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Emerging young artists and designers celebrated at the SACE Art Show

South Australia's top young emerging artists and designers are set to inspire and challenge visitors with their work when the SACE Art Show 2016 opens this Saturday 19 March at the Light Square Gallery in Adelaide.

More than 130 dazzling and imaginative pieces will be on display until Wednesday 4 May including traditional paintings and drawings, sculptures, jewellery, costumes and multimedia works.

SACE Board Chief Executive, Dr Neil McGoran, said the annual event showcased selected art and design work created by Year 12 students who have completed their Visual Arts – Art, and Visual Arts – Design subjects.

“The Show – which attracts about 5000 visitors each year – inspires and encourages current and future SACE art and design students and increases awareness about higher education and career options,” Dr McGoran said.

“Many former exhibitors have gone on to become leaders in the arts in South Australia and around the world,” he said.

Dr McGoran said this year's SACE Art Show marked an important milestone as it featured works created by the fifth group of students to complete Year 12 since the introduction of the 'updated SACE' in 2011.

“The improved curriculum has enabled students to develop a better understanding of how artists and designers work in real world environments, such as learning from ideas, processes, and techniques to inform their own creative practices,” Dr McGoran said.

“This helps nurture capabilities around critical thinking, collaboration and innovation which have led to a greater level of creativity, new experiences, and career directions for students. These capabilities are reflected in the high quality of work on display at the SACE Art Show.”

Education Minister Susan Close said: “I saw some brilliant art at last year's exhibit and am eager to see the creativity that will be on display again at this year's Art Show. We have some truly talented students in South Australia and I encourage everyone to go to the show and show our young people that we are proud and supportive of their work.”

SACE Art Show exhibitors will be in the running for a number of prestigious awards, including the *Community Award*, sponsored by Credit Union SA, which will enable visitors to vote for their favourite artwork; and the *UniSA Enterprising Artist Award* for the student who adopts an innovative and leading edge approach to art and design and demonstrates community-mindedness.

Credit Union SA CEO, Mr Grant Strawbridge, said: “The body of work generated by these students is of the highest quality – and would not be out of place in any state or national gallery in Australia.

“We not only commend the students for their creative flair, but also the dedication and guidance from their teachers in helping them draw out these amazing talents.

“Credit Union SA is extremely proud to support these young and emerging artists and designers, and help bring their work to the attention of the broader community – and I encourage everyone to view the exhibits and have a say on their favourite pieces,” he said.

Program Director of the Bachelor of Visual Arts at the University of South Australia, Dr Andrew Welch, said: “I am very proud that UniSA is sponsoring the SACE Art Show as we recognise and celebrate the next generation of artists, curators and art educators.

“It’s great to be involved in selecting the UniSA Enterprising Artist Award as we recognise outstanding and emerging artists in South Australia and uncover some amazing talent.”

The Minister for Youth, Eckersley’s Art and Craft, and Graphic Art Supplies also continue to support the Show this year with awards and prizes. For the first time, students will vie for the Flinders University Visual Arts Prize.

For further information visit: sace.sa.edu.au/news/events/sace-art-show or follow @saceboard on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).