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CALL FOR LOCAL ARTISTS TO SUBMIT WORKS FOR CAIRNS AND DARWIN ART FAIRS

Local Torres Strait Islander artists are invited to submit works for display and sale through the Gab Titui Cultural Centre at the 2015 Cairns Indigenous Art Fair and Darwin Aboriginal Art Fair.

The art fairs are a major event on the Indigenous arts calendar, taking place in late July and early August each year and attracting thousands of visitors from across the nation.

Torres Strait Regional Authority (TSRA) Chairperson, Mr Joseph Elu, encouraged artists to submit works for display at the events.

"The Cairns and Darwin art fairs are a perfect opportunity to bring national attention to the Torres Strait Islander arts industry," Mr Elu said.

"Last year alone the Cairns art fair had attendance of over 18,000 visitors, including representatives from major national collecting institutions."

The 2014 Cairns Indigenous Art Fair was particularly significant in facilitating the acquisition of works by major institutions, including works by Erub Erwer Meta (Erub Arts) by the National Museum of Australia.

Artists not already affiliated with an art centre are able to submit works to Gab Titui for a group display.

"Gab Titui will attend both art fairs, representing artists in the region by producing a sophisticated showcase of works," Mr Elu said.

Artists may submit works on paper, canvas, small sculptural pieces and weaving, although larger works are not encouraged as space is limited.

Interested artists should contact the TSRA Arts Development Officer, Diat Alferink, as soon as possible to discuss submission of works on 07 40 690 872 or <u>diat.alferink@tsra.gov.au</u>.

The closing date to submit works to the Gab Titui Cultural Centre is Friday, 26 June 2015.

ENDS

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