

4. PARTICIPATION - UPDATE ON ARTS PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

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The purpose of this report is to provide an update on arts projects and activities.

ART BEAT – OPEN STUDIOS WEEKEND 23 AND 24 FEBRUARY 2002

A highly successful event resulting in 35 artists' studios being open to the public. Supported by Creative NZ through Creative Communities funding and the Central City Revitalisation Project, it is hoped that ART BEAT will become an annual event for the City. Artists reported that they were kept busy on both days with a steady flow of interested people wanting to know more about the artistic process. Positive feedback from the public indicated that they enjoyed the opportunity to chat with artists and the freedom to wander into the studios both in the city and out in the suburbs.

CHRISTCHURCH COMMUNITY ARTS COUNCIL

The review of the Arts Council (initiated by Christchurch City Council and Community Employment Group) has been completed by Graeme Gorton. Graeme has offered a series of recommendations to address the problems the Council encountered during 2001 and these recommendations will form the basis for the Council's 3 year Strategic Plan. The newly elected Executive intends to complete the Strategic Plan with a view to establishing a firm infrastructure for the Council including funding, reporting processes, financial reporting and personnel.

Current projects – PAIS (Performing Arts in Schools) and scoping for a Regional Arts Guide.

GRIDLOCKED

This project is monitored by Marlene Le Cren, funded through CEGs and will take place throughout 2002. It involves artists and central city businesses looking for new opportunities to diversify their practice, their market and the amount of exposure they are receiving. The project will host a number of artists who will each take on a two week revolving show with a single property in use at a time. The prototype project for Gridlocked in 2001, called Sydenham works, utilised unused office space with the assistance of Real Estate Agents and in consultation with property owners. Tessa Giblin (Project Director) was the single exhibiting artist in Sydenham, and the experience she gained from this project has allowed her to undertake GRIDLOCKED and involve many more artists.

GALLERY OPENINGS

Warren Feeney of CoCA Gallery, working with Marlene Le Cren, is proposing an event which will see most of the inner city galleries scheduling an exhibition opening on the same night. The event will allow the public to move from gallery to gallery, view the exhibitions, have a wine and perhaps purchase art works. (This is a highly successful event in Europe and USA, particularly Chicago). Support is being sought from Creative Communities and the Central City Revitalisation Project.

CITY SCENE – REGULAR COLUMN FEATURING THE ARTS – “PARTICIPATION”

The City Scene Team have agreed that a regular arts feature, discussing Council involvement in the arts and advising of future projects, is a good idea.

An article is proposed which will look at the three major performing arts in the city which receive major funding from the Council.

TIVAEVAE REVIVAL

including the Cathedral College, St Paul's Trinity and The Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs. Currently some 25 women and daughters are attending this group.

*Tivaevae is a major communal art form peculiar to the Cook Islands, specifically needlework and the making of patchwork quilts by hand. The designs are stunning. These beautiful and intricate works are made by women. They have great intrinsic value and become family heirlooms.

PACIFIC ARTS ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

The Pacific Arts Association (PAA) is an international group of scholars and museum affiliates that are interested in the arts of the Pacific. Local members of the PAA have accepted the offer to host this body's international conference for June 2003.

Currently the organising committee is:

- Calling for session topic submissions, deadline August 2002, including streams of visual, architectural, literary and performance arts.
- Seeking funding and sponsorship support.
- Negotiating with all Christchurch galleries and other identified exhibition space to exhibit Maori and Pacific Island artists during the conference dates.
- Negotiating with all national museum to exhibit Maori and Pacific Island collections during the conference dates.

The following items were received and considered by the Artworks in Public Places Subcommittee:

AEROSOL MURAL - JAY DEE'S DAIRY, CORNER POULSON AND SELWYN STREETS

Addington Neighbourhood Association and Manuka Cottage Community House are developing a brief for an aerosol mural. These groups have resolved to develop a brief which reflects and includes local youth and youth culture. The draft brief is currently being circulated for consultation purposes.

WAKA 2002

The Waka was passed over to the Christchurch City Council by the Turning Point 2000 Committee to undertake the custodial role. The Council has accepted this role. TP 2000 have assumed that there would be a community based entity that would house, display and use the Waka. Public submissions have been called for by TP 2000 and only two proposals were received, from the Museum and Rehua Marae. The Museum have since withdrawn their proposal and the Council is still seeking a suitable home for the Waka. The Strategy and Finance Committee decided that the project needs more inquiry, including advice by representatives from Tangata Whenua and Taura Here communities.

CHARLESTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – Rebecca Parish, Planner

- (a) Following consultation with residents and the Hagley/Ferrymead Board the Llew Summers work 'Joy of Eternal Spring' was installed on 23rd January 2002. The sculpture is on loan to the Council for a period of six months and a contract has been negotiated with Llew. There has been significant positive feedback from local residents and businesses reflecting the enjoyment and pride the area has taken from the sculpture.
- (b) The Charleston Reserve Plan incorporates a colourful seat which will feature Phillipstown School children's art work in the form of inset tiles. It is proposed that new play equipment for the Reserve may include horses and a large stage coach which has historical reference to the Cobb & Co stables.

WORLD FIRE FIGHTERS RESERVE – ASSOCIATED WITH THE WORLD FIRE FIGHTERS GAMES, OCTOBER 2002

A Reserve dedicated to World Fire Fighters is proposed with the strong possibility of a piece of public art work incorporated into the landscape design. Discussions with Suzanne Weld (Parks and Waterways) and Melissa Slater (Sports Promotion Team Leader) are continuing in order to raise sponsorship for the art work. An approach is being made to the Bank of New Zealand.

LINCOLN ROAD/LYTTELTON STREET CORNER RESERVE – REBECCA PARISH, PLANNER

As part of the upgrading of this busy corner an art work is proposed as part of the landscape design. The area is recognised as the centre of harness racing and an approach has been made to the TAB and to Addington Raceway for some sponsorship towards the creation of a piece of public art.

BURWOOD/PEGASUS COMMUNITY BOARD

The Board has convened a Working Party to promote art in Burwood/Pegasus and to feed into the citywide strategy for artworks in public places. Marlene Le Cren will attend meetings to provide arts advice and information.