

# ACE News



Accessible Arts Newsletter

Issue 7, March 2002



**The 2001 Accessible Arts IPP 'Dream' performers.** Photo: Ian Hobbs

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**Information:** ACROD NSW Launches information technology support network; TAFE courses and accessibility information services; Accessible Arts call for new board members; NSW Government appointing people with a disability to serve on public sector boards, councils and committees...

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Synergy—Arts, Health and Design World Symposium Sydney 2nd to 5th February 2003; High Beam Festival, Adelaide SA; Australia Council Grants

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# about accessible arts...

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## **About Accessible Arts**

Accessible Arts bridges the gap between people with disabilities and the arts. The organisation uses extensive contacts, networks and alliances within both the arts and disability communities to initiate positive dialogue and collaboration.

## **Arts Training & Development:**

Accessible Arts provides opportunities for people with disabilities to develop their skills for creative self expression. Accessible Arts considers the creative needs, potential and artistic achievements of people with disabilities in all areas of the arts including: drama and performance, visual and multimedia arts, dance and music, and creative writing.

Accessible Arts informs the arts industry, disability sector and broader community of the artistic needs, potential and contributions of people with disabilities. By assisting individuals and groups to develop and initiate their own art programs, pilot projects, training and workshops, Accessible Arts demonstrates how inclusive practice can work.

## **Training, Practice & Exchange:**

Accessible Arts provides a wide range of industry training packages for the arts and disability sectors. Many of the workshops and training seminars are developed in conjunction with specialised trainers from government, university, arts and community organisations.

## **Consultancy:**

Accessible Arts provides a consultancy service which assists individuals, groups and organisations to develop policies that consider the creative needs and artistic contributions of people with physical, intellectual, psychiatric and sensory disabilities.

## **Membership:**

Accessible Arts membership is open to any interested individual or organisation. Membership entitles you to a free subscription to the ACE (Accessing Creative Expression) magazine, concession rates for workshops, conferences and publications, invitations to arts and cultural events organised by Accessible Arts and voting rights at the Annual General Meeting.

Visit our web site for details of how to become a member of Accessible Arts.

Accessible Arts  
Pier 4 The Wharf  
Hickson Road  
Walsh Bay NSW 2000 Australia

Ph: 02 9251 6499  
Fx: 02 9251 6422  
E-mail: [info@aarts.net.au](mailto:info@aarts.net.au)  
Web: [www.aarts.net.au](http://www.aarts.net.au)

## **Call of interest**

# become involved

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## **New members are sought for the Accessible Arts Management Committee.**

As a peak arts organisation in NSW Accessible Arts focus is to encourage the full participation of people with disabilities in Australia's arts and cultural life. Accessible Arts acts as a 'bridge' between the disability community and arts sector - facilitating communication and encouraging action.

Acknowledged as a dynamic and innovative organisation Accessible Arts requires a Management Committee that reflects and supports the energy of the organisation and its members.

Accessible Arts plans to hold its AGM in May/ June and is currently encouraging people to consider becoming members of the Committee. Accessible Arts is committed to having people with disabilities fully

represented on Committee as well as the disability and arts sector.

If you are interested in the arts and the participation of all Australians in our cultural life Accessible Arts is the organisation for you! As well as ensuring representation from artists with disabilities and the arts/ disability sectors Accessible Arts is also looking for people with experiences/ skills in marketing, finance or legal matters.

Accessible Arts encourages anyone who might be interested in joining the Committee to give us a call and have a chat:

Ph 92516499 or E-mail  
[info@aarts.net.au](mailto:info@aarts.net.au).

We would also appreciate your assistance in spreading the word to others.

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## **The Accessible Arts team**

**Executive Officer:** Helen Connors

**Projects Officer:** Neridah Wyatt-Spratt

**Audience Development Officer:**  
Kiersten Fishburn

**Information & Office Managers:**  
Geraldine Tapper, (news & events research) and George Khut, (technical support & graphic design)

**Accounts:** Marcus Weber

**Chairperson:** Bernette Redwood

**Treasure:** Penny Miles

**Managament Committee:**  
Penelope Wells  
Wart  
Julie Allen  
Bronwyn Paddick  
Justin Liebmann

# editorial

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Welcome to the first ACE News for 2002. As usual, its focus is to provide members and Accessible Arts contacts with information on activities and events in the next couple of months that may be of interest. The range of arts activities promoted through ACE News is largely determined by the information sent to us. As ACE is a great way of 'getting the word out' we strongly encourage groups and organisations to send us details on arts programs and events they are planning to run in 2002.

As I've only recently returned to Accessible Arts, and the position of Executive Officer, I thought members might be interested in knowing what I've been doing since my return in January. Basically, I've spent my time getting up to date on what's been happening and reacquainting myself with members and contacts of the organisation. In particular, I've been working with staff to finalise plans for 2002/03 and already it's shaping up to be an interesting, informative and exciting 12 month program. Hopefully, the diversity of the 2002 program will provide something for everyone.

In May, the larger ACE magazine will reflect on the achievements and highlights of 2001 and provide readers with details on projects and services Accessible Arts will run throughout 2002 and early 2003. An issue not to be missed!

As our aim is to provide readers with the types of articles and information they will find useful and interesting Accessible Arts is always keen to get feedback on ACE. If you have any suggestions on what you would like to see in ACE, please give us a call.

Hope you enjoy ACE News.

Helen Connors  
Executive Officer.

# reviews

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## **'Dream'**

A theatrical piece produced by Accessible Arts, December 2001

### **By Brett Ahern:**

"Chronic schizopphrenic/manic depressive and 'ex' actor"

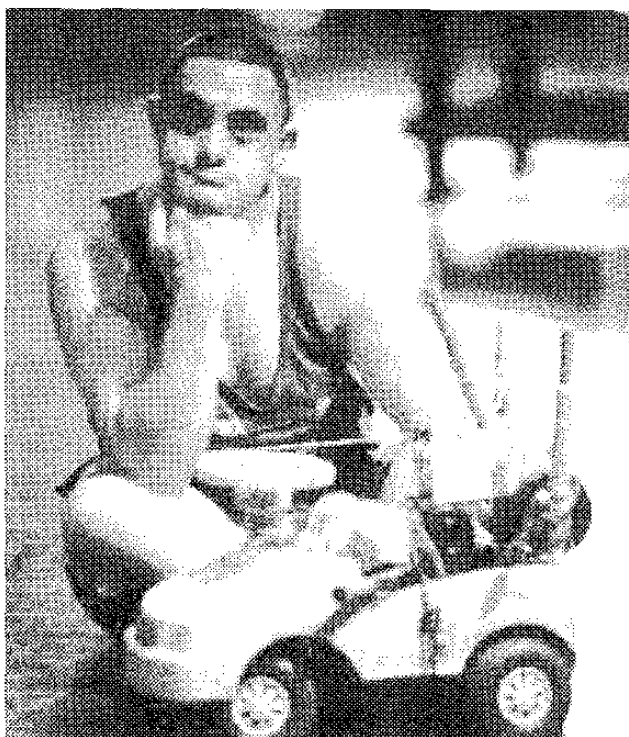
Even before "DREAM" started, I had brought with me certain pre-conceptions about it. Just how much licence I should give to it, with it's cast comprised of people with a multitude of 'problems' going against them. I finally told myself to stop projecting into the future (one of my problems) and judge it as I would any theatrical concern. Twenty minutes of my time, and, if boring or hopeless - a quick walk out. Well, neither I, nor any other audience member walked out. In fact I found myself wanting to join the cast on stage some 10 minutes from

commencement! Right from the start, I saw humour as the tool that was being used to keep us 'simpatico' with this ensemble of actors. In fact, I felt the play's message was: "to tickle the fates and tragedy, instead of fighting and struggling against them, so as to better loosen their grip." The end of the play saw one male actor stating (I paraphrase) "that if we find the courage to change ourselves, others might look on and find the courage to change themselves." I also found my 'old' professional courage being ignited when, I witnessed a cast member Ruth Cromer, 'save', a fellow cast member, alone and lost in a 'dream' on stage. Ruth simply assessed the situation, ventured from almost off-stage, and guided him off, with a minimum of fuss.

More strength to their arms in any future projects, and much sincere thanks for a very special night.

**Left:** Anthony Camarelli

**Below:** Lina Pollifrone (right) and Shelly Smith (left) **Photos:** Ian Hobbs



# reviews

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## **'Dream'**

**By Marc Carra**

Hello there, my name is Marc Carra and I am an actor currently working as a tutor for Accessible Arts. I began working here in June last year. The end of last year saw the coming together of eight weeks worth of work in a show titled "DREAM". It was directed by Rachel Spiers and performed by a talented group of performers attending Accessible Arts workshops run by myself and then Rachel.

The performers involved were Anita Canning, Ruth Cromer, Dora Panagakis, Virginia Rodriguez, Anthony Camarelli, Lina Pollifrone, Colin Davidson, Kathryn Manufui, Justin Liebman, Tracy Sammut, Shelly Smith, and Wart. With special thanks going to Kero and Byron.

I had the pleasure and luxury of working with this group for a number of months before Rachel re-joined them. When Rachel returned we decided to create a show which eventually became the "DREAM". The show was a selection of theatrical sequences and scenes developed in our IPP drama classes.

The group worked wonderfully as an ensemble and it was both a joy and a

privilege to have had the opportunity to be involved in their creative process. The resulting performance was a shining example of an ensemble at work. The group supported, encouraged, and celebrated each other in both rehearsal and performance. Themes of the piece centered around the dreams, aspirations, and alternate realities we all experience and have as human beings.

A special mention must be made of Colin Davidson. Colin rarely missed a class and was a passionate and committed performer. He worked with bravery, creativity, and integrity. Sadly, Colin passed away early this year. His performance in "DREAM" was a triumph and served as a shining example of what is possible in our lives if we apply ourselves hard enough and with as much integrity as Colin did. Thank you Colin, we miss you.



**Right:** Dora Panagakis.

**Photo:** Ian Hobbs

# reviews

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## **The Battle for Something Special**

Junction House Musical  
14, 15, 16 December 2001

**By Kiersten Fishburn**

There will be few people interested in disability and the arts that haven't heard of the Junction House Band. A collaboration of members of Junction House, a community centre for adults with a mild intellectual disability, the band has recorded two CDs and has performed and been reviewed widely (and enthusiastically!). "The Battle for Something Special" brought together band members and other members of Junction House to create an original Australian musical.

Junction House Band members worked together to create the theme, script and music for the show (with craft group members making props and cooking class members making snacks). The 'Something Special' that they are battling for is Captain Billabong's local pub somewhere out in the Bush. When big city finance types threaten to take over the pub, the community comes together to save it through protest and through telling the story of the original Captain Billabong (a most romantic bushranger indeed).

These two plot lines are separated out through song and costume change and worked well to keep the musical moving along and the whole audience cheering (at the Captain) or booing (at the evil Whiplash Willie, played with moustache twirling panache by Adam Al-Zahab). The energy that the performers brought to their work was absolutely infectious; Colin Delaney and Josie Hayes in the lead roles showed real stage magnetism and both brought a sauciness and humour to their parts that was a delight to watch. The audience laughed and sang along, and fell silent in awe during some of the Junction House Band pieces with Brook Crowley displaying his extraordinary vocal range.

While not without its flaws – rough sound quality and some cast confusion over scripting and stage cues in particular – the Battle for Something Special was still great fun. The theme of special places in the community was turned into an interesting musical by the energy and collective efforts of members of Junction House, amply demonstrating the value of their own valued community place - Junction House itself.

# reviews

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## Dog Daze

By Penelope Wells

Dog Daze was a visual exploration of the dogged ways we interact with, and sometimes as, canines. From puppy love, to dirty dog, man's (or in this case woman's) best friend, to rabid bitch; feeling like best-in-show to an in-the-doghouse bad furdad.

Wart (boardmember of Accessible Arts), renowned illustrator and her mutt muse Kero, whelped together a mongrel litter of paintings that put the wow back into bow-wow, and the cur back into curatorial.

Pedigree pure breeds, junk yard hounds and all sorts of two legged art collectors and friends gathered at the Chocolate Dog Café on King Street, Newtown, (one of the latest funky urban gallery spaces) to sniff each other out and to admire Wart's dog show "Dog Daze" with a bite as big as its bark.

Wart's memorable body of work was snapped up by those who attended the opening on 23 October 2001, and the opening night party was a triumph.

Watch out for Wart's next exhibition.

Big Big Big Congratulations Wart!



**Above:** one of Wart's paintings from the Dog Daze exhibition. **Photo:** Robert Sterry



# reviews

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## **Accessible Web Sites Games:**

### **'Levelgames' Accessible Arcade Games**

[www.webview.co.nz/level](http://www.webview.co.nz/level)

By overcoming physical barriers to playing arcade games, Levelgames allows players with different abilities to play together each with a fair chance of winning.

### **Accessible Games**

[www.gamesfortheblind.com/](http://www.gamesfortheblind.com/)

Accessible games are designed and written especially for blind and visually impaired players by a blind programmer. Surfers can download free 15 day trial versions of Accessible Battleships, Accessible Yahtzee, Accessible Word Scramble, Accessible Memory & others.

Computer Games for the Blind  
[www.rene4u.com/games.htm](http://www.rene4u.com/games.htm)  
Four Free games available for download

## **For those with a disability, The world made digital**

A new Web site, Bookshare.org, developed by a California nonprofit, Benetech, offers electronic texts of over 7,500 books to readers with a visual or reading disability. The Web site is using an exemption in copyright law that allows people with impairments to share electronic copies

of texts without purchasing them or obtaining permission. Users of the site must send in a disability form approved by a medical professional, pay a \$25 sign-up fee, and a \$50 annual subscription fee. The electronic texts are particularly useful to blind users who can feed the texts into text-to-speech software.

Source: New York Times,  
Author: Lisa Guernsey

[www.nytimes.com/2002/02/28/technology/circuits/28GEE2.html](http://www.nytimes.com/2002/02/28/technology/circuits/28GEE2.html)

## **TAD (Technical Aid to the Disabled)**

TAD is a non-profit organisation that modifies existing devices, invents new ones and, together with the RA Gale Foundation, provides a computer loan service, with a view to satisfying the specific needs of individuals. As such TAD need: Hardware donations, Computer Volunteers, Technical volunteers.

If you would like to help, contact TAD:

Ph: 9808 2022

# accessible arts events

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## **Gazing Out visual arts exhibition at First Draft**

Be sure to catch 'Gazing Out', a visual arts exhibition at First Draft Gallery. With the work of more than twenty artists on display there is something for everyone. This free exhibition is coordinated by Accessible Arts and the venue has an accessible entrance.

'Gazing Out' runs from April 25 – 5 May at First Draft Gallery, 116 – 118 Chalmers Street, Surry Hills

Opening times are as follows:

**First week:** Thursday – Saturday  
1 – 6pm, Sunday 1 – 5pm

**Second week:** Wednesday – Saturday  
1 – 6pm, Sunday 1 – 5pm.

## **Moving the Goal Posts**

Accessible Arts would like to bring the arts and sports together through two complementary projects that will stimulate, engage and encourage participation in physical activity.

Moving Goal Posts aims to develop a physical training pathway between the sports and the arts through integrated movement. Integrated movement benefits the entire body, working from the inside out. Moving Goal Posts is devised to give people involved in sports and those who would like to be active a creative program that will focus on increasing flexibility, challenge coordination, and present an alternate approach to moving in, out and

around, people with and without wheelchairs. Moving Goal Posts, is aimed at all levels of ability.

The long term aim of the project is to demonstrate the creative side of physical activity and engage people with disabilities in both the sports and arts environment.

## **IPP Workshops Continue**

The second term of Accessible Art's Integrated Performance Program (IPP) will commence on Saturday 4 May and will run for 10 weeks. We will be offering advanced and beginner classes.

**Advanced class:** 10.30 to 12.30 pm  
Acting for Camera—tutor to be confirmed.

**Beginners Class:** 1.00 to 3.00 pm  
Character Building, tutor—Marc Carra

**Cost:** \$13.75 per class for members or \$16.50 for non members

**For more information on 'Gazing Out', IPP workshops and the 'Moving the Goal Posts' project, call Neridah at Accessible Arts on**

**Ph 9251 6499 or E-mail  
[neridah@aarts.net.au](mailto:neridah@aarts.net.au)**

# news & opportunities

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## **TAFE Courses & Access Information**

Have you ever wanted to study a course at TAFE but needed further assistance?

TAFE colleges throughout the Metropolitan Sydney area and regional NSW offer students with disabilities a wide range of support and assistance to help them access and succeed with their chosen studies. This could involve a range of strategies, including tutorial support, the use of a note-taker, an interpreter or the option of Distance Education.

Specialist Consultants and Teachers are available for students who are deaf or have a hearing disability, students with an intellectual disability, students with a neurological disability, students with a physical disability, students with a psychiatric disability and students with a sight disability. TAFE also provides assistance with adaptive technology and alternative formatting of programs for students needing assistance in these various areas.

For further information on the Disability Services available contact the Disability Programs general numbers on:

Ph 02 9244 5085 or  
TTY 02 9244 5096

Within the Arts, TAFE offer courses in the following: Arts Industry Practice, Arts Administration, Craft Design, Development and Production and Museum Practice

Please note that course applications open for all high-demand courses for Semester Two on the 22nd of April 2002 and that Semester Two applications close on the 24th of May 2002.

For further information on what courses are offered, the best location for you and choosing when and how to study at TAFE contact the course information office on:

Ph 131 601 or look on the website  
[www.tafensw.edu.au](http://www.tafensw.edu.au)

## **Australian Communication Exchange**

The Australian Communication Exchange provides a National Relay Service, and is available 24hrs a day and relays calls between people who are deaf or have a hearing or speech impairment to the wider community. A range of services is available for people with different needs who need to access the telephone easily and more information on services available is provided at the Australian Communication Exchange.

Ph (NRS) 133 677

# news & opportunities

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Ph (NRS) 133 677

# news & opportunities

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## **ACROD NSW Launches IT Network Initiative**

ACROD NSW Networking Project and IT Project Communication Officer, Erika Dauner, is establishing an IT Network. The aim of the Network is to facilitate IT information and expertise sharing with relevant staff of disability services.

The Network will assist smaller disability services with fewer resources to network with larger organisations to resolve IT problems; share thoughts, tips and advice on latest software products; marketing initiatives for the disability sector; website design and accessibility.

Contact Erika Dauner on:

Ph 9743 2699

E-mail [erika@acrodnswnet](mailto:erika@acrodnswnet)

## **Round Table Conferance**

### **Information Access for People with Print Disabilities.**

2002 National Conference: Information Access -What does it mean?

13-16 April Adelaide

Contact:

Ph 08 8232 2444

Fax 08 8232 2111

E-mail [dfrancis@rsb.org.au](mailto:dfrancis@rsb.org.au)

## **National Forum...**

### **on Tertiary Education Material for Blind & Vision Impaired Students**

HREOC is to hold a national forum on tertiary education material for blind and vision-impaired students. The forum will address issues including financial resource implications for providing material in accessible formats; and factors such as copyright restrictions, encryption, and image based distribution of material, which may prevent equal and independent access to education.

The venue and date are yet to be confirmed but at this stage the forum is proposed for 25th-26th March 2002. Contact Bruce Maguire, Disability Rights Unit, Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission.

Ph 02 9284 9613 or visit the website [www.hreoc.gov.au](http://www.hreoc.gov.au) or E-mail [brucemaguire@humanrights.gov.au](mailto:brucemaguire@humanrights.gov.au)

## **Achilles**

Achilles is a group of people with and without disabilities that meet every Sunday in the Botanic Gardens to run, walk or wheel their way around the gardens. They welcome people of all physical abilities.

For information contact them through their website

[www.achilles-sydney.org](http://www.achilles-sydney.org)

# news & opportunities

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## **Fact Sheets – DAISI**

### **Disability and Aged Information Service Inc.**

For your information, please note the following fact sheets are now available by contacting DAISI:

“Financial Assistance”,  
“Volunteering”, Complaints,  
“Accessible Accommodation & Holiday Info”, “Advocacy”, “Access”, “Rural friendly telephone numbers”.

Please note fact sheets on Employment and Education will be available from late March.

Ph (toll free) 1800 800 340 or  
on the DAISI website  
[www.daisi.asn.au](http://www.daisi.asn.au).

## **Department of Education and Training Publications:**

The Department of Education and Training has provided the following two free publications for parent/care givers, available through local district offices.

“Who’s Going to Teach my Child?  
– a guide for parents of children with special learning needs”

“Transition to School for Young Children with Special Needs”

For further information look on the Department of Education website  
[www.det.nsw.edu.au](http://www.det.nsw.edu.au)

## **High Beam Festival**

High Beam Festival is a biennial international arts festival showcasing contemporary works influenced or inspired by the experience of disability. This ten-day multi-arts festival is the largest festival of its type in the Southern Hemisphere and presents the latest in disability news, new perceptions, innovations & visions.

For more info  
Ph 08 8224 0799 or E-mail  
[highbeam@artsinaction.asn.au](mailto:highbeam@artsinaction.asn.au)  
Fax 08 8224 0709  
or visit the website  
[www.artsinaction.asn.au](http://www.artsinaction.asn.au)  
(click on High Beam)

## **Volunteers Needed**

Young Carers Camp at Myuna Bay Sport and Recreation Centre presented by Hunter & Central Coast Carer Respite Centres & Carers NSW. To be held from Saturday 6th April 9.30am to Sunday 7th April 2.00pm for Young Carers in the Hunter & Central Coast areas aged between 8-12 years old. For information and application forms contact Leanne in the Hunter or Sharon on the Central Coast on

Ph (toll free) 1800 059 059.

# opportunities

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## **ATOD (Australian Theatre of the Deaf)**

ATOD are celebrating the success of their new school shows with a sizzling affair on Friday 22nd March at 7pm at All Saints Church Hall, 325 Stanmore Rd, Petersham. There'll be two great new shows on offer....as well as a hot BBQ.

For more info:

Ph 9310 1255  
Fax 9318 2186

An interpreted performance of "Lady in the Van" will be presented on Saturday 23rd March at the Sydney Opera House. Tickets are \$25 ATOD members \$35 non members (which is \$29 or \$19 Discount!)

For more info contact the  
Sydney Opera House

Ph 9250 7777

## **IDEAS Inc – Rural NSW EXPO 2002**

IDEAS Inc is holding EXPO 2002 to showcase disability products and information to the Southern rural community of NSW in Albury on Friday 24th and Saturday 25th of May.

To be held at the Albury Convention & Performing Arts Centre, Swift Street, Albury NSW for further information contact:

Claudine Menegazzo  
Media Liaison Officer  
Ph 02 692 83105 or  
Mobile 0428 283 165

## **Sculpture by the Sea, Bondi 2002**

Artists are invited to submit entries by 26 April, 2002 for pre-selection in the sixth annual sculpture by the sea, to be staged along the coastal walk from Bondi to Tamarama in Sydney, Australia from 31 October - 10 November 2002.

Artist awards include the \$20,000 Sydney Water Sculpture Aquisitive Prize.

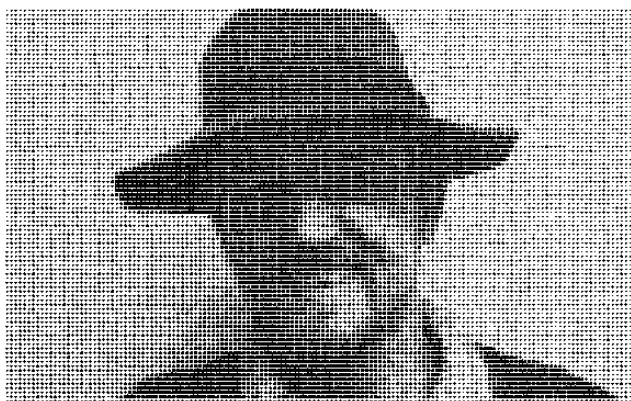
Sculpture by the Sea, Bondi 2002 will be pre-selected by Ron Robertson-Swann OAM, sculptor, lecturer National Art School and Laura Back, Curator of Sculpture, Australian War Memorial. They will be joined by Professor Glynn Williams, Head of the School of Fine Art and Professor of Sculpture, Royal College of Art London, to judge the exhibition's awards.

For an application form please visit the web site:

[www.sculpturebythesea.com](http://www.sculpturebythesea.com), or  
Ph 9357 1457

# opportunities

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## **Expressions of interest sought for drawing classes**

Accessible Arts member and practising artist Stephen Corry (pictured above) is interested in teaching a drawing class at Accessible Arts, Pier 4, The Wharf, Walsh Bay.

If you are interested please contact Accessible Arts, on:

Ph 9251 6499.

## **Appointing People with a Disability to Public Sector Boards, Councils and Committees**

To help get more people with a disability into decision-making positions, the NSW Government, through the Premier's Department, is encouraging more people with a disability to serve on public sector boards, councils and committees. Opportunities exist in large state owned corporations, ministerial advisory committees and community organizations.

The Premier's Department keeps a register of interested persons. Ministers and government agencies often consult the register when filling vacancies on boards and committees.

For more details contact the Premier's Department on:

Ph: 9228 4199

## **Auburn International Film Festival**

### **Auburn International Film and Video Festival for Children and Young Adults**

This event is produced by Cinewest Multimedia, a unique and distinctive central body that is the only multimedia organisation of its kind in Western Sydney, helping to organise, coordinate and improve the development of cross-arts and cross-cultural media practices in the region.

Entries for the 5th edition to be shown in September 2002 are now being sought. Registration forms must be in by June 30 2002. To see the works from 2001 visit the website [www.mt.net.au](http://www.mt.net.au).

for more information contact:

The Auburn International Film & Video Festival for Children & Young Adults.  
PO Box 295 Auburn, NSW 2144 or

Ph 02 9649 5559 or E-mail [auburnfilmfest@reelmind.com](mailto:auburnfilmfest@reelmind.com)



# opportunities

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## **Group offers free art workshops**

The 'Three A Group' of Afro-Australian Artists offers free art workshops for young people on Saturdays from 5 – 7pm at Blacktown Migrant Resource Centre. Workshops are conducted by Tamirat A'Gebremariam, a professional artist recently arrived from Ethiopia, via Egypt, where he established an art program for refugees from Africa. Tamirat's work is a mixture of abstract expressionism, and a fusion of traditional and modern African art.

For information or bookings:

Ph 9621 6633

## **NESB Artists Radio @2GLF**

Liverpool area local radio, 2GLF has provided a 15 min time slot every Thursday at 10.30am. The program is hosted by Art Worker Gorkem Acaroglu, in English. Western Sydney based NESB artists working in visual arts, performance, music, literature or dance will be invited to speak about their work in particular projects, discuss issues and to perform their work.

For information contact  
Gorkem Acaroglu:

Ph 9601 3788

Fax 9601 1398

Mobile 0415 768 996

E-mail: [ccdc@mlrc.org.au](mailto:ccdc@mlrc.org.au)

## **Parramatta City Council Call for all Contemporary Artists**

Parramatta Council is establishing the contemporary Railway Arts Access Centre in early 2002.

The project aims to provide a facility to create opportunities for local and Western Sydney artists from all cultural backgrounds to come together to share, exhibit, create new art and learn.

The Centre will be run by an artist cooperative that will manage the community gallery space, residency programs and professional development opportunities.

To register your interest for the residency program, artist cooperative and exhibition program, please call:

Ph 9806 5112 or E-mail  
[aoverton@parracity.nsw.gov.au](mailto:aoverton@parracity.nsw.gov.au)

# opportunities & grants

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## **Australia Council for the Arts New Media Arts Fund**

Staff will conduct meetings with potential applicants of the New Media Arts Board on Tuesday 26th Wednesday 27th and Thursday 28th of March from 10am-4pm at the Australia Council 372 Elizabeth Street, Surry Hills. Meetings are by appointment only, for further information or grant information contact Vicky Clare on:

Ph (toll free) 1800 226 912  
Ph 9215 9110 or

## **Presentation and Promotion Grant**

Deadline: 1st of May 2002

This category supports proposals which focus on the distribution and promotion of existing interdisciplinary art and/or new media art to broader audiences within Australia and overseas. The work must have been previously presented in a public context. Applications should demonstrate that the work would be more widely exhibited and distributed nationally and/or internationally and will develop new audiences. Activity supported in this area focuses on the work of artists engaged in inter-disciplinary art and or/new media art.

Ph 02 9215 9110 or  
E-mail [nma@ozco.gov.au](mailto:nma@ozco.gov.au) or web-site  
[www.ozco.gov.au/newmediaarts/index.htm](http://www.ozco.gov.au/newmediaarts/index.htm)

## **Australia Council for the Arts Music Fund**

Buzz- is the new initiative offered by the Australia Council for the Arts Music Board to provide open and flexible support to young and emerging artists working in music or sound.

For further information contact Sean Bridgeman on:

Ph Toll free 1800 226 91202 or  
Ph 9215 9127 or E-mail  
[s.bridgeman@ozco.gov.au](mailto:s.bridgeman@ozco.gov.au) or

## **Cellblock (Youth Health Service, Camperdown)**

Expressions of interest are being sought for a Youth Week Art Exhibition to be held early April 2002.

For further information contact Cellblock on:

Ph 02 9516 2233

## **Market 52**

A new inner west Sunday market for artists and designers to expose and trade their works. With a free busking area for musicians to come and jam, a soap box, cult films, jelly eating competitions and fashion police handing out vouchers to spend at the stalls, Market 52 is set to revolutionise the market scene. For further info:

Ph 9564 0997 or E-mail  
[m52arket@hotmail.com](mailto:m52arket@hotmail.com)

# opportunities & grants

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## **Seeking Net Art and Critical Writing...**

**Mediatopia - an online exhibition and symposium.**

Who has access to digital technologies? Who is the expert or authority? Who defines this media work and how? What are the formats and conventions? Can we differentiate between creative workers for capital and comrades in the Arts? Is there a safe site for play, pleasure, and the artistic practice, and what is it's URL? Creatives, technicians and critical theorists are fascinated by these questions.

Mediatopia are seeking submissions of media art and digital critique. Deadline is May 1st, 2002. For further information go to <http://www.mediatopia.net> or E-mail [mediatopia@adhocarts.org](mailto:mediatopia@adhocarts.org)

## **Banners**

Ashfield Council is keen to hear from any Banner Makers regarding the possible creation of banners for Council's Community facilities.

For further details, please contact Gerard Howard at Council on:

Ph 9716 1841

## **Streetwize Comic Competition**

Deadline: 30th of April

Call for submissions from youth under the age of 25, to create your own character for possible inclusion in one of three comics dealing with issues of young men in rural areas and issues surrounding depression, indigenous youth in rural Australia and issues facing young refugees arriving in Australia.

For further information click on the streetwize website:

[www.streetwize.com.au](http://www.streetwize.com.au)  
and download an entry form

# obituary: colin davidson

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## **Saying Goodbye to Colin**

**By Neridah Wyatt-Spratt**

To the sounds of Abba, in a peaceful chapel in the Nowra countryside, friends and family said goodbye to Colin Davidson, with a lot of love and sense of celebration.

Colin, a long time member, performer and familiar face to Accessible Arters past and present, died in his sleep in early January.

Colin's performance portfolio was extensive and included numerous TheatreSports performances, work with Urban Theater projects, his own inspired piece Abacus and the Skuzzies (performed at the Paralympic Arts Festival) as well as his work as an advocate for disability awareness at the State Library of New South Wales.

Colin's dry wit and sense of humor was evident in his most recent part in 'Dream' in December, to celebrate International Day of People with a Disability. There were some classic Colin moments, the 'date' scene in particular. He was a dedicated and committed performer.

Colin's straight forward approach and honesty, his joy at working on projects with a diverse range of people will be sorely missed. But for many of us who shared the stage with Colin, he will never be forgotten as those memories are always with us.

I personally will miss Colin's unique presence and amazing character, his hat, suitcase and his annual Christmas card.