



26 July 2024

## Media Release

### Wallum Junior Art Exhibition Now An Art Trail

51 outstanding artworks were submitted to the inaugural 'Wallum Connections,' children's art competition and exhibition that converged with a morning tea party and celebration in Brunswick Heads last Sunday.

Artworks reflected the theme of connection: to place, people, culture and the Wallum coastal ecosystem with its special creatures. A myriad of fantastic kid centric prizes were generously donated.

The artworks will now be exhibited across a range of local businesses, so locals and visitors can participate in a temporary Wallum junior art trail.

Children from across the Byron Shire submitted art with several entries coming from Byron Bay, Federal, Mullumbimby and Brunswick Heads. Entries were also received from Lismore, Jiggi, Lennox Head and even one from Sydney.

The idea for a junior art exhibition arose after riot-style fencing was erected around the site of the controversial Clarence Property housing development in Bayside Brunswick Heads in May.

*"Many of us are actively in Save Wallum because we want to preserve this ecosystem for our children and we know it is the right thing to do. The new stark white fencing put up by Clarence Property felt oppressive and depressing, and obstructed our view of the beautiful wallum ecosystem"* says event co-organiser and mum of three Eva Love.

*"We wanted to reclaim the fences, even momentarily. We recognized the importance of our children's voices in advocating for a livable planet and designed this exhibition to provide our kids with the opportunity to express their love for nature and their connection to the wallum ecosystem. Exhibiting the artworks on the fences served as the perfect contrast and a beautiful antidote."*

*"The purity of children's voices certainly shone both through the artworks and their artists' statements and we also want to thank so many of the local businesses for their support in donating prizes and coming on board for the art trail."*

To view all the artworks, the businesses involved and for details on the Wallum junior art trail, head to <https://www.savewallum.com/post/junior-art-exhibition-art-trail>

**For further information, images or to arrange interviews please contact: Holly Galbraith**  
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**Midnight Cockatoo** by Artist Evelyn Mills, aged 12: “This is a painting of a black cockatoo sitting on a tree hoping it would be there tomorrow.”



**Tears for Wallum** by Artist Dekota Talboe, aged 11: “I’ve chosen to portray a native frog from Wallum and a tree drawn over a teardrop showing sadness for what could happen if Wallum is not protected. I put a bow on the frog to show our love for nature there.”



**The Black Tree** by Artist Pepper Scott, aged 7: "The trees in Wallum are old and very, very, very beautiful. They create habitat for animals. We need to protect Wallum's trees because they belong to us all. We need to speak up for the animals."



**No Title** by Artist Rudi Thiering, aged 4: "The police came to make sure that the Glossys are okay."