

MEDIA RELEASE

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA

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ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors



Silk and skateboards get artistic treatment

An ambitious art project featuring skateboard make-overs and fashion design is about to be completed at the Bridgewater Art House today.

For the past eight weeks about 55 primary and high school students from four schools in the Bridgewater/Gagebrook area have been working with two postgraduate students from the UTAS Tasmanian School of Art on a project called *Spray On Silk*.

UTAS students Peter Kozak and Wen Xu are passing on their skills to the students at the Bridgewater Art House, a recently established community space in the Bridgewater community garden complex.

Peter Kozak is a graphic designer, a street artist and muralist. Wen Xu is a fashion designer who designs amazing clothes using feathers, leather, fur, silk, satins as well as creating an array of masks and mannequins.

Peter is working with students to decorate 52 blank skateboard decks for exhibition using a stencil art process. Wen has been working with students to make masks and design garments for a series of mannequins.

Tony Woodward, Project Manager, The Pathways Project, from the UTAS School of Art, said Peter and Wen are completing this residency as part of their Professional Practice unit.

“Although it is a pilot, it is anticipated that this kind of project will grow, to give more art school students the experience of work-integrated learning,” he said.

Peter and Wen will be completing the final day of their residence at the Art House **today** to work with students on the final stages of this project.

The finished artworks will be on exhibition in the Brighton Civic Centre. The opening is on August 30 at 4:30pm and works will be displayed until September 6.

This program is a collaboration between the Bridgewater Federation of Schools, the Alcorso Foundation, the Brighton Council, Bridgewater High School and the UTAS Tasmanian School of Art.

Media opportunity:

Media are invited to come along today from 10am to 1pm and see the final touches being put on the art work by Peter, Wen and their young collaborators. The Art House is located on the grounds of the Riverside Community Garden and Nursery on Eddington Street in Bridgewater.

For more information please contact Tony Woodward, Project Manager, The Pathways Project, Tasmanian School of Art, or anthony.woodward@education.tas.gov.au

Information Released by:

The Media Office, University of Tasmania
Phone: (03) 6226 2691 Mobile: 0447 537 375
Email: Media.Office@utas.edu.au

About the Bridgewater Art House: The Art house was completed with funds from the Brighton Council, Vodafone, Log a Load for Kids, Norske Skog and STEPS (Campbell Page).

As an extension of the nursery, the Art House embraces a holistic view of education in the Bridgewater/Gagebrook area. It complements The Nursery, Pete's Community Shed, PCYC and the Bridgewater High School Farm in that it provides another exciting learning space in addition those offered in the four schools in the area.

One of the goals of the Art House is to use current educational and recreational programs that focus on the Visual Arts with an emphasis on building positive relationships, individualised learning programs, enterprise, business skills development and pursuing marketing strategies for artworks produced on site.