

Media Release

IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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John Hill heralds 2016 SALA Festival

South Australia's arts community will be under the spotlight next month when the South Australian Living Arts (SALA) Festival gets under way.

Festival Chair John Hill, who is a former State Arts and Health Minister and current ACH Group Board Director, says the month-long festival has become an important celebration of artists and the arts community.

"This is the time of year when we shine a light on the creativity and visions of South Australian artists," he says. "This festival provides a platform for visual artists of every type, working in every medium at every level of skill and experience in every part of our state.

"I look forward to leading the SALA Board to deliver strategic outcomes for artists and the Festival as it continues to strengthen its position on the state's events calendar."

Established in 1998, SALA is the only major festival in South Australia dedicated to visual artists and enjoys a high level of community engagement with support from local government and small businesses.

Last year a record 600,000 South Australians attended hundreds of exhibitions, open studios and events. This year's festival offers 630 exhibitions and events featuring 4,699 amateur, emerging and professional visual artists exhibiting a diverse range of art including painting, sculpture, drawing, photography, digital media, moving image, glass, ceramics, textiles and more.

This year ACH Group will show art at seven unique venues across South Australia, including its flagship venue at The Space Between, Rundle St. SALA runs from 1 to 31 August.

ACH Group has been involved in the visual arts festival for six years, beginning with a single venue exhibition in 2010.

Dementia Learning and Development Unit Senior Manager Lenore de la Perelle says SALA supports ACH Group's Healthy Ageing approach which makes it as easy as possible for people in our residential living homes to choose to be active, remain connected and engage in what they love to do.

"When people paint or draw they are describing their emotions; expressing something that they can't find words for," she says. "Art gives people the opportunity to look back and think about things in a creative and deeply meaningful way."

ACH Group exhibition venues

The Space Between, Level 1, 187 Rundle St, Adelaide

Our Wellbeing Place, 108 Swanport Road, Murray Bridge

Milpara Residential, 147 Saint Bernards Road, Rostrevor

Home Grain Bakery, 13 Old Coach Road, Aldinga

Manoli's Mezes Mediterranean Cafe, 32 Saltfleet Street, Port Noarlunga

John McVeity Centre (YMCA), 12 Peachey Road, Smithfield Plains

McLaren Vale Club, 177 Main Road, McLaren Vale

Visit www.ach.org.au/sala2016 for opening hours.

Find out more about ACH Group's involvement at www.ach.org.au/sala2016

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About ACH Group

ACH Group is a not-for-profit aged care organisation that has been offering services to support good lives for older people in South Australia since 1952. As well as accommodation options across Adelaide, the Fleurieu Peninsula and East Melbourne, the group offers a range of health, wellbeing, respite and support services, help at home and social activities. Our 1700 specialist staff and hundreds of volunteers share the belief that older people should be valued and respected, connected to their communities and in control of their lives.

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