

# Creating community



Sana Al-Ahmar (front, second from left) with artists of the "Beautiful and Strange" exhibition at Campbelltown Arts Centre. Picture: Simon Bullard

## New residents build connection with Campbelltown through art

SOME of the Macarthur region's newest residents are putting their home country's culture on display at the Campbelltown Arts Centre until the end of the month.

The arts centre has teamed up with Macarthur Diversity Services Initiative (MDSI) to create *Beautiful and Strange* an exhibition of artworks from migrants which will be on show until September 30.

MDSI generalist settlement caseworker Sana Al-Ahmar said the exhibition contained about 30 artworks from residents who were new to the Campbelltown community.

"A majority of the artworks are paintings but we also have a few pictures and a paper mache," Ms Al-Ahmar said.



She explained the exhibition was predominantly organised through MDSI's women's group.

"It's a really great way for the new people to connect with the Campbelltown community," Ms Al-Ahmar said. "For a lot of people coming here, they take time to connect with the local community."

"The arts centre is 30 years old and a big part of Campbelltown so it's a great way for those people to connect with the area."

Ms Al-Ahmar encouraged the wider Campbelltown community to come and see the exhibition. "This is the third exhibition we've put on in the past seven or eight years," she said.

"I think it would be great

to get the wider community down to see some of the works of our new migrants; one thing that stands out is the similarities between people no matter where

"We've spent the past year working with the arts centre to organise this and we're all very excited."

The exhibition was opened by Mayor George Brticevic last Wednesday.

### Beautiful and Strange

- » What: Art exhibition created by new migrants to the Campbelltown community
- » Where: Campbelltown Arts Centre
- » When: Exhibition closes on September 30
- » Details: c-a-c.com.au
- » Cost: Free

## fastlane

### COUNTRY GIRLS READY TO ROCK

● The McClymonts are ready to 'kick it up' at The Cube on Saturday, October 6. Brooke, Sam and Mollie have been anything but quiet with their best-selling album *Endless* debuting at No. 1 Country and No. 3 ARIA all-genre album chart. It also generated three hit singles. Details: thecube.net.au



### SINGER SHOWS HER TALENTS

● Former Campbelltown Theatre Group performer Cypriana Singh is one of 30 semi-finalists in the Rob Guest Endowment Award. The talented singer was successful in an audition process. She now has to perform in front of a panel of judges on Monday, October 1 to determine the six finalists for the 2018 award.



### PLAY SCHOOL DOOR OPENS

● Play School Live in Concert - Once Upon A Time is headed to Camden Civic Centre on Friday, October 12. Watch classic nursery rhyme characters magically come to life as the pages of the storybook are turned in this exciting new production. The performance starts at 10am and is 45 minutes in length. Details: camdenciviccentre.com.au.



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