

Media Release **No.638**

For release 11 May 2015

2015 ART SKILLS WORKSHOPS

Over 50 participants throughout the Torres Strait have received training in basic art skills, through workshops coordinated by the Torres Strait Regional Authority (TSRA) Culture, Art and Heritage Programme.

The four-day workshops in communities including Badu, St Paul's, Warraber and Poruma, offered opportunities for participants to develop skills in acrylic painting and 3D design.

The workshops were delivered by former Tagai TAFE art teacher, Diana Abiad, who worked alongside participants to help develop an initial concept, and to translate individual concepts using the elements and principles of design.

Workshops also addressed basic colour theory, brush techniques the use of tone to create paintings and small sculptural works.

The TSRA Chairperson, Mr Joseph Elu, said the regular workshops are an important arts development initiative and open to all community members to attend.

"Through art skills and product development workshops, the Culture, Art and Heritage (CAH) Programme facilitates training to build skills in communities and create economic opportunities for artists," Mr Elu said.

"The current art skills workshops aim to support the unique talent and creative abilities of Indigenous artists and to build on skills to support the creation of works that are of a saleable quality."

Mr Elu said the workshops are a regular activity of the TSRA Arts Development initiative, which aims to support the development of a skilled and professional Torres Strait Islander arts industry.

"Through the CAH Programme, the TSRA regularly delivers targeted workshops aimed at developing intensive skills in areas appropriate to individual communities, determined by level of interest, access to resources and sustainability," Mr Elu said.

"Workshops are available throughout the year for interested community members."

For more information about future workshops, or the TSRA Culture, Art and Heritage Programme, contact the TSRA Arts Development Officer on 07 40 690 872 or diat.alferink@tsra.gov.au.



Participants in TSRA Art Skills workshops held recently on Warraber Island



Participants in TSRA Art Skills workshops held recently on Poruma Island

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