



New South Wales Government

The Hon Steve Whan MP  
Minister for Emergency Services  
Minister for Small Business

---

## ARTEXPRESS AT THE ARMORY SHOWCASES WESTERN SYDNEY TALENT

2 March, 2009

The annual exhibition of outstanding work by HSC Visual Arts students from Western Sydney will be officially opened tonight by Minister Steve Whan, at the Newington Armory, Sydney Olympic Park.

The ARTEXPRESS exhibition features the work of 66 HSC students from Western Sydney and has a strong focus on new media and digital technology.

“The exhibition is the largest metropolitan exhibition of work submitted for the 2008 HSC Visual Arts Examination,” Minister Whan said.

“It brings together complete bodies of work created by young artists from the Western Sydney region and provides an insight into their creativity and the issues that are important to them.

The exhibition, now in its sixth year, takes place at the Newington Armory, formerly an explosives storehouse that has been transformed into a contemporary art space with the longest uninterrupted wall of any gallery in Australia.

“This impressive space allows Sydney Olympic Park to host the largest of the ARTEXPRESS exhibitions and is a fitting environment to showcase the exceptional talent and expertise of the young students to a large audience,” Minister Whan said”.

Titled *Art of Darkness*, this year’s ARTEXPRESS exhibition considers the quality of darkness in the students’ artworks, including the different techniques used to render nocturnal light effects. Darkness is understood in the exhibition both as a visual quality and as a metaphor for the unknown regions of the psyche.

ARTEXPRESS is a joint initiative of the NSW Department of Education and Training and the Office of the Board of Studies NSW in association with Sydney Olympic Park Authority.

ARTEXPRESS at the Armory will be on display until 29 April. For more information and visiting times, visit [www.sydneyolympicpark.com.au](http://www.sydneyolympicpark.com.au) or call (02) 9714 7888.

**Media contact:** Rebel Talbert 0417 265 793