





2027 Education Program

Sunshine Coast COUNCIL | CALOUNDRA Regional Gallery

Contents

3 Inspiring creativity, curiosity and learning

4 Education program

5 2027 Gallery exhibitions

> Reimagining Abstraction: the works of David Rankin

> Local Contemporary Art Prize 2027 and Local Student Art Prize 2027

> NAIDOC 2027 exhibition

> Sunshine Coast National Art Prize 2027

> Latest & Greatest IV

> Seven Years of The Keeper / Red Chair

19 Booking process and offerings

22 Make a booking

Inspiring creativity, curiosity and learning

At the heart of the Caloundra Regional Gallery Education Program is our dynamic exhibition program, which provides students and teachers with direct access to artists, ideas and contemporary creative practice. Through engagement with touring exhibitions, local stories and nationally recognised artists, students are encouraged to explore diverse perspectives, develop visual literacy and connect learning with real-world artistic practice.

Our education experiences are designed to extend and enrich the exhibition program, offering meaningful opportunities for inquiry, creativity and curriculum-connected learning. Aligned with the Australian Curriculum and contemporary gallery practice, programs support the development of critical and creative thinking, personal expression and cultural understanding through hands-on engagement with artworks, artists and creative processes.

To support learning before, during and after a gallery visit, we offer a range of experiences including guided exhibition tours, artist-led workshops, teacher resources and interactive learning opportunities. Programs can be tailored to suit different year levels, abilities and learning objectives, creating inclusive and engaging experiences for all learners.



Exhibition program

The 2027 exhibition program features a diverse range of touring, local and nationally significant exhibitions, providing rich opportunities for students to engage with contemporary and historical art, ideas and stories.

The exhibitions outlined below have been included to assist schools and educators with curriculum planning and to identify opportunities for meaningful arts-based learning throughout the year.

This version positions the exhibitions as the foundation of the education program, with the educational offerings framed as tools that deepen engagement with the exhibitions themselves. It also reflects current gallery-sector language around inquiry-based learning, contemporary practice and curriculum connections.





2027 Gallery exhibitions

Reimagining Abstraction: the works of David Rankin

On View:
Friday 12 Feb to Sunday 11 Apr 2027
Launch:
Thursday 11 Feb @ 6pm

Syllabus Links:
Years 3-12
Visual Arts, English
(Critical and Creative Thinking, Personal and Social Capability, and Intercultural Understanding)

Curriculum Connections
This exhibition supports learning in Visual Arts from Years 3-12, providing opportunities for students to analyse and interpret contemporary artworks, explore abstraction as a form of visual communication and experiment with expressive art-making processes. Through engagement with David Rankin's work, students develop visual literacy, critical and creative thinking, and an understanding of how artists communicate ideas about place, memory, identity and the human experience.



Crossing - Senora 2008 | watercolour, pastel on paper 38 x 45cm; framed: 56.5 x 75cm | Sunshine Coast Art Collection; Gift of Dr Peter and Christine Bundesen AM, 2024 | Image courtesy of the artist; Photo by Richard Muldoon Vivid Photography

Education Focus

Through the study of David Rankin's work, students can explore how artists communicate ideas, emotions and experiences through visual language. Investigating Rankin's expressive approach to abstraction supports learning in Visual Arts by examining the use of line, colour, composition and mark-making to convey meaning. Students are encouraged to respond, interpret and create artworks that connect personal experiences, memory, place and identity with contemporary artistic practice.

About the exhibition

David Rankin is an acclaimed Australian artist whose distinguished career has shaped the landscape of contemporary abstraction for more than fifty years. Known for his expressive use of line, colour and gesture, Rankin's paintings invite contemplation and evoke both the personal and universal dimensions of human experience.

A winner of the Wynne Prize and recipient of the Medal of the Order of Australia, Rankin's work is held in major public collections including the National Gallery of Australia, the Art Gallery of New South Wales and Queensland Art Gallery. His internationally exhibited practice continues to resonate with audiences through its poetic power, emotional honesty and enduring sense of wonder. This exhibition brings together the amazing works on paper drawn from the Dr Peter and Christine Bundesen collection donated to the Sunshine Coast Art Collection as well as significant works held in public and private collections around Australia

Local Contemporary Art Prize 2027 and Local Student Art Prize 2027

On View:
Friday 16 Apr to Sunday 13 Jun 2027
Launch:
Thursday 15 Apr @ 6pm

Syllabus Links:
Years 3-12
Visual Arts, English
(Critical and Creative Thinking, Personal and Social Capability, and Intercultural Understanding)



Marvene Ash | Studio furniture (hare hiding) | 2025 |
oil on Belgian linen | 108 x 92cm
Local Contemporary Art Prize 2026
Best of Show Acquisitive Award

Education Focus

The Local Contemporary Art Prize and Local Student Art Prize provide opportunities for students to explore the role of art in expressing local identity, community connections and contemporary culture. By engaging with artworks created by Sunshine Coast artists and student peers, learners investigate how artists communicate ideas about place, environment and lived experience through visual language and creative practice.

Through viewing the exhibition and participating in the prize, students can:

- Explore how artists draw inspiration from their local environment and community.
- Analyse diverse artistic approaches, materials and techniques used in contemporary art.
- Develop visual literacy through interpreting and responding to artworks.
- Create original artworks that communicate personal connections to place.
- Reflect on the role of galleries, exhibitions and arts prizes in supporting artists and communities.
- Build confidence in presenting artwork to an audience and participating in creative dialogue.

About the exhibition

Originally known as Local Artist, Local Content, Local Contemporary Art Prize 2027 celebrates the diversity of visual arts practice across the Sunshine Coast. Caloundra Regional Gallery, invited artists living within the region, working across all mediums, to submit 2D and 3D works for the prize.
Please make sure you have a look at the Local Student Artprize page for how you and your students can

In recognition of their passion for the Local Contemporary Art Prize, one of the last acts of the Gallery's past Friends was to put aside money to sponsoring the major Prize of $10,000 which will be awarded to the Best In Show, along with Highly commended in 2D and 3D as well as the People's Choice with the thanks to the generous support of LCAP27 sponsors.

The Local Student Art Prize 2027 is also on exhibition in the Artroom, showcasing the region’s budding artists after a call out to schools in November 2025.

Entering the Local Student Art Prize 2027

Entries for the Local Student Art Prize 2027 are open until Sunday 7 February. Students aged five and up are encouraged to enter into one of the 3 categories - 8 and under, 9-13 years and 14-18 years.

Each category has an overal winner and a highly commended award with art supply vouchers for individuals and schools.

The finalsts works will be hung in the Artroom at Caloundra Regional Gallery between Friday 16 April and Sunday 13 June 2027. All entries will be available for viewing in folders within the space.

Find out more and enter







Local Student Art Prize 2026 winners:
Top left: Rumi Birch | Flower Power | 2026 | watercolour paints and water based glitter paint | 30 x 21cm. 8 years and under winner.

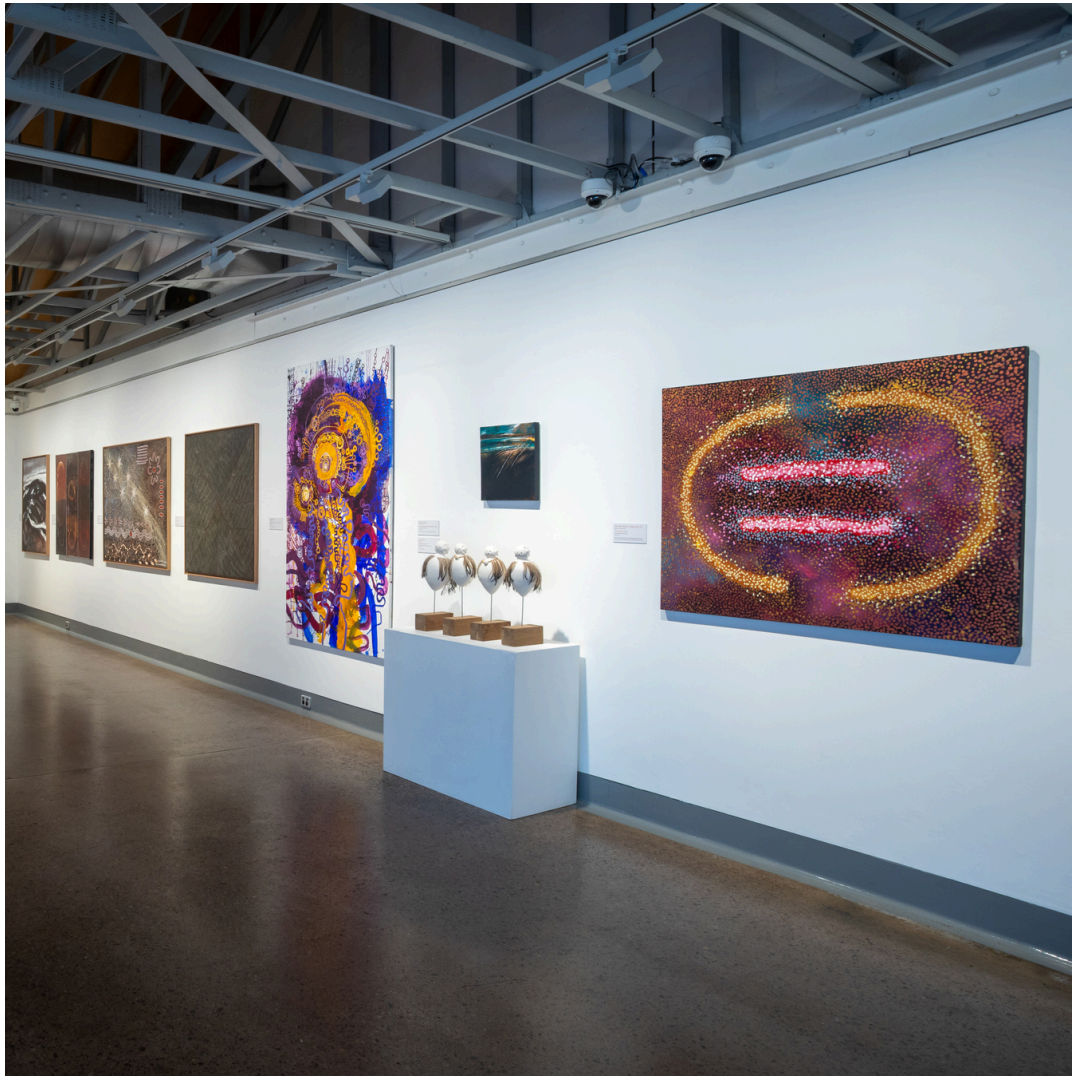
Top right: Raphaella Hayes | Still Here - An Icon for the Ibis | 2026 | acrylic on paper and thread | 42 x 30cm. 14-18 years winner.

Bottom: Qingyue Jiang | The Sunset | 2026 | acrylic paint markers on paper | 21 x 30cm. 9-13 years winner.

NAIDOC 2027 exhibition

On View:
Friday 18 Jun to Sunday 8 Aug 2027
Launch:
Thursday 17 Jun @ 6pm

Syllabus Links:
Years 3-10
Visual Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS)
(Intercultural Understanding, Ethical Understanding,
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures
(Cross-Curriculum Priority)



NAIDOC 2026 Exhibition. LORE and LAND - First Nations artists in the Sunshine Coast Art Collection.
Photo Sarah Smith

Education Focus

The NAIDOC Exhibition provides students with opportunities to engage with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives through the work of contemporary First Nations artists. Through artworks that share stories, cultural knowledge, histories and connections to Country, students develop a deeper understanding of the diversity, resilience and continuing cultures of Australia's First Nations peoples.

Engaging with the exhibition encourages students to reflect on the role of art as a powerful form of storytelling, identity and cultural expression. Students are invited to explore how artists communicate knowledge, experiences and perspectives through visual language while developing respect for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and ways of knowing, being and doing.

Through exhibition engagement, students can:

- Develop an understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures.
- Explore art as a tool for storytelling, cultural continuity and truth-telling.
- Investigate the relationship between artists, Country, community and identity.
- Interpret symbolism, visual conventions and cultural narratives in artworks.
- Build cultural awareness, empathy and respect through engagement with diverse perspectives.
- Reflect on the importance of NAIDOC Week as a celebration of culture, achievement and resilience.



Sunshine Coast National Art Prize 2027

On View:
Friday 12 Aug to Sunday 10 Oct 2027
Winners Announcement Event:
Thursday 23 Sept @ 6pm

Syllabus Links:
Years 3-12.
Visual Arts, English
(Critical and Creative Thinking, Personal and Social Capability, and Intercultural Understanding)



Kumanjayi (Walala) Tjapaltjarri (c.1962-2026), Michael Eather | We are still creating ourselves II | 2026 | acrylic on canvas | 99 x 150cm. Sunshine Coast National Art Prize 2026 - Major Prize Winner

Education Focus

The Sunshine Coast National Art Prize provides students with opportunities to engage with contemporary Australian art at a national level, exploring how artists respond to the world around them through diverse perspectives, ideas and creative practices. Featuring works by leading and emerging artists from across Australia, the exhibition showcases a broad range of artistic approaches, materials and technologies, reflecting the dynamic nature of contemporary visual culture.

Through examining the 40 finalist artworks, students investigate how artists communicate concepts, challenge assumptions and respond to social, cultural, environmental and personal experiences. The exhibition encourages critical thinking, visual analysis and creative inquiry while exposing students to contemporary artistic practices and current issues shaping Australian art today.

About the exhibition

Started in 2006 and celebrating its 22nd year, the Sunshine Coast National Art Prize 2027, is the region's premier national contemporary art award, celebrating exceptional 2D and new media art in Australia.

As part of the Sunshine Coast Council's strategic collection plan, this acquisitive prize contributes to the region's cultural legacy. The 40 finalist artworks, selected from nationwide entries, offer diverse interpretations of our world through various mediums, from traditional oils, drawings, prints, photographs, assemblages to digital compositions.

This exhibition is made possible through the continue and generous support of the Prize's sponsors.

Latest & Greatest IV

On View:
Friday 15 Oct to Sunday 5 Dec 2027
Launch:
Thursday 14 Oct @ 6pm

Syllabus Links:
Years 3-12
Visual Arts, English
(Critical and Creative Thinking, Personal and Social Capability, and Intercultural Understanding)



Bill Henson AO | Image No 29 Untitled |
from the Suburban series 1985-86 |
Type C Photograph Ed.7/20 | sheet: 130.5 x111.8cm |
Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program 2025

Education Focus
Latest & Greatest supports Visual Arts learning from Years 3–12 by exploring the role of public art collections in preserving cultural heritage and shaping community identity. Through investigating recently acquired works from the Sunshine Coast Art Collection, students develop visual literacy, critical thinking and an understanding of collection development, philanthropy and contemporary gallery practice while engaging with diverse artistic perspectives and creative approaches.

About the exhibition
Caloundra Regional Gallery presents the fourth in the series of the Latest & Greatest exhibitions that display a diverse snapshot of collecting over the last two years for the Sunshine Coast Art Collection.

The exhibition celebrates the recent additions to the art collection by artists, collectors and local enterprises in our region, while acknowledging philanthropy as a driver for growth of the collection and regional identity.

The Local Student Art Prize 2027 is also on exhibition in the Artroom, showcasing the region's budding artists after a call out to schools in November 2025.

Seven Years of The Keeper / Red Chair

On View:
Friday 10 Dec 2027 to Sunday 30 Jan 2028
Launch:
Thursday 9 Dec @ 6pm

Syllabus Links:
Years 3-12 Years
Visual Arts, English, Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS)
(Critical and Creative Thinking, Personal and Social Capability, and Intercultural Understanding)



Photo Credits - Cooper Brady & Lindy Storee Smith

red chair STRANGE ENGINE

Education Focus

The Keeper Project supports learning across Visual Arts, English and Humanities by encouraging students to explore the stories, people and places that shape their communities. Through engagement with socially engaged and place-based art practices, students develop skills in observation, storytelling, inquiry and creative response while investigating how artists can foster connection, belonging and cultural understanding. The project promotes critical and creative thinking, personal and social capability, and an appreciation of contemporary art as a tool for community engagement and positive social change.

- Develop skills in inquiry, documentation, reflection and creative response.
- Consider diverse perspectives and lived experiences within their local community.
- Explore how art can build social connection and create positive community impact.
- Reflect on the role of artists as cultural contributors and community storytellers.

About the exhibition

Seven Years of The Keeper / Red Chair celebrates the remarkable legacy of the Keeper project, bringing together works, stories and reflections from seven years of artist-led engagement across the Sunshine Coast. Since its inception in 2019, the project has fostered meaningful connections between artists, communities and civic partners in Coolum, Nambour, Caloundra and Maroochydore, creating opportunities for creative exchange, collaboration and place-based dialogue. This retrospective honours the individual practices of the Keeper artists while acknowledging the collective relationships, local stories and shared experiences that have shaped the project's evolution. Featuring artworks, documentation, artefacts and new reflections, the exhibition offers a unique opportunity to celebrate the creativity, generosity and enduring impact of the Keeper community, highlighting both the artistic outcomes and the connections that continue to enrich the cultural life of the Sunshine Coast. The Local Student Art Prize 2027 is also on exhibition in the Artroom, showcasing the region’s budding artists after a call out to schools in November 2025.



Booking process and offerings

Education booking process and offerings

Caloundra Regional Gallery is a key provider of visual art education in the Sunshine Coast Region supporting schools through extended programs and resources in visual arts. From educational workshops, teacher's resources and participatory hands-on workshops.

What we offer

Self-Guided Gallery visits

Explore current exhibitions at your own pace. Self-guided visits provide flexibility for schools and groups wishing to independently engage with artworks and exhibitions.

Cost: Free (bookings are helpful)

Guided Gallery tours

Led by experienced Gallery staff, these interactive 40-minute tours encourage observation, discussion and critical thinking while exploring current exhibitions and artistic practices.

Duration: 40 minutes
Cost: $5 per student

Guided Tour and Creative Workshop

Combine a guided exhibition tour with a hands-on art-making workshop inspired by current exhibitions. Students engage with artworks before applying their learning through creative experimentation.

Duration: 90 minutes
Cost: $10 per student

What we offer

Street art tour

Discover Caloundra's vibrant public art scene through a guided walking tour exploring local murals, street art and contemporary urban art practices.

Duration: 40 minutes
Cost: $5 per student

Professional Development Opportunities

Caloundra Regional Gallery is committed to supporting teachers and educators through meaningful professional learning opportunities that inspire creativity, build confidence, and foster professional connections.

As our education and workshop program continues to grow, we will offer a range of professional development opportunities, including skills-based workshops, exhibition-focused learning experiences, artist-led sessions, and networking events. These opportunities are designed to connect educators with contemporary arts practice and provide practical ideas for classroom learning.

If you would like to discuss professional development opportunities, share your interests, or join our mailing list to receive updates on upcoming programs and events, please contact the Gallery team.

Accessibility and inclusion

Caloundra Regional Gallery is committed to providing inclusive and accessible learning experiences for all visitors.

Programs can be adapted to support diverse learning needs, including students who are neurodivergent or require additional assistance. Teachers and group leaders are encouraged to discuss individual requirements with Gallery staff when booking to ensure all participants can engage comfortably and meaningfully.

Financial assistance

We recognise that access to arts education is important for every student. Financial assistance may be available for eligible schools and community groups to support participation in Gallery education programs.

Please contact our team to discuss available funding opportunities and eligibility requirements.

Bookings and Enquiries

For all bookings and enquiries please complete our education program booking form. This allows our team to gather the information needed to tailor your visit, including program preferences, accessibility requirements and any additional support needs.

Make a booking