

BEST STREET STUDIO E-NEWS

Summer 10/11

CONTENTS

1. From the Studio
2. Feature Story
3. Upcoming Classes, Courses & Workshops
4. Classifieds
5. Professional Development Opportunities
6. Useful Arts Information & Readings
7. Contact Us



FROM THE STUDIO

Welcome back to Best Street Studios for a brand new year of art, art, art

We've plenty planned for students this year – with lots of excursions to exhibitions and field trips to make art out in our environment!

For the kids we will be off to visit the Riverina Regional Art Gallery in the second week back of Term One. We will check out the exhibitions, and really get working on our drawing skills – looking carefully at how other artists make their marks on paper and canvas. We will then move onto the glass gallery and use some of their amazing work on display as a still life we will draw.

This year I will continue to place emphasis on getting the kids to 'see' their world – to reveal in the details, as well as being able to draw back and see the big picture. I will lead them to an understanding why we as artists make art – we are communicating!

Mid term we will visit Collins Park to look at, touch, smell and listen to trees. We will explore texture, line, form, colour, shape – all of the elements of design, in our environment. As Oscar Wilde said "The true mystery of the world is the visible, not the invisible". We will draw, photograph, take rubbings and collect samples of the trees of Collins Park.

New: A mixed bag of ideas

Kids – look out for the glittering glomesh bag of art ideas. When you are waiting in the studio or looking for something to do at home look here for 'Great Art Ideas'

The Adults don't miss out! Two exciting excursions off into the wilds beyond Wagga Wagga...

1. An Aussie Andy Goldsworthy Day out on Robyn & Steve Wood's farm at Bruceedale. Here we will explore 'ephemeral art' – making sculptures from found natural materials such as sticks and stones, branches and bones, leaves and logs.... whatever comes to hand! We will record it by photograph, video and drawing – then let it gently return to the earth. Next we will put together a book documentary of construction processes and our completed sculptures.

2. Having honed our sculpted skills with natural objects our next excursion is off to Jimmy Crackers 2nd hand junk yard extravaganza at Coolamon. Here we will work with metal found objects to create quirky, sculpted pieces which could become garden art. Again, we will make a photographic record and later document in a book form so each student can have a copy of their sculpted process.

Changes to registration and payment process for all classes and workshops

Due to the continued growth of Best Street Studios there has become a need to put into place more stringent booking and payment procedures, with the ultimate goal of online bookings and payments. To ease us into this we will start 2011 by introducing a paper based system, whereby ALL students will be required to book and pay for their workshop in advance using a booking form. All bookings will now go through our administration assistant Linda Tillman and we will be putting up booking instructions around the studio. We understand that many students have been attending our classes for years and you will be the ones to notice this change the most, however we do ask that everyone is patient and cooperative as we introduce these new systems.

To book for Term One please contact Linda for a registration pack, alternatively they will be available

from the studios from mid February.

Also, there has been a slight rise in some prices – this is purely to reflect the increased costs we are incurring.

New look website launched today – check out our new website www.beststreetstudios.com.au
We are very pleased with the visual appeal of this new design and highly recommend Web 123 to anyone looking for a new easy to use and manage website! Thanks to Simon and the team at Web 123



Kathryn Powderly

FEATURE STORY

The year that was 2010

Looking back over 2010 it's hard to believe we crammed so much into the year! I need to go and have a good lie down even thinking about it.

One mental image encapsulates the variety of a day in Kath's life at Best Street Studios...

I was down in the kiln room in early December on a Thursday afternoon – packing the kiln. The kiln room was filled to overflowing with students work ready for firing. My friend Margaret Charton from Sydney was helping – Margaret and I met at the National Art School in 1991. So, there we were packing 2 kilns – chatting away nine to the dozen, when it began to rain, and rain, and rain! The roof began to leak – in a dozen places – it ran down the walls and out the shelves, it ran across the rafters and sheeted down like a shower. It leaked and dripped and poured from places I didn't even know were holey! And you do know what happens when dry clay becomes wet? It turns to mud! So I was running back and forth getting sheets of plastic, big garbage bags and towels. As fast as we wrapped one shelf of work another would get wet. We shoved work into the kilns just to keep them dry – we juggled bowls, birds and jugs, platters, vases, wall panels, xmas decorations and trees, figurative sculptures, clowns, chooks and dogs....

At one point I discovered a student's large water bowl which I thought was covered in plastic, had actually filled up with water. I quickly tipped it out and recovered it, hoping for the best (it did survive!). I was so lucky that I was 2) in the kiln room when it started to rain and b) had Margaret with me who knew clay work and what to do to help save weeks and weeks of work!
SAVED - AND ONONE WAS EVER THE WISER!!!!

So, that night Wagga received the biggest dumping of rain, which caused flash flooding in central Wagga and led to the Murrumbidgee River flooding....Which led to me evacuating my home in North Wagga...Which led me to a deep appreciation of all the people who helped me move my possessions from North Wagga to higher, dryer ground. Despite the calls for a skip, they all worked tirelessly for hours in the heat. I would like to publicly thank all of my friends who helped on that and subsequent days: Liz Dowling – Robyn Wood – Donna & Tim Hartwig – Marg & Michael – Annie Dowling & Luke – Emily Dowling – Peter Dowling – Gab & Bill Thompson – Genevieve Shaw – Sheridan Andrews – Steve Wood – Jenny & Lloyd McKenzie – Stuart McKenzie – Marcus – Ellen Lollback – Jacqui & Dianne Mortimer – Laren Brille – Brewsty – Jez – Bridget – Diedre & Mick O'Neill – Milton Loiterton – Fran & Tony – John Palmer. I cannot tell you how much I appreciated your help – thanks!!!!

2010 Best Street Christmas Show and Twilight Market

Despite Kath being a bit overwhelmed by the flooding and considering calling the whole show off, we all rallied around and organised the 2010 Best Street Christmas Show & Sale.

The opening night with the twilight market was fantastic, with hundreds of people coming to chat together and look at great local art. Sales were good for Kath and the other ten artists who submitted work for sale, with plenty of people purchasing work for themselves and family and friends.

We are already planning for the 2011 show and are even considering a Mother's Day Christmas Sale...stay tuned!

UPCOMING CLASSES, COURSES & WORKSHOPS

Detailed event information is available on the Best Street Studios website at <http://www.beststreetstudios.com.au>

2011 Term Classes Dates – Adults & Children

Term One: February 14 – April 8
Term Two: May 2 – July 1
Term Three: July 25 – September 23
Term Four: October 17 – December 2

Bookings are now open for Term One, with positions available in all classes.

Kids School Holiday Workshops 2011

Autumn Program: April 11 – April 21
Winter Program: July 4 – July 15
Spring Program: September 26 – October 7

New programs for 2011

Kids Art classes with Tricia Harrison – This will take place on Thursday afternoons during the term dates (in place of Kath's normal explore art class). Open to children aged 6-15 years this course will focus on the use of recycled, reclaimed, reused & reconsidered materials.

The course is designed and taught by contemporary artist/sculptor Tricia Harrison. Tricia is passionately dedicated to the use of natural and recycled materials in her art and wants to share her years of sculpting experience with children of Wagga.

Bookings now open for this unique workshop

2011 weekend workshops (with Kath)

We are running several workshops throughout 2011. So far we have planned the following weekend workshops.

Glaze Workshop	Saturday March 19
Mothers Day Workshop	Sunday May 15
Ceramic Jewellery Workshop	Saturday August 13
Collage & Mixed Media for beginners	Date TBA
Mould Making	Date TBA

Art to You Program

If you can't come to us, we'll come to you!

Best Street Studios artist Kathryn Powderly is well known for her hands-on fun workshops, for both adults and children. Kath is passionate about making art accessible to all and therefore regularly travels to conduct art workshops for community groups, schools, pre schools and other education institutes. Kath is well known for her clay and mosaic workshops but can teach many more mediums. Recently Kath has conducted workshops at Marrar Public School, Hay School of the Air, ABC Glenfield, Griffith Regional Gallery and Borambola Sport & Recreation Centre.

If you would like to discuss a workshop for your needs please contact our office today.

CLASSIFIEDS

New Souvenirs for 2011 – watch this space as Kath focuses on the design of a new range of T Towels, magnets, aprons and maybe even calico bags

Gift Certificates

Best Street Studios has the most creative present you can give for any occasion. Why not buy a Gift Certificate for a friend or relative so they can discover their artistic potential? Certificates can be purchased for any amount, a particular course, or for the value of the course of your choice. A Best Street Studios Gift Certificate makes a fabulous present for anyone.

Contact the office today to discuss the options

Best Street Studios Greeting Cards

2009 saw the launch of the long awaited Best Street Studio greeting cards. With eight gorgeous designs they are the perfect card for any occasion. We are currently sourcing distribution outlets and hope to have them in many retail stores throughout the Riverina in the coming months. In the meantime feel free to contact our office for purchases.

Visit the website to check out the designs www.beststreetstudios.com.au

Wagga Wagga novelty Tea Towels

The famous Wagga Wagga crow tea towels and wild women of Wagga Wagga tea towels have become an icon for Best Street Studios. Purchase yours today at the Wagga Wagga Visitor Information Centre, Wagga Wagga Art Gallery or Best Street Studios. We also take bulk wholesale orders for the tea towels.

We are pleased to announce that we will launch two new tea towel designs in July 2010 – keep an eye out for these.

Note: If you have anything art related that you would like to sell, swap or give-away please let us know. We will be more than happy to advertise it to our large mailing list...that is if we do not buy it first!

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Willoughby Sculpture Prize

The Willoughby Sculpture Prize returns in 2011 to the iconic Incinerator site at 2 Small St, Willoughby. Building on the success of the inaugural prize in 2009 this national event will run over sixteen days from 20 August to 4 September 2011 and offers a major prize of \$15,000. This is an exciting opportunity for emerging and established artists to exhibit inside the heritage listed Incinerator and its surrounding parklands. Artists are invited to respond to one or more aspects of the theme *rethink reduce reuse recycle*, which can be addressed in terms of concept or materials. Prizes awarded total \$20,000.

Applications due: 25 February 2011

For more information www.willoughby.nsw.gov.au or phone Alison Clark on 02 9777 7972



Sydney Royal Easter Show Arts & Crafts Competition

Showcase your talent to over 900,000 people! There is over \$80,000 in prizes in this competition which is the largest of its kind in Australia. They also offer a wide variety of classes for all ages.

Applications due: 9 February 2011

For more information <http://www.sydneyroyal.com.au/arts> or phone 02 9704 1152

2011 Indigenous Ceramic Art Award (ICAA)

Under the patronage of acclaimed artist Dr Gloria Thanakupi Fletcher, this award celebrates and supports the rich and diverse use of the ceramic medium by Indigenous artists and acknowledges the

special industry of ceramic art.

This event also provides cultural exchange opportunities for Indigenous artists from around Australia and regional Victoria as well as demonstrated current developments in the field.

Applications due: 26 August 2011

For more information <http://www.sheppartonartgallery.com.au>

Calling all sculptors | Monash Gallery of Art

The City of Monash Sculpture Competition has an award of \$50,000 to be awarded to the winner for the design and fabrication of the sculpture. They are seeking proposals for a landmark sculpture to be situated on the grounds of MGA .

In 2011, MGA celebrates its 21st birthday; this is a significant year for MGA and its community. To commemorate this important event, the City of Monash is staging a sculpture competition to fund the design and fabrication of an important sculpture for the MGA Sculpture Park.

For more information and submission requirements: Cheryl Nicholson, City of Monash (03) 9518 3636. www.mga.org.au/

USEFUL ARTS INFORMATION & READINGS

Muddi Markets

Advertisements for new stall holders have started.... If you know of any creators you think may benefit from having a stall at the Feb 27th Market please pass on these details.

Visit their new look website www.muddiboutiquemarket.com for all the information call 0422587661
wed / thurs / fri 9.30am to 4.00pm

If it's homemade or handmade we want it. Fresh produce is more than welcome.

For those who can't make the February market, check them out at their Mini Market at Junee's Rhythm n Rail Festival www.juneeonline.com

Let the world see your art work!

Blue Banksia website has a new category - **Artists' Portfolio**. This is for **all** artists (teachers, beginners or professional) to showcase their work. It's a great way to get a web presence, if you don't already have one. This will provide you with a web address for your business cards. Your web address would be www.bluebanksia.com/art-gallery/your-name.

You might also have a loved one who has been putting this off for quite a while - what a lovely gift for Christmas!

For LESS than \$6.00 week you could have your own World Wide Web presence and **Artists' Portfolio** - everything is taken care of from uploading images and text, to hosting your listing, to search engine optimisation so that your listing can be found on the web.

Too easy! once done you can get back to your art practice.

To take advantage of blue Banksia's 6,000+ visitors per month go to

<http://www.bluebanksia.com/listings.html> for more information and/or to buy a listing. Just select the Priority Listing Level.

Arts and culture in Australia: a statistical overview, 2010

Covering topics including employment in culture, time spent on cultural activities, attendances at cultural venues and events, expenditure on culture, and imports and exports of cultural goods and services, this new report from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) provides a comprehensive statistical overview of culture in Australia. The report also provides profiles of the cultural sectors, grouped according to the Australian Culture and Leisure Industry Classification. The information is drawn from a variety of data sources, including ABS data and non-ABS data, to provide a more complete picture of cultural industries. The report is available for download from the Australian Policy Online website at <http://www.apo.org.au/research/arts-and-culture-australia-statistical-overview-2010>



Junee Rhythm and Rail festival – enjoy something different...

If you are looking for something to do with the family and friends on the weekend of March 4-6 we recommend you head over to Junee for the Junee Rhythm n Rail Festival. The three day festival program is packed with live music, heritage train shuttles between Junee and Wagga and Junee and Cootamundra, licorice Saturday and whisky in the well at the Licorice and Chocolate factory, a special farmers market, Junee Lamb lunch, bush poet's breakfast, hands on rocky road world record attempt, living museum at the historic Broadway Museum and the feature event of the weekend the Wind in the Roundhouse Concert at the unique Railway Roundhouse. For full details visit www.juneeonline.com

CONTACT US

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The Best Street Studios website at <http://www.beststreetstudios.com.au> has comprehensive information on workshops, courses, school programs, garden art and art sales, along with a fantastic kid's art page that has some fun kid's projects.

"I may not have gone where I intended to go, but I think I have ended up where I needed to be."