

Office of the Commissioner for Kangaroo Island

Notes from KI Visual Arts Workshop 2

Thursday 14 September 2017

Aurora Ozone Hotel, Kingscote

On Thursday 14 September 2017, the Office of the Commissioner for Kangaroo Island hosted the second workshop for visual artists on the island. Around 18 artists were in attendance from the KI arts community.

The workshop followed on from a previous engagement conducted earlier in the year that was aimed at understanding the needs and opportunities for the island's visual arts community.

At the workshop, participants were given a background on previous consultation to date and the process of developing an 'action plan' that details actions that could be taken to address the priorities identified through previous engagement.

Feedback on Action Plan

At the workshop, participants commented on the Action Plan with the following comments:

Arts infrastructure	
1a. Facilities Audit	Would need to include other venues that aren't typically art venues that could display / sell works of art such as Flinders Chase Café.
1b. Shared arts space / facility	<p>Would be good if there was a private school with facilities. Clarification over what a shared arts space would be.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was agreed that it would be similar to the Jam Factory model with spaces to undertake practical workshops etc that could host visiting tutors. • Could include equipment that could be shared such as a kiln, pottery wheels, instrument making, glass making facilities. • Tourists could go and watch artists at work – a valuable attraction.
1c. New Gallery	Links to Kangaroo Island Art Museum project
Training and development	
2b. Youth	<p>Already work being undertaken with KI's young people through Arts Festival and the proposed film festival and the Art Gallery / Advance Kingscote Progress Association.</p> <p>Important to engage young people in volunteering initiatives.</p>
Promotion of KI Artists to improve sales and involvement in intra / interstate exhibition and art events.	
3a. KI Arts Website	<p>Discussion around who would 'host' and 'administrate' the website. OCKI to discuss with KI Arts Committee for input / recommendations.</p> <p>The website would need to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure links to other relevant sites (such as industry associations) • Have the ability to update information regularly / as required.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have links to individual artist's sites if they exist. • Provide current information about arts news, events and resources as well as promoting KI artists.
3c. KI Art Collection	Importance of having a collection that represents KI artists that is accessible to the public.
3d. KI Art Trail / Open Studio Program	Relates to KI Festival proposed program.
3e. KI Gallery Tours	An Arts Facilitator would assist with this process.
3f. KI art in new tourist sites	Importance of art being displayed / exhibited with appropriate lighting etc. Opportunities could include both Airport and SeaLink terminals.
Increased collaboration and communication	
4a. KI Arts Community	<p>Discussion about the possibility of establishing an industry body for arts.</p> <p>The KI Visual Arts Committee currently had broad representation from arts groups, though could establish a formal model with memberships.</p> <p>An industry body would assist in securing grant funding.</p> <p>It was agreed that the Arts Action Plan will be updated to include the possibility of establishing an industry body under this item.</p>

Following the workshop, participants were asked to rank the actions in order of priority. Given there will be limited resources to fund the implementation of the action plan, it seemed necessary to invest resources in areas where they will have the greatest impact for the KI Visual Arts Community.

Priorities

The top six actions in order of priority were:

1. the establishment of a KI arts website;
2. the establishment of a KI art trail/open studio program;
3. a facilities audit;
4. the opportunity for professional/artistic development; and
5. the development of a KI art collection
6. Shared arts space / facility*

**the KI art collection and Shared arts space ranked almost equally so both have been included*

Next steps

- OCKI will provide feedback to the KI Arts database on the finalisation of the Action Plan and the top priorities.
- OCKI will work with the KI Visual Arts Committee to engage with local arts organisations, the Council and other arts organisations to consider options for resourcing and administering the agreed approach.