



MEDIA RELEASE

Centacare Wilcannia-Forbes

27 January 2009

Centacare Artist In Residence Recognised

Centacare's artist in residence Sean J Cassidy was presented with a Parkes Shire Cultural Award 2008 on Australia Day, 2009. The award recognised his activities in western NSW, and Parkes in particular, as well as his exhibitions and arts projects in the Philippines.

Sean was employed by Centacare from April 2008 to help facilitate the development of Indigenous art in western NSW, through Centacare's Three Rivers Art Project. In Parkes he curated an exhibition of Aboriginal art at the Shire's Coventry Room for NAIDOC Week. He opened the 2008 exhibition of pottery by the Parkes group, stressing the need for arts communities to work with arts and craft groups in neighbouring towns. Sean also returned to his old high school, RBCC, to conduct a weekend art workshop.

In Bourke, Peak Hill, Condobolin, Murrin Bridge and other areas, he identified established artists, little-known artists and artists who were yet to discover their talent. In November 2008 he jointly curated two exhibitions of Indigenous art with Forbes Art Gallery and Bourke Art Gallery.

Amidst ongoing projects he is developing in the Phillipines, Sean continues to work with Centacare in 2009, working with artists to produce new work for another exhibition in Forbes on 25 June.

For media enquiries contact: Peter Ashcroft, Centacare, Tel. 02 6851 1991