

Connecting Creativity and Community

All Saints' College, WA

For a fourth consecutive year, All Saints' College hosted a community fundraising art exhibition with proceeds from the sale of artworks donated to its Service Learning partner organisation, Nulsen Group.

Running from 21 June to 19 July 2019, the *Re-Connected Exhibition* features more than 150 works created by All Saints' College students, parents, grandparents, staff and alumni, as well as Nulsen residents.

As in previous years, artists who participated in the 2019 exhibition were asked to respond with their own interpretations of the theme 'connected'. However, this year for the first time there was an environmental focus, and they were also encouraged to incorporate recycled materials into their donated artworks.

Eighty-nine of the works in *Re-Connected* were created by 24 Nulsen residents with disabilities during their art classes at the Victoria Park Centre for the Arts. Held over four weeks, these classes were made possible by some creative and entrepreneurial Year 5 students at All Saints'.

As part of a Service Learning project last year at the College, students in Year 5 were given \$2 of start-up capital which they had to use thoughtfully and creatively to maximise their money for charity.

All Saints' annual \$2 *Project* covers many learning areas and skills including Mathematics, Business and Economics, and Entrepreneurial Learning—a large focus for the College. The Year 5 students made a total of \$5 725, which they then democratically voted to give to Nulsen and help fund the organisation's art classes.

Nulsen Group Manager Partnerships and Communication Ms Danica Wieman said the art classes gave residents the chance to explore their creativity and the exhibition allowed them to share it with the community.

"Creativity is something that transcends barriers, and our residents gained new techniques from the two-hour workshops and experienced joy when producing unique works of art for potential buyers," she said.

All works featured in the exhibition are available to purchase through an online auction, with all proceeds from sales going towards helping Nulsen continue their incredible work of providing support and care to people of all ages with complex disabilities.

The College has developed a strong partnership with Nulsen Group over the past five years, mainly through the Nulsen Youth Patron Program—a creative leadership development program that sees Year 10 students support the organisation in a variety of ways including house visits, fundraising events and educational activities.



CREATIVE RESULTS: Nulsen Youth Patrons and All Saints' College Year 10 students, Zoe and Zakaria, with residents Audrey and Keith. Photographer: Jon Hewson – Community News.

The purpose of the Nulsen Youth Patron Program is to increase awareness among students and the wider community about those living with a disability and aims to develop a passion for service in students.

"Nulsen Group is grateful for the thriving partnerships it has developed with All Saints' and other schools and business corporations in the community. Without their continued support, our enriching school programs and workshops for residents would not be able to continue," Ms Wieman said.

Head of Catalyst: Centre for Service and Social Enterprise at All Saints', Mr Scott Corbett, said the exhibition was just one way of expressing the significance of the College's connection with Nulsen.

"The exhibition is an annual College event that brings together a wide cross-section of our community through a love of art," Mr Corbett said.

"The partnership with Nulsen provides students with the opportunity to engage in real-world learning and to work with a real charity and clients, making a tangible difference to the lives of others."

The online auction for the *Re-Connected Exhibition* will be live until 5pm on Friday, 19 July. To learn more and to place a bid on the artworks, please visit www.allsaints.wa.edu.au/auctions.