

Let the art do the talking

A record 60 entries were received for the 2009 RACT Insurance Tasmanian Youth Portraiture Prize. Entries came from all over the State, and depicted living Tasmanians ranging from infants and children to those with a wide range of backgrounds, including musicians, a barman, a teacher and a professor.

One of the goals of the prize is to identify and celebrate Tasmanians who provide others with inspiration. So one artist depicted their father, an “incredibly knowledgeable individual” according to the artist. Another artist portrayed her partner. They met when she served him coffee in a London café, and now they reside together in Tasmania.

“The subject matter this year was incredibly diverse, and certainly meets our objective of nurturing emerging artists through the depiction of Tasmanians who have provided inspiration in the life of the artist. I hope the prize is a reminder to us all that there are heroes in every community, not just on sporting grounds and in the movies,” said Trent Sayers, Chief Executive of RACT Insurance.



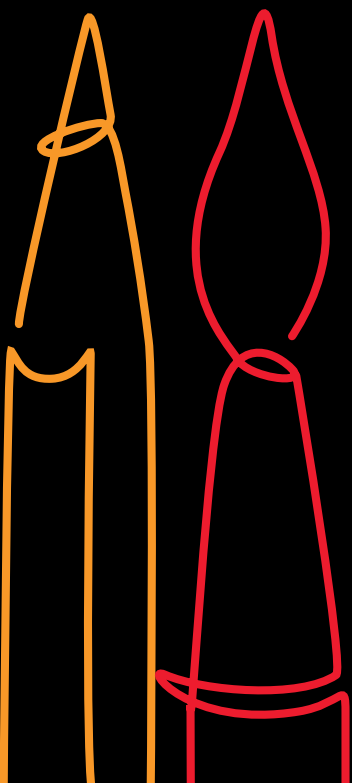
Winner of the 2009 RACT Insurance Tasmanian Youth Portraiture Prize: Fin by Nathan Grey



Runner-up: Ian Pearce by Rachael Gates



Runner-up: Too Much by Allison Lowe



Opening night at the Devonport Regional Art Gallery



Alison Hart, Lee Cole (Tasmanian Regional Arts) and Rob Hart



The 2009 judges: Helene Weeding, Kim Schneiders and Adriane Boag



Michael Blake, Suzanne Hennessy, Eunice Horne (Tasmanian Regional Arts) and Effie Pryer (artist)



Jo Clayton (RACT Devonport branch manager), Andrew Tracey (RACT Insurance) and Fiona Crawn (RACT Travelworld)



Kate Laycock (artist), Shey Bissett and Alexander Davern (artist)

