

## South Australian artists and teachers rewarded

Four of the state's top emerging artists have received a share of \$50,000 in scholarships and three South Australian teachers and have been recognised for their outstanding contributions to arts education.

These were the highlights of the **2012 Education and Arts Ministers' Awards** – held on **Tuesday, November 1** the Odeon Theatre, Norwood.

Offered by Carclew Youth Arts and presented by Frances Bedford MP, Member for Florey on behalf of Hon John Hill MP, Minister for the Arts, the artistic scholarships are among the most significant on offer in South Australia. The scholarships are intended to increase development opportunities and career pathways for the young artists who receive them.

The 2012 Carclew Youth Arts Scholarship recipients are:

- **Dame Ruby Litchfield Performing Arts Scholarship (\$12,500): Robert MacFarlane**
- **Ruth Tuck Visual Arts Scholarship (\$12,500): Amy Joy Watson**
- **Colin Thiele Creative Writing Scholarship (\$12,500): Phillip Kavanagh**

And for the first time this year, thanks to the support of BHP Billiton:

- **BHP Billiton Scholarship for Film and New Media (\$12,500): Michael Richards**

“These winners have already shown a significant dedication to their art form and this money can be used for a range of development activities, to help them go to the next level and beyond,” said Tricia Walton, Carclew's Chief Executive.

“There is a large pool of talented young people in this state and Carclew is committed to helping these artists develop professionally through unique opportunities.”

Other major awards granted last night recognised exceptional arts teachers and artists working in DECS schools, with the winners each receiving \$5,000 to be used for professional development during 2012.

The winners of the 2012 Education and Arts Ministers Awards are:

- **Excellence in arts teaching and leadership at primary school level:  
Irene Solowij (Settlers Farm Campus)**
- **Excellence in arts teaching and leadership at secondary school level:  
Earle Kilvert (Marryatville High School)**
- **Success as an artist working with teachers and students:  
James Parker (Visual Artist)**

“Arts teachers and educators play an important role as artistic mentors for young South Australians,” Tricia said.

“This year's recipients have dedicated themselves to ensuring that vibrant arts programs are fostered within the primary and secondary school system.

“Their enthusiasm has inspired children across the state to embrace artistic experiences and we’re delighted to be able to recognise their efforts at these awards.”

The Independent Arts Foundation (IAF) also awarded a Creative Writing Mentorship, valued at \$3,250, to support the professional development of a South Australian creative writer - allowing them to work with a mentor to further develop their art.

- **The recipient of the 2012 Independent Arts Foundation Creative Writing Mentorship is Alysha Herrmann.**

**For further media information please contact Allison Kane, Marketing Manager, Carclew Youth Arts, on 8267 5111 or [akane@carclew.org.au](mailto:akane@carclew.org.au)**

### **About the winners**

#### **Excellence in arts teaching and leadership at primary school level – Irene Solowij (Hackney)**

Highly-regarded as a classroom teacher at Settlers Farm Campus, Irene has taken responsibility for Expressive Arts and Visual Arts, from R-7 demonstrating leadership, expertise and advocacy. Irene has been proactive in promoting and celebrating the arts through her work with Come Out, Playfull, the Primary Schools Music Festival and Wakakirri. During 2012, Irene wishes to further her skills in the performing arts, and knowledge of the emerging arts curriculum through a wide variety of professional development activities, both locally and nationally.

#### **Excellence in arts teaching and leadership at secondary school level – Earle Kilvert (Felixstow)**

Valued as a mentor, role model and collaborator, Earle has been a passionate arts educator and leader at Marryatville High School for a number of years. He brings to his work a vast knowledge and understanding of the history of theatre and his “nothing is impossible” approach creates magic every time the curtains open on one of his student productions. For his professional development, Earle will travel to the Edinburgh International Arts and Fringe Festival where he will experience a wide range of performances and venues, building knowledge to share with his students and colleagues.

#### **Success as an artist working with teachers and students – James Parker (Rostrevor)**

James is a highly-skilled and versatile visual artist who has been working in schools, communities and the local film industry in South Australia over many years. James shares his love of drawing, collage, assemblage and found object art with the students he works with and is regarded as an outstanding arts educator. A highlight for James, during 2010 was the *Big Draw* Creative Education Partnership at Murray Bridge North Schools, which went on to win an international Drawing Inspiration Award (U.K.). For his professional development, James will participate in a range of relevant international courses and experiences, serving as learning and inspiration for future collaborative arts projects.

#### **Dame Ruby Litchfield Scholarship for Performing Arts – Robert MacFarlane (Marleston)**

The Dame Ruby Litchfield scholarship will assist Robert to study extensively in Germany during 2012 to further his qualifications as a Bach specialist. Robert will also continue intensive German language study at the University of Leipzig.

#### **Ruth Tuck Scholarship for Visual Arts – Amy Joy Watson (Clarence Gardens)**

The Ruth Tuck scholarship will assist Amy to undertake two professional development opportunities in New York during 2012: a mentorship with sculptor Rachel Hayes and a two month artist residency.

#### **Colin Thiele Scholarship for Creative Writing – Phillip Kavanagh (Goodwood)**

The scholarship will assist Phillip to undertake two playwriting courses offered by Griffin Theatre Company in Sydney in 2012.

#### **BHP Billiton Scholarship for Film and New Media – Michael Richards (Summertown)**

The scholarship will assist Michael to undertake professional development with established industry practitioners in two technical elements (3D filmmaking and moving camera shots) to further develop existing skills in Stereoscopic 3D filmmaking.

#### **Independent Arts Foundation Creative Writing Mentorship – Alysha Herrmann (Berri)**

The mentorship will assist Alysha to explore her own unique voice as a playwright and text maker with multi-award-winning and internationally produced storyteller Caleb Lewis.