

Media Release

Date: 15 March 2012

National Student Art Glass Prize 2012

The latest instalment of Wagga Wagga Art Gallery's acclaimed **National Student Art Glass Prize** is now on display in the National Art Glass Gallery. The Prize is a biennial competition launched in 2010, and established to reward and promote innovation and excellence in contemporary glass within the student sector. In this year's exhibition, works by thirty students from universities across Australia are on display – and the winner will be announced at the official launch of the exhibition on Friday, 23 March!

The success of the inaugural **National Student Art Glass Prize** in 2010 has already established this competition as one of the highlights of the Australian art glass calendar. With so many exciting and fresh young artists on show, it's an unmissable opportunity to find out what the future of Australian glass has to offer. Casting, fusing, engraving, and many more experimental techniques – these are glass artists who push beyond the mainstream to explore new skills and concepts.

"Wagga Wagga Art Gallery is very excited to continue to offer this unique opportunity to emerging glass artists from across Australia," said Michael Scarrone, Curator – Glass, National Art Glass Gallery and National Art Glass Collection. The prize is open to all Australian and international students studying art glass as part of a university course in Australia. The winning artist will receive two masterclasses and a conference at North Lands Creative Glass in Scotland, internationally recognised as the most prestigious institution for the study of glass art in Europe, and their work will be acquired for the National Art Glass Collection.

The **National Student Art Glass Prize** will be judged by two of the country's most prominent and respected glass artists, Canberra-based Matthew Curtis and Wagga Wagga's own Denis O'Connor; and the winner will be announced by Blanche Tilden, the renowned glass artist and jeweller, at the exhibition launch on Friday, 23 March. The launch will be followed, on Saturday 24 March, by a unique **Glass Forum**, bringing together glass artists and teachers from across the country; and, also on Saturday, a **Champagne Lecture** by Belinda Toll, the inaugural winner of the Prize in 2010.

Exhibition Launch and Award

When: Friday 23 March, 6:00pm – 8:00pm

Where: National Art Glass Gallery, Wagga Wagga Art Gallery

Glass Forum

When: Saturday 24 March, 10:00am – 11:30am

Where: E3 art space, Wagga Wagga Art Gallery

Champagne Lecture

When: Saturday 24 March, 2:00pm – 4:00pm

Where: E3 art space, Wagga Wagga Art Gallery

Exhibition Dates

When: Friday 16 March – Sunday 17 June, 2012

Where: National Art Glass Gallery, Wagga Wagga Art Gallery