

# Arts Project Australia

Arts Project Australia began in 1975 as an arts-based advocacy group for people with intellectual disabilities. A major reason for the formation of "The Art Project" (as it was then known) was the insight on the part of its members that many people with intellectual disabilities displayed aptitude and talent in the visual arts, and that the flexible conventions of these artforms could provide access to a variety of means of expression and communication, even when the more common forms, particularly linguistic, were difficult for them to utilize. The early "Art Project" has, over the years, assembled a large collection of works by intellectually disabled artists, and has provided paintings for some eighty exhibitions in major art galleries throughout Australia and New Zealand.

DRAWING BY KIERAN CARROLL

## Membership

I wish to become a member of Arts Project Australia Inc.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Organisation (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Work) \_\_\_\_\_

### Membership Fees

#### Per Annum

- |                          |              |         |
|--------------------------|--------------|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Individual   | \$20.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Organisation | \$50.00 |

Arts Project Australia Inc. is an incorporated association and a recognised charity. Membership fees and donations of over \$2.00 are fully tax deductible.

PLEASE SEND YOUR CHEQUE OR MONEY ORDER, MADE PAYABLE TO ARTS PROJECT AUSTRALIA INC., TO:  
ARTS PROJECT AUSTRALIA INC. 114-116 HIGH STREET NORTHCOTE VICTORIA 3070

# Arts Project Australia

## Aims

Arts Project Australia aims to • provide the means by which people with intellectual disabilities can participate fully in the visual arts • promote work by people with intellectual disabilities as integral to the broad spectrum of contemporary art practice • broaden understanding and awareness of art by people with intellectual disabilities amongst other artists and the general public • advocate art as a valid vocational option for people with intellectual disabilities.

## Studio-Workshop

The Arts Project Australia Studio-Workshop is a community-based art facility which offers daytime classes in painting, drawing and printmaking, evening classes in painting and life drawing, and occasional workshops in other areas such as ceramics. The classes are structured to meet a wide range of individual needs and abilities, and are open to all interested people.

Established in 1984, the Studio-Workshop program operates on a sessional basis during which participants have access to professional quality arts materials together with advice and assistance from practising contemporary artists. Artistic independence and self-reliance are encouraged through success-oriented programs which emphasize ability rather than disability.

Arts Project Australia is committed to developing genuine interaction with the wider art community, both

here and overseas. Artists from Arts Project Australia have attended art classes at the School of Art and Design at RMIT (Bundoora Campus) and worked on etchings and lithographs at the Australian Print Workshop in Fitzroy. Arts Project Australia has links with other agencies in Europe, England and America, and our artists have participated in a number of overseas exhibitions and festivals.

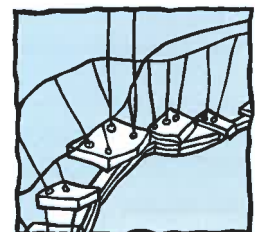
Arts Project Australia acts as an agent for artists who attend the Studio-Workshop and through our exhibitions program artists have had their work shown in well-known mainstream galleries. We have our own gallery in Northcote which is also available for hire by other groups and individuals.

As well as incorporating the broad aims of the organisation, the Studio-Workshop program specifically aims to • develop the artistic skills and awareness of people with an intellectual disability • encourage the development of personal symbols and expression • promote artistic independence through the provision of a supportive environment, which in turn leads to broader opportunities in the arts • encourage meaningful artistic exchange between disabled people and non-disabled artists • facilitate participation in mainstream programs and courses.

## Arts Project Australia

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