



BLUE MOUNTAINS CREATIVE ARTS CENTRE NEWSLETTER December 2024

WEBSITE: www.bmcac.org.au

FACEBOOK: [bmcac](#), [bmcacsaturdaypotters](#) &
[Blue Mountains Printmaking Ink](#)

INSTAGRAM: [lifedrawing_glenbrook](#)



Farewell to our stalwart Secretary and Pottery Facilitator of many years, Bronwyn Campbell on 25 Nov.

L to R: Ingrid Russell, David Attwood, Bronwyn, Rudi Christen, Cheryle Yin-Lo, Andrea Ketterling, Alison James and Liz Bryden.



The garden is rocking with rocks supplied by Ben Tankard and placed by our gardener Liz.

Our 'Hare Street' Centre is located on the traditional homeland of the Dharug and Gundungurra people. We recognize and pay respect to the traditional custodians of country past, present and emerging.

CONTENTS

- 3 President's Report
Art Director's Report
Gardener's Report
- 4 Printmaking Facilitator's Report
- 5 Life Drawing Facilitator's Report
- 6 Pottery Facilitator's Report
Other Reports & Business
- 7 Profile: First Time Exhibitor
and her Success
- 8-10 Poetry Corner
- 11-16 What's On?



BMCAC EVENT SCHEDULE 2025

<i>DATE</i>	<i>EVENT</i>
Mon. 6 Jan.	Enrolments commence
Mon. 3 Feb.	Classes commence
Thu. 6 Feb. 7.30pm	Committee meeting
Sat. 22 Feb. 10am	AGM
Fri.-Sun. 11-13 April	Blue Mountains Print Prize

EDITOR'S NOTE

As our Events Schedule indicates, committee members have been busy organising the 2025 agenda. Please pencil in our important dates in your 2025 diary.

Please take note especially of the entries for the Blue Mountains Print Prize (p.11-13) and for St Columba's Art Prize (p.14).

In the meantime, during the upcoming holiday period much fine art is on show in local galleries. Summaries also appear in our 'What's On' section.

Further afield the Art Gallery of NSW is featuring surrealist painter Magritte and much else. Some of my favourites are Korean sculptor Lee Ufan, the miniature paintings by Nusra Latif Qureshi and Ngarraija Tommy May's works as part of the Dobell Drawing Biennial. At the Museum of Contemporary Art young Australian artists are featured in Primavera 2024 whilst the fabulous paintings by Julie Mehretu are the main attraction.

Thanks to everyone for your contributions to 'Creations' throughout the year. They make our newsletter more appealing and I hope it has provided relevant information on our activities as well as inspiration for your creative efforts.

I wish you all a good Christmas and a happy and healthy holiday.

Rudi Christen
Creations' Editor
rudich7@dodo.com

Get in touch with us !

Alison JAMES	President & Workshop Coordinator	0416 957 688	arty_ali@hotmail.com.au
Ingrid RUSSELL	Vice President & Arts Director	0423 124 473	bmccac.mail@gmail.com
Kathleen ZANARDO	Pottery Facilitator	0415 154 746	kathleen.zanardo@gmail.com

PRESIDENT'S REPORT *Alison James*

Dear Members,

It's that time of year when the silly season is upon us. We are all busy making plans to spend time celebrating with our families, friends and colleagues.

The committee wishes you all a very merry Christmas and a happy and safe holiday season.

I'd like to thank the committee for their continued dedication to the Centre, especially as they balance that with what is going on in their own lives.

We say a fond farewell to Bronwyn Campbell and welcome Kathleen Zanardo as the new pottery facilitator. We've also had interest for the publicity officer position for next year.

If you think that you might have spare time to consider being part of the volunteer committee please reach out and let us know. The AGM will be held in late February and nominations can be made.

We look forward to a fantastic 2025.

Your president

Alison James.

ART DIRECTOR'S REPORT *Ingrid Russell*

We are coming to the end of another creative year. Enrolments for Term 1 2025 will open early January. Classes start February 10. The timetable will be similar with the addition of Friday pottery with Cristina.

Wishing everyone a happy festive season and joy in the New Year.

Hare St Gallery

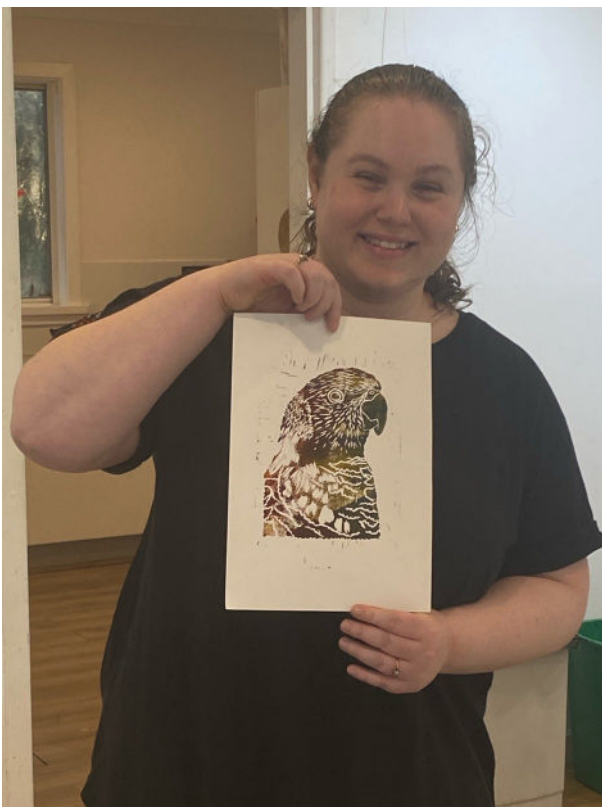
Last day of opening will be Sunday December 22. Hoping for a last minute rush of Xmas buying. First Quarter 2025 will start February 8. Hopefully we will have enough members going forward as we have lost quite a few this quarter. Anyone reading this wanting to join send us an email.

HEAD GARDENER'S REPORT *Liz Bryden*

The heat is building but the rain has helped to keep everything green. Lots of bark and leaves falling though, so it's been an ongoing job to keep plants from being flattened. But generally it's looking good and with more rain predicted across January into the start of 2025 I'm crossing my fingers that watering won't be necessary during the break.

Some new natives were planted during December. If the weather permits we will be topping up the garden with mulch. Overall the garden is progressing well and makes the Centre a more inviting place for creatives.

- In Term 4 we have had two printmaking classes this term on Monday mornings and Thursday nights. This is a mixture of new students and returning students.
- There has been a lot of excellent work produced and great interest from new students that have joined this term. (see photos attached)
- I have also started to explore introducing screenprinting into the printmaking classes and utilising existing screens, equipment and materials we had in the print studio.
- I also taught two workshops in painting and printmaking for 8-15 years old young people in the last September school holidays.
- In Term 4 a new home school art program has been introduced on Tuesday mornings from 10am-12pm requested by home school mums that come to the Centre. All students are enjoying the experience, not only the art aspect but the socialising.
- I was happy to see current and past painting and printmaking students submit works for the Blue Mountains Art Prize.
- Interested printmakers can follow regular post and printmaking news on Facebook Blue Mountains Creative Arts Centre and Facebook Blue Mountains Printmaking Ink and be part of the Centre's printmaking community. On these social media I have been promoting students' works and other printing news, competitions and information about different printmaking techniques.
- During the holidays printmakers can arrange open access times. Please contact Cheryle, Printmaking Facilitator, Mobile 0407409445 to arrange and organise an induction if you have not used space previously.
- Get ready for the Blue Mountains Print Prize in April 2025. More details to come.
- If you are interested to join Exploring Printmaking in Term 2025 or Exploring Art for Home Schoolers email: bmccac.mail@gmail.com
- Congratulations to everyone who participated in the Blue Mountains Art Prize. See story and picture of Elise McDonald and her painting (next page).



New printmaking student, Rachel with her first lino print .



Young Callista's Styrofoam print .

At the start of the second term this year I took over the role of Facilitator at Glenbrook Life Drawing from Katrina Bodey, who'd been fulfilling that role in an inspiring and energetic manner for just over two years (and a shout-out to previous facilitators, Liz Bryden and Joyce Myers Creed).

The sessions have continued to be a success, with up to thirteen participants drawing, in a variety of media, for three hours with a professional life model giving short dynamic poses and longer, more relaxed poses that allow our artists time to study the human form and attempt to transfer the complexity of that three-dimensional anatomical structure to a flat surface. It's wonderful to hear nothing but the sound of charcoal (or graphite, or pen and ink, coloured pencil, oil stick, etc.) being drawn across paper - you can also almost hear minds concentrating, especially when we're presented with a particularly challenging foreshortened pose.

We're looking forward to getting back to our drawing sessions in 2025.



I look forward to my new role as pottery facilitator for BMCAC. I thank Bronwyn for having confidence in me to take over the position she has held for so many years. She has left big shoes to fill.

A bit of housekeeping for our potters....

- Please thoroughly wipe your table and wheel, and clean the sink at the end of each session. It would be good to set aside 5 - 10 minutes to mop the floor too. Not only is it good manners to leave the room clean for the next people using it, but imperative for health reasons. Silica dust from dry clay can cause silicosis, a chronic lung disease.
- I need to remind everyone to check the base of their pots prior to putting them in the kiln room for firing. Do not glaze right to the bottom as pots get fused to the kiln shelves. Check and sponge where required. If glazed pots are put on a trivet look to see that the trivet arms don't touch the glaze.
- If pottery is left in the kiln room for firing but is not quite dry please leave a note attached saying 'Not Dry' along with the date it put there.

OTHER REPORTS & BUSINESS

Publicity Officer's Report: Audrey Mason has volunteered to be Publicity Officer in 2025.

Building Co-ordinator's Report: (David Attwood).

Installation of mosaic to be organised.

Commendation to David for finishing the western wall.

Stick vacuum: Needed for main room floor. Jeannie to follow up.

Security cameras: Rick to check them out.

Birdbath: Bronwyn is donating a ceramic birdbath which needs to be cemented in. David to follow up.

Kiln update: David proposed we send Interdec a deposit for KN25S.

Tyro: Received and installed in pottery studio.

Exhibition banner: Alison agreed to organize.

Sponsors Logos: Alison to update poster with sponsor logos for Creations.

Signatories for bank: Alison to be signed up as Bronwyn is leaving.

Holiday workshops: Cheryle will offer Print making, Alison will offer Fish making.

Print Prize 2025: Sponsorship agreement was signed by Alison, agreeing to 3x \$100 prizes.

Dates have been agreed to with Gallery NWC for the 2025 Print Prize to be held on 11, 12&13 April.

AGM: Set for Saturday, 22 February, 10:00 am, followed by March committee meeting.

Call for nominations by 1st meeting on Thursday, 6 February.

Profile: First Time Exhibitor and her Success

Elise McDonald

About a year ago a group of friends convinced me to do a term of painting classes on a Friday night at BMCAC with Cheryle Yin Lo. At first, I actually didn't want to do it but they convinced me. I fell into it and loved every second of it. It started slowly from there but earlier this year I started really putting every spare second into it. My husband built me an easel and from there I just couldn't get enough.

Having three kids I have to juggle the time I get to paint but have recently entered a few art shows. I was extremely nervous and felt out of my league but exhibited for the first time for the Blue Mountains Art Prize at BMCAC. Just recently I successfully sold some paintings. I entered the Blue Mountains Artfest and have just won the Peoples Choice Award for my painting. The painting is titled 'Pink Skies, Princes Lookout at Wentworth Falls.'

Follow@elisemcdonaldart



Art does not reproduce the visible, it makes visible the invisible.

Paul Klee

Poetry Corner



The Nativity, Illuminated Folio from 'Les Belles Heures de Jean Duc de Berry', ca. 1409.

The Three Kings

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

1807—1882

Three Kings came riding from far away,
Melchior and Gaspar and Baltasar;
Three Wise Men out of the East were they,
And they travelled by night and they slept by day,
For their guide was a beautiful, wonderful star.

The star was so beautiful, large, and clear,
That all the other stars of the sky
Became a white mist in the atmosphere,
And by this they knew that the coming was near
Of the Prince foretold in the prophecy.

Three caskets they bore on their saddle-bows,
Three caskets of gold with golden keys;
Their robes were of crimson silk with rows
Of bells and pomegranates and furbelows,
Their turbans like blossoming almond-trees.

And so the Three Kings rode into the West,
Through the dusk of night, over hill and dell,
And sometimes they nodded with beard on breast
And sometimes talked, as they paused to rest,
With the people they met at some wayside well.

"Of the child that is born," said Baltasar,
"Good people, I pray you, tell us the news;
For we in the East have seen his star,
And have ridden fast, and have ridden far,
To find and worship the King of the Jews."

And the people answered, "You ask in vain;
We know of no king but Herod the Great!"
They thought the Wise Men were men insane,
As they spurred their horses across the plain,
Like riders in haste, and who cannot wait.

And when they came to Jerusalem,
Herod the Great, who had heard this thing,
Sent for the Wise Men and questioned them;
And said, "Go down unto Bethlehem,
And bring me tidings of this new king."

So they rode away; and the star stood still,
The only one in the gray of morn
Yes, it stopped, it stood still of its own free will,
Right over Bethlehem on the hill,
The city of David where Christ was born.

And the Three Kings rode through the gate and the guard,
Through the silent street, till their horses turned
And neighed as they entered the great inn-yard;
But the windows were closed, and the doors were barred,
And only a light in the stable burned.

And cradled there in the scented hay,
In the air made sweet by the breath of kine,
The little child in the manger lay,
The child, that would be king one day
Of a kingdom not human but divine.

His mother Mary of Nazareth
Sat watching beside his place of rest,
Watching the even flow of his breath,
For the joy of life and the terror of death
Were mingled together in her breast.

They laid their offerings at his feet:
The gold was their tribute to a King,
The frankincense, with its odor sweet,
Was for the Priest, the Paraclete,
The myrrh for the body's burying.

And the mother wondered and bowed her head,
And sat as still as a statue of stone;
Her heart was troubled yet comforted,
Remembering what the Angel had said
Of an endless reign and of David's throne.

Then the Kings rode out of the city gate,
With a clatter of hoofs in proud array;
But they went not back to Herod the Great,
For they knew his malice and feared his hate,
And returned to their homes by another way.



The Adoration of the Magi, Illuminated Folio from 'Les Belles Heures de Jean Duc de Berry', ca. 1409.

WHAT'S ON ?

Workshops, Galleries, Exhibitions, Prize Entries, Coming Events

BLUE MOUNTAINS CREATIVE ARTS CENTRE



CONTACTS

 <https://www.bmcac.org.au/print-prize/#register>

 **Corner Hare & Moore Street, Glenbrook NSW 2773**

 0402 470 231 (text preferred) Katherine Kennedy

DATES

ENTRIES OPEN: FEBRUARY 1, 2025
ENTRIES CLOSE: MARCH 31, 2025
DELIVERY: APRIL 5, 2025, 10AM - 2PM - NO EXCEPTIONS.
PICK UP: NOT BEFORE SUNDAY 13 APRIL FROM 5PM - 7PM.
OPENING NIGHT: FRIDAY 11 APRIL, 6:30PM - 8PM
EXHIBITION OPEN: SATURDAY & SUNDAY - 12 & 13 APRIL 10:00 TILL 4:00.

CONDITIONS

Sizes below are the MAXIMUM whether the works are framed or unframed.
(Unframed must be foam core backed)

2D: 45cm x 33cm

3D: 45cm x 35cm x 35cm

Works will be displayed at the discretion of the BMCAC Committee.

PRIZES: TBC

JUDGES TBC

CURATOR: KATHERINE KENNEDY

Major Prize:

Emerging Artist:

Second Prize:

Third Prize:

Youth Prize (U.25):

Youth H. Commended:

2 x H. Commended

2 week exhibition (value \$1500) courtesy of Gallery NWC (Gallery 1. Conditions apply)

SEEKING NEW SPONSOR

\$500 gift voucher courtesy of Emu Plains Picture Framing Warehouse

Handmade paper pack to the value of \$200 courtesy of Black Bird Paper

One year subscription to Imprint Magazine courtesy of the Print Council of Australia TBC

Courtesy of BMCAC

Courtesy of BMCAC



GALLERY NWC
NATIONWIDECURATING.COM



BLUE MOUNTAINS CREATIVE ARTS CENTRE



CONDITIONS - P.1

1. The Blue Mountains Print Prize is open to a variety of printmaking methods including: etching, aquatint, collograph, silkscreen, drypoint, linocut, woodblock, lithography, Eco printing and textiles. Fine art commercial printing is permitted on the bases that a hand made element is evident in the finished work.
2. The Blue Mountains Creative Arts Centre Committee (the Committee) reserves the right to refuse acceptance of any artwork if deemed offensive, inappropriate or noncompliant with the Terms and Conditions of Entry.
3. Works submitted must be your original work and created within the last 24 months prior to the Print Prize.
4. Online Entry Forms open, 1 February 2025 and must be submitted by 31 March 2025. To confirm your space, apply at: Apply online <https://www.bmcac.org.au/>. Must include a clear image!
5. A non-refundable entry fee of \$25 per artwork must be included with your Entry Form.
6. A sales commission of 27% from each work sold will be retained by the Committee. The balance of works sold will be paid to the artist by direct deposit.
7. It is the responsibility of the artist to pay any GST liability to the Australian Taxation Office.
8. All works submitted are to be labelled on the back with artist name, artwork title, medium and price.
9. Framed works must include D hooks and wire or cord ready for hanging. Unframed works must be attached to foam core board. 3D works will be displayed on plinths or other available apparatus.
10. Artists are limited to 2 artworks for exhibition. 2D not exceeding a size 45cm x 35cm framed or unframed. 3D not exceeding a size of 45cmx35cmx35cm.
11. All artworks must be dry or they will not be hung.
12. All reasonable care will be taken when handling the works submitted. However, no liability will be accepted by the Committee for loss, theft or damage of works before, during or after the art show.
13. All transport and insurance costs are the responsibility of the artist.

BLUE MOUNTAINS CREATIVE ARTS CENTRE



CONDITIONS - P.2

14. The artist agrees to deliver and collect works during the times specified in this form.
15. Artworks arriving by post are to be received no later 5 April 2025. Please send an email to request the Print Prize delivery address to; bmccac.mail@gmail.com or find this online.
16. Artworks, sold or unsold, are not to be removed from the art prize until after 4pm on Sunday 13 April 5-7pm. Artwork collection finishes by 7pm at which point the site will be locked.
17. Alternative collection arrangements must be received in writing in advance of this event. This includes the requirement of a permission note for a person to collect work on behalf of the artist.
18. Artworks are to be delivered to: Blue Mountains Creative Arts Centre, Cnr of Hare and Moore St, Glenbrook, on 5 April between 10am & 2pm - no exceptions.
19. The recipients of all awards may have their work featured in promotional materials advertising future events.
20. All Blue Mountains Print Prize awards will be open to all members of the public and all members of the Blue Mountains Creative Arts Centre, including Committee Members.
21. The BMCAC Youth Print Prize and Highly Commended prize will be judged by the same judges of the adult prizes. The youth prizes are open to all members of the community and Blue Mountains Creative Arts Centre students and members under 25 years of age.

Thank you for participating in the Blue Mountains Print Prize 2025.

If you require any clarity, please get in touch at: info@nationwidecurating.com

Kind regards,

Katherine Kennedy
Owner/Manager Nationwide Curating

Katherine Kennedy

St Columba's Art Prize Entry Fee

Register now



ABOUT

The St Columba's Art Prize is an annual prize open to artists living in Australia. The submission process welcomes artworks by artists in all mediums with the exception of photographic and digital works, video and ai generated, there is no specified theme.

Entries close: 7 March 2025

Finalists announced: 21 March 2025

Exhibitions dates: 2-7 May 2025

Opening night & winners announced 2 May 2025

To enter please visit our website and complete the entry form:

<https://columbasartprize.com.au/entry-form/> before making payment.

DATE

Friday 2 May 2025 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM (UTC+11)



CHRISTMAS EXHIBITION

FROM DECEMBER 12TH
@ GALLERY NWC
188 KATOOMBA STREET
KATOOMBA



FEATURING GALLERY NWC ARTISTS & SUPPLIERS

**GALLERY
NWC**
NATIONWIDECURATING.COM

Christmas Exhibition

Exhibition from: 12 December 2024

We are so happy to have the opportunity to curate this exhibition featuring our Gallery NWC consignment artists and micro-business suppliers—With a focus on smaller 2D artworks, ceramics and jewellery!

We don't often host exhibitions across all ground floor galleries, so we are thrilled to make the most of this amazing space and fill our walls with beautiful art, selected with 'gifting' in mind.

If you need to get Christmas-ready, we are your one-stop-shop! We currently have on show and in stock: chocolate, textiles, homewares, cards, jewellery, candles and more, on top of the beautiful collection of art we have available.

We can't wait to see you at the Gallery to share this exhibition with you!

You're invited!

GALLERY NWC

NATIONWIDECURATING.COM

1ST BIRTHDAY PARTY



Join us to celebrate
our community and
our artists, with
drinks, nibbles & live
music!

1st Feb from 2pm
188 Katoomba Street,
Katoomba, NSW, 2780



BLUE MOUNTAINS CULTURAL CENTRE

30 Parke Street, Katoomba 2780

Gallery and Shop: Monday – Friday 10am – 5pm, Saturday + Sunday – 10am – 4pm

<https://bluemountainsculturalcentre.com.au/exhibition/venessa-possum-gulumun/>

<https://bluemountainsculturalcentre.com.au/exhibition/cunningrevived/>

30 Nov 2024 – 9 Feb 2025

PENRITH REGIONAL GALLERY

86 River Road, Emu Plains

The Gallery is open daily from 10am – 3.45pm

<https://www.penrithregionalgallery.com.au/events/redivining/>

9 Nov 2024- 27 Apr 2025

<https://www.penrithregionalgallery.com.au/events/magic-malfunction/>

9 Nov 2024- 16 Feb 2025

BRAEMAR HOUSE & GALLERY

104 Macquarie Road, Springwood 2777

Opening Hours: 10am – 4pm | Thursday – Sunday

Contact: Email braemargallery@gmail.com

Christmas Closure from 9 Dec 2024 – 15 Jan 2025

16 Jan - 16 Feb 2025

Official opening event at 2pm on Saturday 18 January

Peter Burger - *Painted Memories*

Geoff Matthews - *H/Arbour*

Nepean TAFE Visual Arts Student Show