

ROAR

ROAR showcases the artistic talents of our local high school students from grades nine and ten. These students have limited opportunities to exhibit their works. We would all be familiar with Artexpress, showcasing the works of year twelve graduates; a culmination of a body of work from grades eleven and twelve. It is grades nine and ten who take centre stage within this exhibition.

All local high schools in the Strathfield region were invited to take part in **ROAR**. Unlike most thematic competition-based exhibitions; our Gallery Curator liaised with local high school teachers and selected works from each school. This collaborative process is a way in which professional partnerships are established. Strathfield Council endeavours to strengthen these partnerships with annual exhibitions from local schools. A diverse selection of media and subject matter is on display, a testament and recognition of the talents of our local high school visual arts students.

Ivy Baddock our guest speaker who officially opened this exhibition, shared her perspective on the importance of exhibitions like **ROAR** and the valuable contribution young people and art can make to public spaces.

‘Offering students early opportunities to showcase their art in a professional capacity is one of the most important things we can do to boost the confidence of creative young people.’

Together with recognising the positive influence art can have on mental health and wellbeing, both as a creator or a viewer, it is also a beneficial addition to our lives and public spaces. As a curator at The Children’s Hospital at Westmead, I see art as an especially important way of helping to reduce stress, make places more welcoming and enhancing spaces where quiet moments can occur.’

Ivy Baddock, Curator, The Children’s Hospital at Westmead

Students are encouraged and empowered when they witness their work exhibited in a public space such as the Ironbark Gallery. We hope that **ROAR** enables all of our exhibiting artists to feel proud of their work and to feel valued in the community for their artistic contribution.

IRONBARK

GALLERY

**24 June –
21 August
2021**


STRATHFIELD
COUNCIL