



Australian Government

Torres Strait Regional Authority



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Frank Loban Wins “People’s Choice” Award

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The Gab Titui Cultural Centre hosted its third ‘Indigenous Art Award’ on Thursday evening, 24 June 2010.

The Award aims to showcase the quality of Torres Strait Islander art, whilst giving local artists professional experience in exhibition protocol.

On the night, six of the seven category winners were selected by Guest Judge Mr Stephen Gilchrist, Curator of Indigenous Art at the National Gallery of Victoria.

The seventh category, the “People’s Choice”, is an award given to the public’s favourite artwork.

Community members were given five weeks to submit their nominations, with the opportunity to vote closing on the 31 July 2010.

With the votes in and nominations tallied, the Gab Titui Cultural Centre is pleased to announce Frank Loban as the “People’s Choice” award winner.

Frank’s artwork titled *Napau* is a hand crafted Torres Strait dhoeri representing the strength of leadership in the contemporary battle for our adapting culture. It is intended to encourage reflection and appreciation of the past and the present ways of inspirational island men.

Anonymous community members who voted for Frank’s dhoeri described his artwork as “Very representative of Torres Strait Culture”; “Conveys an authentic link to the past”; and “Superb craftsmanship applied to a traditional headdress”.

The Gab Titui Indigenous Art Award is on display in the Cultural Centre’s main gallery until 30 August 2010. A catalogue containing photographs of all artwork featured in the exhibition will be available for purchase at the Gab Titui Cultural Centre in September 2010.

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TSRA Media Contact: Emma Loban, Communications Officer

Phone: (07) 4090 2130