



Media Release – For Immediate Release

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Propel Youth Arts WA wins recognition for inclusive arts practises.

Propel Youth Arts WA, Junkadelic and Swan Friendship Club receives a Recognition Award from The Department of Culture and the Arts and Disability Services Commission.

The Recognition Award acknowledges the opportunities created by Propel Youth Arts WA, Junkadelic and the Swan Friendship Club for young people with a disability to participate in everyday arts and cultural activities in Western Australia, as project partners in the Disability Arts Inclusion Initiative (DAII).

The initiative evolved from a partnership between the Department of Culture and the Arts and the Disability Services Commission in 2006 with the intention of providing more opportunities for people with disabilities, their families and carers to fully participate in Western Australian arts and culture scene.

As one of the 14 arts and cultural organisation partners of the initiative, Propel Youth Arts WA sought to bring awareness in creating inclusive and accessible programs and services for all young people.

Key outcomes included improved communication methods, including a redesigned website according to W3C standards, the creation of an Accessibility Strategy and the introduction of inclusive workshops for young people in the City of Swan area.

Propel Youth Arts WA Executive Director Monique Douglas acknowledges the achievements of former staff involved the DAII project.

“Our previous Project Coordinator Susannah Day, Executive Director Sonja Basic and current Communications and Marketing Officer Lisa Wallace, were instrumental in providing a platform for Propel to ensure young people have every possible opportunity to engage with our programs and services” she said.

“Participating in the DAII project gave Propel Youth Arts WA awareness about the needs of young people with a disability and helped our organisation to look to the future for ways to bring awareness about the importance of inclusive arts practises.”

The Recognition Award coincides with the release of the Department of Culture and the Arts and Disability Services Commission publication “*Open Arts – Reflections on the Disability and the Arts Inclusion Initiative in Western Australia.*”

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