

The inaugural aRRRRRt Awards, a special collaboration between EcoNetwork Port Stephens and Artisan Collective Port Stephens, celebrates EcoNetwork's Sustainable Futures Festival.

All finalists will be on display and winners announced on 11<sup>th</sup> September at the Sustainable Futures Festival in the grounds of St Philip's Christian College, Salamander Bay. An independent, esteemed artist from Newcastle will have the difficult job of selecting the winners from a very competitive pool.

A cash prize pool of \$1000 is up for grabs. The Open Adult prize is worth \$500 and the Secondary School Prize is \$250. The winner of the Primary School prize is \$250 and a serve of gelato from Jetty Gelato for every student in the classroom! There is also a noncash prize for the People's Choice Award.

The aRRRRRt awards recognise artists' creativity to put the R into aRt: Rethink, Reduce, Reuse, Repurpose or Recycle.



*Victoria Page, a student from Tomaree High School, created 'Trapped': A digital artwork portraying a fish trapped in a water bottle to make comment on the impact of pollution in the ocean.*

Alison Rogers, a member of the EcoNetwork Executive said, "We are excited to share how the Port Stephen community has found creative ways of expressing the importance of Rethinking, Reducing, Reusing, Repurposing or Recycling".

The finalists include works across digital media, painting, wearable art, sculpture and much more!

Peter Masters, a member of Artisan Collective Port Stephens, said, "I'm really impressed with the depth of talent – artists of all ages have incorporated the themes of Rethink, Reduce, Reuse, Repurpose or Recycle in some very inspiring and exciting ways."

The finalists can be viewed at the following locations from 16<sup>th</sup> August until 2<sup>nd</sup> September:

- Jetty Gelato at Shoal Bay
- Tomaree Library and Community Centre - Salamander Bay
- The Greenhouse Eatery at Pacific Dunes, Medowie
- Artisan Collective Port Stephens, Nelson Bay

More information: [www.ecops.au/arrrrrt](http://www.ecops.au/arrrrrt)

And don't forget – [Festival Day](#) is on 11 September at St Philip's Christian College, Salamander Bay from 10am – 4pm. Come along and vote for your favourite artwork in the People's Choice category.

If you have questions or interest in purchasing the artworks please email [art@econetworkps.org](mailto:art@econetworkps.org)

Sponsors of the aRRRRRt awards are Boomerang Bags Raymond Terrace, Hunter Region Landcare Network (via Hunter Local Land Services, funded through The Australian Government's National Landcare Program), Jetty Gelato, Shoal Bay and Lion Studios, as part of EcoNetwork's [Sustainable Futures Festival](#).