



**MEDIA RELEASE – 09 August 2021 – For immediate release**

## **ANNUAL ART EXHIBITION SAVING SCHOOL STUDENTS' ART FROM THE SKIP**

Incredible artwork is created at a secondary school level and, more often than not, these student art folios, filled with fabulous works, end up either in a deep, dark corner of their parents' garage or in the school skip.

The Creators' Room have confirmed a new venue to hold their annual 'Art Stars' exhibition in Ōtautahi's CBD:

### **VENUE: The Hereford to High Street Atrium**

*Entrances at 248-250 High Street (between Recycle Boutique & Head Over Heels) and 150 Hereford Street (beside City Fitness)*

**OPENING NIGHT: 03 September, 6pm – 9pm. Tickets \$35 via [thecreatorsroom.co.nz](http://thecreatorsroom.co.nz)**

**EXHIBITION: 4 – 18 September, Open daily 9am - 6pm**

Visitation numbers are expected to reach 15,000 over the 2 week exhibition.

The Creators' Room, which launched in 2018, offers a youth development programme available to young creatives aged 15-18 years to showcase their work and connect with our community of collectors. The programme currently receives over 2,000 submissions per year from young creatives. The Creators' Room provides upfront financial support, through the purchase and professional framing of the original artworks and funding the reproduction of limited edition prints. The artworks are then made available to the collectors through an online marketplace and annual exhibition, with a commission of all sales going directly to the artists.

The Creators' Room is on a mission to give their Creators the first taste of a career as an artist and encourage continued participation in and appreciation of the arts once they leave the support of the school environment. "Secondary School art students face a number of roadblocks when taking the first daunting leap to publicly showcase their artwork. They lack resources and funding to create and present their work on a professional level and have limited ways of marketing themselves and connecting with the wider arts community."

Since its inception in 2018, The Creators' Room has provided upwards of \$210,000 in financial support to our young Creator's in Canterbury alone. "As part of our mission to encourage continued participation in the arts, we



award an annual scholarship to one deserving Creator, consisting of a \$3,000 cash contribution to help support the growth and development of their artistic career."

The scholarship is judged by an independent judging panel consisting of practising artists and art experts. This year the scholarship was awarded to Annabelle Goodwin of St Margaret's College. The judging panel included:

- Blair Jackson: Director, Christchurch Art Gallery Te Puna o Waiwhetū
- Julie Williams: Gallery Manager, Chambers Art Gallery + Studio Spaces
- Janna van Hasselt: Practising Canterbury artist
- Kate Woodley: Practising Canterbury artist

While the programme is currently only available in Canterbury, the opportunity will be made available to all Secondary Schools throughout Aotearoa in the coming years.

Original work will be up for sale during the 14-day exhibition with prices ranging from \$200 - \$800. Twenty guest artists from around Canterbury will also be exhibiting alongside the students.

*This project is supported by the Christchurch City Council's Enliven Places Projects Fund.*

For more information, please contact Co-founders:

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