



**Don Harwin**

Minister for Resources

Minister for Energy and Utilities

Minister for the Arts

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **DISABILITY INTERNSHIPS ANNOUNCED ACROSS KEY NSW CREATIVE INSTITUTIONS**

NSW's creative institutions are set to broaden their horizons as they welcome aboard the ten NSW artists and practitioners selected as part of the *Createability Internship Program*, announced today by Minister for the Arts, Don Harwin.

The *Createability Internship Program*, a partnership between Create NSW, the Department of Family and Community Services (FACS) and Accessible Arts, will allocate \$64,000 to support those working with disability in the arts, screen, and cultural sectors.

Host organisations include the Sydney Opera House, the Art Gallery of NSW, Museum of Contemporary Art Australia (MCA), Sydney Festival, Campbelltown Arts Centre, Animal Logic, ABC, Jungle Entertainment and Goalpost Pictures.

Minister for the Arts, Don Harwin, said, "The arts community is unlike any other – one that champions creative expression and individuality without limitation. As a government, we need to make sure that we are fostering this wealth of creative talent."

"I know that each of these organisations will learn as much from this experience as the interns themselves, helping us to improve longer-term accessibility and employment prospects for people with disability across the State."

This morning's announcement at the Art Gallery of NSW, comes during today's celebration of International Day of People with Disability.

Minister for Disability Services, Ray Williams said, "The NSW Liberals and Nationals Government is committed to improving employment opportunities for people with a disability."

"Diversity in the workplace is good for all industries. These talented interns will have the opportunity to bring new ideas and perspectives to the arts sector and will contribute their skills to valuable projects."

Accessible Arts CEO, Kerry Comerford, also commented, "Accessible Arts is delighted to be a partner in this new and ground-breaking initiative. We look forward to learning from and growing with each of the interns, and journeying with them as they embark on their respective professional placements with some of NSW's key arts and cultural organisations."

Accessible Arts will host disability awareness training for the organisations and support the recipients before, during and after their internships through mentoring, customised work-ready training and by pairing interns with suitable industry mentors for future coaching.

**MEDIA: Chris Lawrence | Minister Harwin | 0439 434 863**