

Media Release:

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Enjoy an Evening Under the Stars at DesArt in the Park

Territorians and visitors can get an early start on their Christmas shopping when the biannual indigenous art market, known as DesArt in the Park, is held at the Alice Springs Desert Park (ASDP) next Friday 3 October 2008.

ASDP Sales and Marketing Manager Claire Ashard said the event features up to 18 art centres affiliated with DesArt displaying and selling their works.

“For this DesArt in the Park we have focused on broadening the variety of works available to suit all budgets, from the accessible to the collectable pieces,” Ms Ashard said.

“The event is a great way for people to enjoy an evening under the stars filled with local art, entertainment and food stalls amongst the majestic surroundings of the Park.

“Story Wall will be screening Central Australian films suitable for the whole family in the Park’s cinema throughout the evening, plus there’ll be live music by local performer Hannah Morrison.

“Visitors can also enjoy bar facilities and dinner with a selection of dishes available from both a range of food stalls and the Coolaman Café which are open from 6pm.”

Ms Ashard said they look forward to building upon the success of the last DesArt in the Park event held in March 2008.

“The last event sold a record amount of more than \$55,000 of art work, which went directly to the Art Centres,” Ms Ashard said.

“Visitor numbers were also at a record of almost 1000 people and we are anticipating even more again with the Art at the Heart conference delegates in town.”

The event is a collaboration between Desart, the Association of Central Australian Aboriginal Art and Craft Centres and the Alice Springs Desert Park.

Desart member Art Centres are Aboriginal owned and controlled, with 100 per cent return to artists and Art Centres. Aboriginal Art Centres provide much needed income and employment opportunities as well as being a focus for family connection, social and cultural activities, and the means to celebrate Aboriginal identity.

DesArt in the Park is on Friday 3 October from 6 – 9pm and entry is free.

Ends

Media Note – for more information contact Claire Ashard on 0401 116 209

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