



Image: Artist Greg Barr watching ceramicist Stewart Scambler creating a fire pit for works created in the Revealed professional development clay workshop, Fremantle Arts Centre

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## Winter Wonderland

All of the little nuts As We Are has been busy squirreling away for the last few months, are starting to pay big dividends now that it's winter! At the beginning of this month we open our call for entries for this year's As We Are Art Award, late-July we start a free series of 6 x 8-week art workshops, and at the very end of the month we are hosting our 6th annual disability and the arts forum on artists product lines and are holding a corresponding pop-up art shop. Whoah ... a winter wonderland indeed!

In this winter edition of the As We Are Newsletter can you read all about these upcoming initiatives. You can also read about some of As We Are's recent successes including our 3rd annual exhibition, 'cathARTic', at the Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital Art Gallery as well as our involvement in the Revealed exhibition for new & emerging Aboriginal artists at the Fremantle Arts Centre. I am sure you will also be very inspired by artist John Verjans, the feature of this month's Artist Profile.

A big welcome to our new and ongoing sponsors for the 2016 As We Are Art Award - detailed on page 2 and 10.

Snuggle up for a great read, and see you when the sun comes out! Susie

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[www.asweare.com.au](http://www.asweare.com.au)

[www.facebook.com/  
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## 2016 AS WE ARE ART AWARD & EXHIBITION

With entries opening mid-July, it's hard to believe it's that time of year again for the 2016 As We Are Art Award & Exhibition! As per last year, entrants are invited to submit one artwork of any medium. Artwork size and weight limits are the same as last year: 1 x 1m and up to 5kg for 2D works, and 0.5m<sup>3</sup> and up to 10 kg for 3D works. All artworks are also to be made **available for sale** with a minimum sale price of \$50.

With thanks to Jabula Farm and Art Partners (Bunbury), in 2016 we will be introducing a 7th art award, the '**Jabula Farm Regional Art Award**'. This award is specifically for entrants from regional, remote and rural areas in Western Australia. Each of the **seven art awards** has a corresponding **cash prize of \$500**:

- Rosalind Lewis Award
  - David Guhl Award for Artistic Excellence
  - Aurenda Art Award
  - Stephen Delower Memorial Three-Dimensional Award
  - Replants Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Award
  - Jabula Farm Regional Art Award
  - Victoria Park Centre for the Arts People's Choice Award
- Ten Certificates of High Commendation will also be

awarded by the professional judging panel for outstanding artworks.

As We Are is currently looking for participating artists and their supporters to **volunteer at the exhibition** for two-hour shifts during the 13-day opening period. This is a great hands on experience for artists in staffing an exhibition, including greeting visitors, encouraging people to vote in the people's choice award, and managing artwork sales. If you are interested in volunteering please contact the As We Are Coordinator.

Previous entrants will receive a hard copy entry form and guidelines mid-July, for further information or to download an electronic copy however please visit the As We Are website: [www.asweare.com.au](http://www.asweare.com.au) Best wishes to all artists and we look forward to seeing your entries very soon!

A big thanks to our new and ongoing sponsors: Nulsen, City of Perth, Mosaic Community Care, Central Park, Hombuyers, Firstnature, Aurenda, Disability Services Commission, Replants, Victoria Park Centre for the Arts, Jabula Farm, Art Partners, Bitches Brew Custom Picture Framers and the David Giles Art Studios.



### KEY DATES & LOCATIONS:

**Entries open:** Mid-July

**Entry form deadline:** 5pm, Wednesday 31st August

**Delivery of artworks:** 10am - 12pm, Friday 16th September, Victoria Park Centre for the Arts, 12 Kent Street, East Victoria Park

**Exhibition Opening and Award Presentation Evening:** 6 - 8pm, Saturday 24th September, Central Park Building Foyer (152-158 St Georges Terrace, Perth)

**Exhibition open:** Sunday 25th September to Friday 7th October (Monday - Saturday, 10am - 4pm; Sunday 11am - 3pm), Central Park Building Foyer

**Collection of unsold and purchased artworks:** 4 - 6pm, Friday 7th October, Central Park Building Foyer



# AS WE ARE ART WORKSHOPS

As We Are is pleased to be hosting a free series of five 8-week art workshops throughout the Perth metropolitan area for people who have an intellectual disability. Each of the workshop series' will focus on a different art technique and medium/s, and will be facilitated by a professional Western Australian artist. Each workshop series' is limited to 6 participants (aged 18+), each attending with a support person, and includes art materials. Be sure to get your registration form in fast to avoid missing a place!



## PHOTOGRAPHY with Garry Wilcox

Participants will learn the basics of photography including composition and lighting, and each week will explore a different photographic theme including nature, portraits, landscapes, architecture and artwork photography. The photography workshops will involve field trips to a number of natural and cultural locales of Fremantle.

**9.30 - 11.30am, Tuesdays, 26 July to 13 September**

Core Studios, Queensgate Building, Level 3, 10 William St, Fremantle

## PAINTING with David Giles

Participants will explore colour and mark-making in this workshop series. Participants will learn how to create colour combinations and colour harmonies, as well as learning how to use different tools for mark-making, including brushes, spatulas and rollers.

**9.30 - 11.30am, Mondays, 1 August to 19 September**

Studio Eleven, 11 Captain's Lane, Fremantle



## SCALING UP with Catherine Peattie

Creating large-scale work is a challenge for many artists, with increased challenges for artists with disability. In these workshops participants will learn how to scale up their artwork, both in terms of skill as well as confidence and resources. Participants will work with a range of media including charcoal, pencil and acrylic paint to create large-scale works on canvas and paper.

**1.30 - 3.30pm, Fridays, 5 August to 23 September**

Koorliny Arts Centre, Sulphur Road, Kwinana



## MIXED MEDIA DRAWING with Charlotte O'Shea

Participants will explore the use of colour using abstract techniques with acrylic paint, food dye and paper on board (collage). Participants will explore their creativity and the use of colour using abstract techniques geared to the skills level of each participant.

**1.30 - 3.30pm, Mondays, 5 September to 24 October**

Victoria Park Centre for the Arts, 12 Kent Street, East Victoria Park



## SCULPTURE USING RECYCLED MATERIALS

### with Charlotte O'Shea

Participants will learn how to use easily-accessible discarded material - including plastic bottles, cardboard boxes, packaging, egg cartons, newspaper etc - to create three-dimensional works. Participants will also learn how to decorate their sculptures using quality acrylic paint and hand dyed papers.

**1.00 - 3.00pm, Wednesdays, 7 September to 26 October**

Victoria Park Centre for the Arts, 12 Kent Street, East Victoria Park



Government of Western Australia  
Department of Culture and the Arts



This project has been funded by the Western Australian Government through the Department of Culture and the Arts.

As We Are invites you to attend our 6th Disability and the Arts Forum

## ARTIST PRODUCT LINES

Expanding Your Art Practice, Income and Audience

29 July 2016



While exhibiting your artwork in exhibitions and galleries is an integral component of being a successful artist, developing and selling an art product line is another significant way to expand your creative practice as well as your income and audience.

Be inspired by industry representatives and a number of artists who have an intellectual disability who will share their experience of developing their own successful product line that reflects their unique artistic style, including:

- deciding what product/s to create and materials to use
- creating the products, including sourcing materials
- naming, labelling and packaging products
- pricing and selling art products
- maintaining a customer base, as well as
- product successes, failures and lessons learnt!

Speakers include (see overleaf for more information):

- **Bec's Dogs:** Rebecca Johnston, Artist
- **The Corner Shop:** Kellee Aberg, Creative Director, Community First
- **Sunshine Designs by Valda:** Valda Petersen, Artist
- **Quality Art Products:** Karen Hazell, Stockist, Aspects of Kings Park

Following the forum will be a **Pop-Up Art Shop** where you will have the opportunity to see first-hand, as well as purchase, art products from a select number of As We Are artists including the above-mentioned artists (see separate flyer for more information).

**Time:** 10.15am registration, 10.30am–12.30pm

**Date:** Friday 29 July 2016

**Where:** PS Art Space, 22 Pakenham Street, Fremantle

**Cost:** \$10 Artist who has an intellectual disability; \$25 Individual or Community Member;  
\$40 Organisational Staff Member

Please visit [www.asweare.com.au](http://www.asweare.com.au) to download a **registration form**





**ARTISTS**  
WHO HAVE AN  
INTELLECTUAL  
DISABILITY

# POP-UP ART SHOP

FRIDAY 29 JULY, 1-5PM

SATURDAY 30 JULY, 9AM-4PM

PS ART SPACE

22 Pakenham St. Fremantle

Featuring hand-made art products from  
Western Australian Artists including:

**Katrina Barber**

**Justin Carter**

**Clive Collender**

**Gillian Deague**

**Aimee Dickson**

**Peter Dixon**

**Rebecca Johnston**

**Janine Noonan**

**Valda Petersen**

**Jane Ryan**

**The Corner Shop artists**

[www.asweare.com.au](http://www.asweare.com.au)



**PS|AS**



Jane Ryan, 'Tower', raffia and yarn, 45x15x15cm; Photo: Julie Van Oosten



John (right) with art teacher pictured in front of John's artwork at the Atwell Arts Centre

## ARTIST PROFILE:

## JOHN VERJANS

John Verjans is a multi-award winning Western Australia based in Willetton. His art practice primarily comprises large acrylic paintings of mesmerising land and sea scapes...

### Tell us a little bit about yourself:

I have a big, supportive family. I play footie with CBC 'All Abilities' football team. We train every Thursday and play matches on Saturdays. I like watching television and usually watch current affairs and the news. I also like art programs such as 'Colour in your Life'.

### When and how did you first become interested in art?

I first got interested in art when I did a one-year Art for Disabilities TAFE course at the Leederville campus. Part of the course included exhibiting at Perth Town Hall where I sold one painting. TAFE also bought



'Distant Light,' 2016, acrylic on canvas, 180 x 120cm  
cathARTic exhibition



John pictured at the Warehouse Gallery with his artwork: 'Looking Beyond,' 2016, acrylic on canvas, 180 x 120cm



'Our Big Land,' 2015, acrylic on canvas, 92 x 62cm  
Judges' High Commendation  
2015 As We Are Art Award

one piece which I was told was hung in their foyer. After that I held a very successful exhibition at home in our courtyard.

### What mediums do you work with? Which is your favourite and why?

I have tried different mediums but my favourite is acrylic paint. I like it because the colours are bright and strong. I like to work on big canvases. My last one was very big – 180 x 120cm.

### What inspires your art practice?

I love going out of Perth and look out for the colours in the paddocks and the sunsets. I take photos on my ipad. I would like to learn more about photography.

### Where do you create your artwork?

I work in the back courtyard at home. There is plenty of space. Tuesday mornings is when I work with my art mentor.



'Sunset Glow in Red,' 2014, acrylic on canvas, 45 x 30cm  
Betta Curtains' People's Choice Award, 2014 As We Are Art Award



'Lornikeets,' 2014, acrylic on canvas, 76 x 56cm



'Dancing Metal I and II,' 2015, acrylic on canvas, 122 x 30cm each  
wholeheARTed exhibition



'Sparkling Oceans,' acrylic on canvas, 2014, 77 x 77 cm  
ARTiculate exhibition

**How would you describe your artistic style?**

A free and loose abstract style is what I prefer. I use mainly brushes but I also use rollers and palette knives. I experiment with different thicknesses of paint, mediums and varnishes.

**What are some of your major art achievements?**

I have received numerous awards in the annual As We Are Art Award since 2012. In 2014 I won the ASID logo design competition. This year I have been a major contributor in an inaugural exhibition at the Warehouse Gallery, and have also donated my work to numerous causes.

**What's the best thing about being an artist?**

I really enjoy talking to people about my art, especially at exhibitions where my art is showing. Getting awards is a bonus! Art has helped my concentration levels. I have given a few of my paintings to special people who have helped me over the years. I feel pleased when they are happy. I donated a large picture to my football club's fundraising auction.

**What advice do you have for aspiring artists?**

Look at all the colours around you. Don't be afraid to try – and give it a go!



'Mystic Mountain,' 2012, acrylic on canvas, 91 x 91cm  
Aurenda Art Award, 2012 As We Are Art Award



John's latest work: 'Shipwreck,' 2016, acrylic on canvas, 120 x 51cm



John hard at work in his outdoor home art studio



'Sprayclouds,' 2013, acrylic on canvas, 91 x 91cm  
2013 As We Are Art Award

## cathARTic EXHIBITION

For the third year running, As We Are partnered with the Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital (SCGH) Art Gallery, to bring you 'cathARTic,' an exhibition featuring the works of 23 artists. As per last year, the exhibition featured artworks from the winners, recipients of the judges' high commendation and outstanding artists of the prior annual As We Are Art Award & Exhibition.



Amanda White pictured here in front of her work (top): 'Spotty Cruise,' mixed media on canvas, 61 x 25cm

This year's talented artists included:

Aimee Dickson, Amanda White, Bonnie Wilkinson, Brian Wasley, Brooke Mathew, Claire Emmerson, Clive Collender, David Guhl, Delores Purdie, Greg Barr, Jane Ryan, Janine Noonan, Jeremy Gowing, Joel Grant, John Holland, John Verjans, Josh Harper, Joshua Bott, Katrina Barber, Kristen Cameron, Lindy Johnson, Martin Cahill and Susan Beardsmore.

The artworks featured were primarily drawings and paintings, with many of the

artists' taking inspiration from animals, flowers and trees, as well as their personal cultural heritage and relationships. Visitors to the exhibition commented on the high quality of the works, responding accordingly with 8 of the 23 works selling, totalling approximately \$2,500 in sales.

This year As We Are garnered the support of the City of Nedlands for the exhibition, through their Community Grants Fund and also from Mayor Max Hipkins who officially opened the exhibition. Major Hipkins gave a thoughtful welcome, congratulating the participating artists and reaffirming the apt title of the exhibition 'cathARTic,' which reflected the capacity of the artists to move viewers of their artworks emotionally, psychologically and spiritually. An inspiring achievement!



Katrina Barber, 'Vessels Series,' recycled fired copper and beads, various sizes



Claire Emmerson pictured here in front of her work: 'Nesting on High,' watercolour pencil on paper, 36 x 49cm

For those unable to attend in person, a catalogue accompanied the exhibition, which can be viewed and downloaded from the As We Are website: [www.asweare.com.au](http://www.asweare.com.au). The catalogue features an image and short description of all the 23 artworks from the artists.



Artist Kristen Cameron (middle), pictured here in front of her artwork with Pat Donovan, President Atco Gas and Gordon Trewern, CEO Nulsen Disability Services: 'Untitled,' acrylic on canvas, 30 x 30cm (left)

On behalf of As We Are, I would like to extend a very big THANK YOU to Joanna Wakefield, Curator of the Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital Art Gallery for this exhibition opportunity. After three very successful years, As We Are greatly looks forward to continuing this select annual exhibition in 2017!

## REVEALED 2016: NEW & EMERGING ABORIGINAL ARTISTS' PROGRAM

Earlier this year As We Are was contacted by Emilia Galatis (Revealed 2016 Coordinator) to see if As We Are's Aboriginal artists would like to participate in a program for new and emerging Aboriginal artists throughout Western Australia: 'Revealed 2016'. Emilia came across the artists' work at an exhibition at the Walyalup (Fremantle) Aboriginal Cultural Centre last December in celebration of International Day of People with Disability.

Revealed is an annual program and in 2016 it was the first time being held at the Fremantle Arts Centre. The program comprises an exhibition, art market, symposium and professional development opportunities.

Shortly after Emilia excitedly got in touch, I forwarded examples of artworks from previous Aboriginal entrants of our annual As We Are Art Award. Emilia and her team selected four artists to participate: Amanda White, Brooke Mathew, Greg Barr and Vicki-Lee Devenish. Eleven of their artworks were selected for exhibition alongside more than 60 other Aboriginal artists many from remote WA Aboriginal

communities.

The opening night of the Revealed exhibition certainly was a buzz, with hundreds of people in attendance, including all 4 of the As We Are artists. From the smiles on their faces I can certainly attest to their delight in participating and the opportunity for significant public exposure. The artists did very well, selling five works collectively on the opening night, and another during the open period.

Greg Barr also took advantage of the opportunity to participate in one of six 2-day art workshops with professional WA artists - a clay workshop with renown ceramicist Stewart Scambler. At the workshop Greg learnt how to make clay brooches, hollow forms as well as 3-D vessels; he also learnt how to make a fire pit to fire the clay works. The other workshops on offer included life-drawing, animation, photography, textile printing and weaving.

The biggest of thanks and congratulations to Amanda, Brooke, Greg and Vicki-Lee. As We Are looks forward to participating again next year!



Brooke Mathew, 'Evening Bottlebrushes,' 2015, watercolour on paper, 48 x 60cm



Vicki-Lee Devenish, 'Diva,' 2011, pencil on paper, 22 x 31cm



Amanda White, 'Dreaming of Lost People,' 2015, watercolour and text on canvas, 80 x 40cm



Greg Barr, 'Untitled,' 2015, acrylic and posca on canvas, 89 x 60cm

## Upcoming Art Awards for Entry



Janine Noonan, 'Basket with Flowers, 2016, acrylic and posca on canvas, 45 x 63 cm

### Perth Royal Art Show - Entries close 4.30pm Friday 22 July 2016

WA artists are invited to enter one entry per person, up to 125x125x10cm in size and 15kg in weight. Total prize pool \$17,000, including \$12,000 for best overall artwork and \$4,500 for best artwork by a WA regional artist.

To download a schedule or entry form please go to: <http://www.perthroyalshow.com.au/best-in-show/competition-entries/perth-royal-art-show.aspx>

For further information or assistance please contact Chloe Pursun on (08) 6263 3157 or [art@raswa.org.au](mailto:art@raswa.org.au)

### Ellenbrook Open Art Award - Entries close 4pm Friday 29th July 2016

Open for all visual art forms, including painting, sculpture, photography, works on paper and textiles. Prizes for most outstanding artwork, painting, photography, mixed media, youth awards (14-18 yrs) and people's choice.

To download a copy of the entry form and terms and conditions please go to: [http://www.ellenbrookarts.com.au/Ellenbrook\\_Open\\_Art\\_Award](http://www.ellenbrookarts.com.au/Ellenbrook_Open_Art_Award)

### City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder Art Prize 2016 - Entries close 1st August 2016

Entries open 1 July and close 1 August 2016.

Perth artwork drop off 11th August and Kalgoorlie-Boulder drop off 19 August.

For more information please visit <http://www.ckb.wa.gov.au>

### City of Busselton Art Award - Entries close 29th August 2016

Total prize pool of \$13,000, including awards for emerging artists and people's choice.

Exhibition runs from 16 September to 23 October.

For all enquiries and entry forms please email [artgeo@artgeo.com](mailto:artgeo@artgeo.com)

As We Are is proudly supported by:

