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\$10,000 IN ARTS FUNDING DISTRIBUTED BY CHILDREN

Carclew's groundbreaking project **Carclew Futures**, today announced the recipients of its inaugural \$10,000 funding round.

Working in partnership with South Australia's Commissioner for Children & Young People, Helen Connolly, Carclew set out to discover what would happen if you empowered a team of children with the capability of determining arts funding? The result is **Carclew Futures**; a team of ten creative thinkers aged 12-15 years who have been supported to distribute \$10,000 of arts funding.

Today the young cohort announced two recipients for the inaugural **Carclew Futures** funding are Charlee Watt and Chad Spencer, who will both receive \$5,000 each towards their arts project.

The young **Carclew Futures** team were supported over a 5 month period to establish the application criteria and an assessment process. They received 17 applications in total. The funding allocations were assessed alongside the three 'guiding principles', set by the children that steered the process of deliberation and selection:

- 1) **Have an INTENTION** - "From raising a smile to raising awareness, the artwork must have a purpose for creation"
- 2) The creation and presentation of the art must **consider the ENVIRONMENTAL and ETHICAL impact** - "It should not be mean or wasteful"
- 3) The final work must be as **ACCESSIBLE AS POSSIBLE**

Port Lincoln's 14-year-old Charlee Watt, will receive \$5,000 to create a large portable backdrop for live youth events and indigenous gatherings. Her artwork will be inspired by the theme 'Sea & Sun' and will reflect the local Barngala cultural heritage to support homegrown reconciliation efforts.

"Being a young person myself, the **Carclew Futures** funding program has been great to work with. I am working with people my own age, positioning and talking about the project from one young person to another," said Ms Watt.

"There aren't a lot of artistic opportunities within Port Lincoln, so this project gives me the chance to develop a creative experience for both the younger kids and Elders within the community, developing a backdrop that can be used throughout the year and is hopefully seen as unifying the community."

Also receiving \$5,000 in funding will be **Elizabeth Vale visual artist, Chad Spencer**. Chad will produce a hayshed mural along the Mt Compass to Goolwa Road. Using designs inspired by the stunning rural backdrop, it will be the first of an 'I-spy-with-my-little-eye' art-trail across a series of haysheds.

"This funding will give me the opportunity to engage in a project that would normally be out of reach for me as an artist. It's not only valuable in the form of financial assistance, but recognition from institutions such as Carclew cannot be understated. I'm really hoping this mural is the first of many artworks along the Mount Compass to Goolwa Road and inspires other rural art projects." said, Mr Spencer.

Carclew Chief Executive, Tricia Walton praised the explorative program.

"The inaugural Carclew Futures collective of ten young South Australians has been an extraordinary experience. Not only to define their process and priorities in deciding upon the successful candidates, but the

transparency of their funding selections via their guiding principles is remarkable, and a testament to the young group" said Ms Walton

Helen Connolly, Commissioner for Children and Young People said,

"The Carclew Futures funding has been a superb opportunity for our young people to demonstrate they can do anything we ask of them if given the right support and resources. The team of ten worked so well together to review the applications they received and to ensure the criteria they had set was met by the artists who were selected" said Commissioner Connolly

Further project information - www.carclew.com.au/Program/carclew-futures

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