



MEDIA RELEASE
For Immediate Release
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Subject: Gallery prepares for milestone exhibition

Hervey Bay Regional Gallery staff and volunteers are preparing to be swamped by artists and artworks on Monday (1 September) as deliveries start pouring in for one of the most popular exhibitions on the calendar.

More than 200 paintings and drawings will be checked in, poured over, laid out, measured and hung next week in preparation for the Hervey Bay Art Society competitive exhibition.

The art society this year celebrates its milestone 25th annual competition with a gala exhibition opening on Friday night (5 September) that the whole community is invited to attend.

The highlight of the night will be the announcement of the prizewinning works, with almost 100 artists from across the Fraser Coast, Queensland and even interstate vying for top honours in each section.

The biggest purse is for Section One, for paintings of any subject and any medium, with the winning artist collecting a \$2000 cheque jointly sponsored by Fraser Coast Regional Council and the Hervey Bay Art Society.

The efforts of the Bay's youngest artists will also be on display in the three youth sections.

Friday night's opening will kick off at 7pm. Entry is free, refreshments including a huge 25th birthday cake will be served and a cash bar will operate.

Visitors can purchase a hand-painted souvenir catalogue for a mere \$3 and buy a \$2 ticket in the raffle to win a Kingfisher Bay Resort cruise and dinner or an original acrylic painting by Annette Fell.

The opening night will be followed on Saturday (6 September) by a fascinating, free floor talk by the competition judges, Sandra Ross and Ross Fleming. At 10.30am, visitors and entrants can take a tour of the exhibition and hear the judges' feedback on the winning works.

The Hervey Bay Art Society 25th Annual Competitive Art Exhibition is on view until September 29, entry is free and all the artworks are for sale.

Hervey Bay Regional Gallery at 161 Old Maryborough Road, Pialba (in the same complex as Hervey Bay Library) is open from 10am to 4pm Monday to Saturday. For enquiries, telephone 4197 4210.

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For media enquiries contact Hervey Bay Regional Gallery Exhibition Officer Allison Bateman on 4197 4210.

Photo opportunities (venue – Hervey Bay Regional Gallery):

- From 1pm to 4pm, Monday, 1 September – artists will be submitting their paintings to the exhibition.
- Tuesday or Wednesday, 2-3 September – exhibition being installed.
- From 11.30am, Thursday, 4 September – judging underway.
- From 7pm, Friday, 5 September – official exhibition opening function.
- From 10.30-11.30am, Saturday, 6 September – Judges' floor talk.