

## Making a Move National Youth Week Launch 09 makes its creative mark

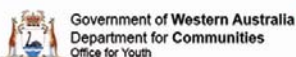


**What:** WA Official Launch of National Youth Week 2009  
**When:** Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> March  
**Where:** Perth Town Hall (Corner of Barrack & Hay St)  
**Time:** 2pm-5pm

Excitement in the air, funky music and an enthusiastic crowd turned the historic Perth Town Hall into a creative hub of live music, dance, arts and creative activities on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March. Over 600 people turned up to celebrate the launch of National Youth Week 2009 with a performing and visual arts exhibition of 23 very talented young artists.

Young and the young at heart mingled and admired the works of the local and regional artists who undertook an 8 week mentorship with an artist of their choice. The result was a diverse and reflective exhibition encompassing illustration, photography, painting, fashion design, filmmaking, performance, sculpture, mixed media, animation, percussion, graphic design, surface design, dancing, children's book writing and installation.

The event was hosted by **Propel Youth Arts WA**, WA's peak body for youth arts and supported by **beyondblue: the national depression initiative** and **Department for Communities' Office for Youth**. The mentorship program provided an opportunity for the artists to be a part of the full creative process, from developing their concepts to exhibiting the final works. The process allowed the artists to learn new skills and gain invaluable advice from established artists who have sustained their creative careers.



WA's regional creative sector was well represented with artists from Broome, Dalyellup, Tom Price, Esperance, Kukerin and Margaret River showcasing their work at the launch.

The launch, open to the public, was full of arts activities for the inspired, ready to get their hands dirty and leave a creative mark. There was temporary tattooing for the adventurous, badge making, screen printing and tie dying the environmentally friendly propel.org.au canvas bags. Free souvenir catalogues provided a take home keepsake from the day.

People were invited to contribute their thoughts to the vibrant Youth Tree, relax on the grass or sit on cushioned crates to watch the dynamic live performances. Artists and their mentors happily chatted to the crowd about their work. Free slushies and yummy finger food provided fuel for those needing an energy boost. Word on the street enticed people to pop by to see what all the fuss was about, adding to the spontaneous buzz and laidback vibe of the event.

Propel Youth Arts WA General Manager Sonja Basic said the exhibition served to raise awareness to the value and profile of youth arts in the state.

"Propel Youth Arts WA is all about creating opportunities for young West Australians to access the Arts, so we are excited to be able to have such a public outcome to celebrate and promote the works from these emerging artists."

She said the launch also provided many sustainable outcomes as a result of the mentorship project.

"Already one of the photographers, Gary Sutton, has scored work with The West Australian which is fantastic news at the possibilities awaiting these talented young people."

Staff and Volunteers dedicated their time, creativity and unwavering energy to ensure the success of the launch.

**The exhibition is now showing at the Perth Town Hall until Saturday 4 April.**

**For more information** please contact Communications and Marketing Officer Lisa Wallace on 9328 5855 or [lisa@propel.org.au](mailto:lisa@propel.org.au)

