

MEDIA RELEASE

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## Carclew encourages children to embrace portraiture

*The eye should learn to listen before it looks.* Robert Frank, American photographer.

Carclew is encouraging children to explore the role of language and social interaction in art making through **Subjects Matter: Portraits by Kids**, a creative art project for children aged between nine and 12.

Young artists will take part in workshops, learn drawing skills and explore different styles of portraiture.

They will then put these skills to the test in a live portrait sitting in Rundle Mall on Saturday, May 23. A curated selection of their works will be exhibited at Carclew in North Adelaide from June 12.

Three professional artists – Ruby Chew, Damien Shen and Meaghan Coles – will help the budding artists develop their portrait skills, including ways to convey emotion in their work, engage with their subject and use a portrait to tell a story about them.

Carclew Chief Executive Tricia Walton said as children are increasingly reliant on technology for entertainment and learning, the art of social engagement and face-to-face conversation becomes more of a challenge.

“Through Subjects Matter, we aim to revive social engagement skills by exploring the well-known visual arts genre of portraiture,” Tricia said.

“It’s designed to empower children and arm them with skills for social engagement, conversation, storytelling and creative interpretation.”

But the program won’t be possible without the help of volunteer ‘sitters’, who will have their image painted by the children during the live sitting. Volunteers do not need any prior experience.

The cost is \$110 per child and \$80 for concession card holders. Places are limited and bookings are essential.

Subjects Matter: Portraits by Kids is supported by Adelaide City Council.

**For more information about The Subjects Matter: Portraits by Kids, visit [carclew.com.au](http://carclew.com.au) or phone 8267 5111. Adults wanting to volunteer as ‘sitters’ should email Joyce Louey at [jlouey@carclew.com.au](mailto:jlouey@carclew.com.au)**

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