

## ***Exit Art: 2020* Winners announced**

**For immediate release**

15 March 2021

**Winners of the *Exit Art* Student Exhibition were announced at MAGNT Darwin on Friday evening.**

Spanning across almost three decades, *Exit Art* continues to nurture the contemporary art and design practice from Northern Territory Year 12 students.

44 talented finalists were selected from across the Territory in the annual *Exit Art* Student Exhibition. 51 artworks produced in a variety of mediums were chosen from students in Darwin, Alice Springs, Yirrkala and Wadeye.

"I warmly congratulate this year's student artists and the well - deserved winners. It's great to see many of the winning artworks celebrating the artists' connection to culture," said MAGNT Director Marcus Schutenko.

"I was not expecting it at all. I'm still kind of in shock about winning it. I'm really glad that the message behind my art is getting noticed. I feel like it's a very important thing is something people need to recognise. Not all art of the female body is recognised. Sometimes it just exists," said Minister's Award Winner, Eden Lilley.

More than ever, *Exit Art* is an important outlet for young artists. It gives students an opportunity to express their thoughts, feelings and issues that are important to them.

"Last year's exhibition was on the cusp of COVID shutdowns and the start of its impact on all of us here in the Territory. *Exit Art*:

*2020* includes reflections on some of those experiences and the emotions felt by those students. MAGNT's partnership with the Department of Education is proud to offer a creative avenue to share these experiences," said Mr Schutenko.

Many works express ideas about mental health, isolation and the emotions our youth experienced during this unprecedented COVID time. Other works feature really fun experiences, while some examine culture, family relationships and growing up in the Northern Territory.

### **2020 Student Winners**

#### **Minister's Choice Award**

Eden LILLEY, NT Christian College

#### **Art Educators of the Northern Territory Award**

Muhammad HASSAN, Centralian Senior College

#### **Darwin Visual Arts Award**

Emily MCGINNESS, Centralian Senior College

#### **Jackson's Art Supplies Award**

Tali STODDART, Casuarina Senior College

#### **Tactile Arts Award**

Kenisha WINUNGUJ, Yirrkala School



Northern Territory Minister for Education Lauren Moss said art was an important outlet for students and a valued part of the school curriculum.

“Art can play a critical role in a student’s education, offering an important creative outlet as well as having strong links to the study of maths and science. Art also helps to make sense of the world and provides a way to express thoughts, feelings and ideas,” Ms Moss said.

“It is truly inspiring to see the depth of creativity and complexity of work displayed by this year’s arts students across many mediums. I’m confident that many of this year’s artists will go on to be important contributors to our thriving arts community.

“Congratulations to you all; you deserve to be very proud.”

*Exit Art* is presented by the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory in partnership with the Northern Territory Department of Education.

View the [Exit Art: 2020 student video here](#).

### EXHIBITION DATES

Exit Art is open until 13 June 2021 and is free entry.

-ends-

### Media enquiries:

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### Available for interview:

Marcus Schutenko – MAGNT Director. Winners subject to availability.

### About MAGNT

Set in a scenic location overlooking Fannie Bay in Darwin, MAGNT is home to internationally renowned artistic, cultural and scientific collections and research programs.

Each year MAGNT presents a dynamic program of exhibitions carefully curated from the collection, as well as the best travelling exhibitions from around Australia. It is also the home of the annual Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards - the most significant celebration of its kind in Australia.

### Image 1

Minister’s Choice Award Winner  
Eden LILLEY  
NT Christian College  
*Feminist BS 2020*  
gauche on canvas and embroidery  
hoops 110 x 75 cm

### Image 2

Art Educators of the Northern Territory Award Winner  
Muhammad HASSAN  
Centralian Senior College  
*Chicken 2020*  
synthetic polymer paint and aerosol paint on wire mesh  
and fly screen, metal tube and newspaper  
37h x 25w x 40d cm