Art Exhibition & Sale

What would the Mazenod College Fine Art Exhibition & Sale be without a wet Opening Night? Yet again it rained just as our guests were arriving but those who braved the weather knew they would be well looked after as our exhibition has built up a great reputation. Numbers were low on Opening Night but were steady over the weekend and those who spent time in the gym cum art gallery were treated to a wonderful array of art. Total sales for the weekend were $75,020.

333 pieces of art were exhibited including work by Jules Sher, Jacinda Bayne, Ingrid Windram, Greg Tothill, Greg Baker and many other well known and not so well known Australian artists. The diversity of art works was quite amazing.

An exhibition such as this takes a great deal of work before and during the event and as usual it was the support of present/past/future parents, current/past students, friends and staff that enabled us to present a wonderful exhibition. These generous people helped prepare food, hang art, steward, serve food and drinks, helped at the end of the exhibition and wherever else was required. Adding to the tradition of students entertaining the guests on the piano we were fortunate to have the harp played by Jane McCabe (Year 10 parent). These small touches add to the ambience of the evening.

This year was harder than before to find volunteers, so a big thank you to those who gave their time to help in so many different ways.

When we advertised in the College newsletter for someone to take on the role of catering coordinator we did not like our chances of getting any offers so we were very pleasantly surprised when Kate Mizerski, (Year 7 parent), volunteered within hours of reading our plea for help. Kate did a wonderful job and kept up the fine Mazenod tradition of providing tasty and plentiful food; many thanks to Kate for cooking and overseeing the food preparation for Opening Night. Thank you also to Jane Wallis (Year 7 & 11 parent) and Julie Oorschot (Year 8 parent) who continued the wonderful catering over the weekend. These three plus their helpers put in many hours to help ensure the success of the exhibition.

To our committee of Nick Allen (staff and Year 8 & 12 parent), Katharine Outten (past parent), Janine Mason (past parent), Sandra Wilson (staff), Felicia Lowe (Year 11 parent & artist) and Julie Di Florio (past parent) our grateful thanks for all you did to assist in the staging of the exhibition.

We thought we might lose a few kilos running around the gym moving artwork at Nick’s request but it seems the chocolate consumed during the days of placing the art counteracted the exercise. However all the changes paid off as many people commented on how well the work was exhibited, so congratulations Nick. There were some anxious moments for Katharine as the deadline loomed for the catalogue to be at the printers but all was well in the end as we knew it would be due to her efficiency. Thanks must go to Felicia for the painting of the College which featured on the catalogue cover. When we mentioned to her that we wanted to change the cover, Felicia took up the challenge and we were very pleased with the end result. Sandra provided us with much needed light relief when the three of us were spending a second night hanging (our volunteers had hung all they could the previous night) and she also spent most of the weekend helping. Janine as in previous years was ever reliable and organised the stewards as well as helping on the weekend. Julie helped out as the art was delivered but then took off to Broome (lucky her) with a friend who did not realise the significance of the last Friday in August.

A big thank you to our families who do not see much of us for 10 days or so and put up with us talking endlessly about the art exhibition. We really do appreciate your patience and support.

We plan to do it all again next year and ask everyone to get on board to make the 20th Mazenod College Fine Art Exhibition and Sale a memorable celebration of our College bringing art to the hills.

Anne Greenley & Maria Pagotto
Art Exhibition Coordinators