mar-daa Award winner will be announced at the opening of the exhibition on Tuesday, July 4.

Entries will be displayed in the former ARA premises at the Jull Street entry to Armadale Shopping City, open to the public during the hours of 10am to 4pm from Wednesday, July 5 to Sunday, July 9.

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