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Carclew seeks arts teachers to reward

Carclew Youth Arts is calling on the public to nominate South Australia's best arts teachers and artists for a reward. The annual **Education and Arts Ministers' Awards** recognises outstanding arts teachers and artists working in DECS schools with an award and \$5,000 to be used for professional development.

"We are looking for parents, friends and colleagues to nominate exceptional arts teachers and school-based artists for all their hard work over the last year," said Tricia Walton, Carclew's Chief Executive.

"We want to thank them for investing their time and efforts in their students by investing back in them. A child's life can be inspired by that one special teacher and we want to celebrate that."

Belinda Robertson was recognised in 2010 for her contribution as the Arts Coordinator at Allenby Gardens Primary School, but is now working as the Teaching for Effective Learning Coordinator at Mawson Lakes School.

Working closely with *Impro Now!* performer and mentor Jeff Simmons during term 1, Belinda is using her \$5,000 grant to further develop her artistic skills and teaching repertoire in the performing arts.

In the second half of the year, Belinda will be under the guidance of an AusDance SA instructor to expand her choreography repertoire with her Year 6 class.

"Working with Jeff Simmons from *Impro Now!* was inspiring and a fantastic experience. I am so grateful to Carclew and my mentors for this opportunity." Belinda said

"I can't wait to share my experiences with other teachers and of course my students."

There are three Education and Arts Ministers' Awards being offered:

- Primary arts education
- Secondary arts education
- Artists working in schools

"As an organisation focused on youth arts, we value the huge contribution arts teachers and visiting artists make in encouraging and supporting the creativity of children – from their first day at school right through to their late teens," Tricia said.

"There are a lot of talented arts teachers in this state who deserve to be recognised and we're encouraging as many people as possible to put forward a nomination."

Nomination forms for the 2012 awards can be found at www.carclew.com.au and close at 5pm, 1 September 2011.

For further media information please contact Allison Kane, Marketing Manager, on 8267 5111 or akane@carclew.org.au