

MEDIA RELEASE

19 May 2014

Carclew hosts experts to help make SA the 'creative state'

Carclew is hosting world renowned arts educators this week as part of a broad-based drive to improve opportunities for creative learning in our schools

The five day event – involving artists, teachers, researchers and government – coincides with UNESCO's International Arts Education Week.

Called *Spotlight*, the project has gathered together key strategic thinkers to share information on current programs and practices that activate children's creativity. This information will then be used to drive research-based evaluations to identify the benefits of creative learning and how they can be incorporated into our education system in the future.

Carclew Chief Executive Tricia Walton has been a key organiser of *Spotlight*. "As the name suggests, we really want to throw a spotlight on the importance of creativity in the learning process for young people," Tricia said.

"Professor Katie Dawson from the University of Texas and Creative Learning Consultant Lara Dosset, both from Austin, are here for a week sharing their international experience, to help us develop ways to ensure all South Australian children can access and benefit from creativity in the education process."

That means this week Carclew will be a hive of arts and education activity, with teachers and arts educators from a wide range of backgrounds providing input and taking away valuable lessons.

Spotlight isn't about replacing maths and science with painting, or replacing engineers with sculptors. Instead it is about using arts to enhance creative thinking which can benefit all aspects of education.

"With creative thinking we invent and create new solutions to old problems, we see new possibilities. If we can build that into our education systems, if we can make SA the *Creative State*, how good could our future be?" Tricia asked.

Carclew has an extensive history of working within the education sector through a range of arts programs including Artists in Schools, Children's Map, Education and Arts Ministers' Awards, Creative Education Partnerships, Pom Pom, and professional development workshops for teachers.

Spotlight is presented by A>R>T and Carclew, supported by the Department for Education and Child Development.

For further information about Carclew's arts and education programs visit www.carclew.com.au.

A>R>T: Arts Rich Together

'Spotlight' is the work of A>R>T, a collective of South Australian arts and education leaders committed to cultivating enduring arts education experiences in South Australia. A>R>T has members from:

Carclew | Patch Theatre | Come Out Children's Festival | Windmill Theatre | Slingsby
Adelaide City Council | University of South Australia | Flinders University

Allison Kane, Manager Marketing and Publicity, Carclew
0413 042 639 akane@carclew.org.au