The Lester Prize for Portraiture Youth Awards 2023 Exhibition Now Open

The Lester Prize for Portraiture Youth Awards exhibition has opened to the public, running from April 8 - July 16, 2023, at the WA Museum Boola Bardip.

The Youth Awards is open to high-school aged artists across Australia and supports young artists' creative talents by providing a platform to showcase their skills and unique artistic perspectives.

The Youth Awards is managed by The Lester Inc, a not-for-profit organisation founded in 2007 to provide an avenue for artists from across Australia to exhibit works of portraiture.

The 32 portraits in this exhibition have been selected from over 170 submissions representing the best in portraiture by high-school students around the nation and includes a high number of WA-based artists.

Annie Silberstein, Executive Director from The Lester Prize said, "This is the first time that the Youth Awards have been held at the WA Museum Boola Bardip and we are excited to be showcasing the very best in portraiture from high-school students across the country at this iconic venue.

"We are thrilled to welcome the public to come and view the calibre of talent displayed by the next generation of artists from around the country".

Finalists are in the running to win a share of a prize pool totalling over \$5,000.

The Lester Prize Youth Awards is also teaming up with WAM Boola Bardip and Propel's KickstART Festival to host several exciting events, including a portraiture workshop with artist and Lester Prize finalist Melissa Clements and a BIPOC artist painting workshop with Tyrown Waigana.

Visit <u>https://www.lesterprize.com/whats-on</u> for more information.

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Media Contact Ashleigh D'Alessandro Citadel-MAGNUS 041 721 2524 adalessandro@citadelmagnus.com

ABOUT THE LESTER PRIZE

The Lester Prize is managed by The Lester Inc, a not-for-profit organisation founded in 2007 to provide an avenue for artists to exhibit works of portraiture within Western Australia. With an annual prize pool worth over \$105,000, it is now one of the nation's most recognised and prestigious art prizes.

Working with government, peak arts bodies and community groups, it plays a critical role in helping to diversify WA's local economy, grow cultural tourism, and activate spaces through creative placemaking. The Lester Prize is proud to provide locals and visitors with the opportunity to engage with the best of the artform of portraiture each year in a format that puts the artists and community front-and-centre. The Lester Prize's public events program includes artist floor talks, workshops, live art demonstrations and pop-up community activations across the city during exhibition season.