



Media Release
1 August, 2022

Sheer Art Attack

Earlier this year, Mount Barker District Council went out to the community to discuss ideas, opportunities and priorities relating to the arts in preparation for the development of an Arts Plan.

A draft Arts Plan has now been finished, and the council will soon be inviting the public and arts communities to provide feedback on the vision, themes, goals and strategies outlined in the plan.

“We are keen to hear from our community to make sure that we have got the plan right and that it will help cultivate healthier and happy people, neighbourhoods and communities, Mayor Ann Ferguson said.

“Arts create an important sense of pride in our identity and community.”

The draft Arts Plan provides a framework for the council and the community to develop and support creative activities and nurture artistic talent over the next five years.

“We want Mount Barker to be a place that offers captivating arts experiences that celebrate the character of the region and boosts tourism to the district, Yelaina Eaton, Team Leader Community Development said.

“Residents have told us that they want access to arts activities that celebrate our local identity and enhance the landscape.

“So too, artists want somewhere they can grow their practice, experiment, and build creative businesses that can be sustained, and where arts actively contribute to the local economy.”

Following strong community demand during consultation on the Annual Business Plan, the council included \$50,000 in the budget for an Arts Officer, and to implement the Arts Plan in 2023.

“The consultants from *Play Your Part*, who put the draft Arts Plan together supported the merit in employing an Arts Officer and saw it is a high priority in the successful delivery of the plan,” Ms Eaton said.

Public consultation on the draft Arts Plan will begin shortly and will be open for feedback for up to 6 weeks.

- ENDS -

MEDIA CONTACT:

Mount Barker District Council Communications Manager, Ian Hildebrand

P: (08) 8393 6470 | E: ihildebrand@mountbarker.sa.gov.au