

MEDIA RELEASE

Fri 19th Oct

Artsource wins two awards

artsource, the peak representative body for visual artists in W.A, won twice in the West Australian Business and the Arts Partnership Awards on Friday the 12th of October.

artsource's partnership with the *National Trust* for the development of the *Settlers Cottage Studios* won the *Arts Development Category*; and the work achieved by *Block Branding* for *Artopia* won the *Best Small or Medium-sized Partnership*.

“Our aim is to find affordable studio spaces for artists wherever we can. This is constantly being made more difficult as the impact of housing shortage and property rises hit home. We’re delighted that our partnership with the National Trust has been recognised and thank all our partners for their support over the past year” said *artsource* Executive Director Jude van der Merwe.

Settlers Cottage is located in Churchlands on approximately two hectares of bushland. The site is owned by the National Trust and for the past year has been leased by *artsource*. At present the existing building accommodates four artist studios, but there are plans to build additional buildings to accommodate textile/print facilities, a sculpture space and a residential unit.

Artopia is a three week, statewide, biennial festival celebrating visual arts in WA (www.artopia.net.au). The festival was presented by *artsource* and The Association of West Australian Art Galleries. *Block Branding* was one of the major partners and was responsible for the Artopia ‘man’.

The prestigious WA Business & the Arts Partnership Awards were hosted by the Minister for Culture & the Arts Sheila McHale MLA, and Premier Alan Carpenter. The six winners were singled out “for the strength of their relationships and their commitment to keeping our State culturally vibrant,” said Ms McHale. Finalists are ranked according to their ability to deliver palpable, impressive sponsorship outcomes that bring the realms of business, culture and arts closer together.

The award program attracted almost 200 nominations for 132 businesses, which partnered with 33 different arts companies.

For all media enquiries regarding Settlers Cottage contact Program Manager Yvonne Holland on (08) 9335 8366 or email yvonne@artsource.net.au

For all media enquiries regarding Artopia and the partnership with Block Branding contact Carola Akindele-Obe on (08) 9355 8366 or email carola@livingartists.com.au

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