

POSTER PRESENTATION

City of Rockingham Castaways Sculpture Awards - Environmental awareness through artistic innovation

Rebecca Cassells, City of Rockingham

Abstract

Castaways Sculpture Awards is the City of Rockingham's signature arts and culture event, celebrating environmental awareness and artistic innovation.

'Castaways' is an annual outdoor 'recycled sculpture' exhibition. The awards categories – with a prize pool of \$26,000 - are judged on the creative use of recycled and repurposed materials in new and unexpected ways, and the artist's message, supporting the concept of sustainability.

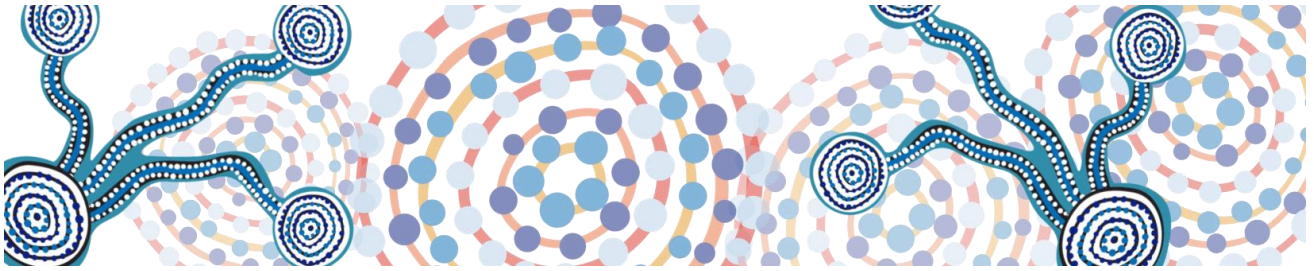
Castaways started in 2008 as a community project to raise awareness around the discarded items or 'castaways' washing up on local beaches and has continued to expand and evolve. Today, Castaways provides an important opportunity for emerging and professional Western Australian artists, schools, and local businesses to be a part of a regionally-recognised and professionally-curated arts program that continues to promote environmental values.

One of the key objectives of Castaways is to deliver the City's message on recycling and environmental awareness through creative channels. Each year, the community's love of the natural environment, and the importance of reducing our impact is showcased via three exhibitions:

- Main Exhibition, at the Rockingham Foreshore (on the beach)
- Maquette and Small Sculpture Exhibition, at the Rockingham Arts Centre
- Castaways Schools Competition Exhibition, at Churchill Park (Rockingham Foreshore)

The Castaways Schools Competition is an important way of involving and hopefully empowering young people. Both Primary and Secondary schools based in Western Australia are invited to design and develop a recycled sculpture as a class, for exhibition alongside professional artists. Some of the objectives of the Schools Competition include:

- To provide an educational opportunity for local young people regarding recycling, waste reduction and environmental sustainability, linking to the current Western Australian Curriculum.
- To demonstrate to young people how the Arts can be a means of conveying important messages or promoting particular values to the public in an engaging way.



Acknowledgement

Rebecca Cassells acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we meet and pays respects to their Elders past and present.

Speaker Profile

Rebecca Cassells is the Cultural Development and the Arts Officer at the City of Rockingham. Rebecca has a background in the environmental field with nearly ten years' experience, and a GradCert in Environmental Management from Murdoch University, which included Environmental Education for Sustainability.

Website links

→ https://au.linkedin.com/in/rebecca-cassells-77462198?trk=people-guest_people_search-card

