Five young Territory artists have been awarded a total of $20,000 under the Northern Territory Government's Arts Scholarship program Chief Minister, and Minister for Arts and Museums, Clare Martin, announced today.

The annual Arts Scholarship program is designed to assist Territorians to undertake accredited courses of post-secondary study in their chosen art field where these are not available in the Territory.

"The five recipients have demonstrated considerable dedication in pursuing excellence in their chosen artistic field and will receive a $4000 scholarship to support their studies in dance and performance, media arts and screen studies," Ms Martin said.

"The NT Government is pleased to be able to support our emerging artists and encourage excellence in the arts through the Arts Scholarship Program.

"Scholarship selections are always difficult to make given the wealth of talent in the Territory but the final decision is made on the basis of artistic ability, commitment, academic merit and potential value to the Territory."

The Chief Minister congratulated the recipients on their achievements to date and wished them well in their studies. The five recipients are:

- Jacqueline Bransgrove
  Bachelor of Arts (Media Arts), Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology
- Phoebe Costigan
  Diploma in Arts (Dance and Performance), Dance Factory (Melbourne)
- Virginia Cowley
  Bachelor of Contemporary Arts (Dance), Deakin University
- Miranda O'Keefe
  Bachelor of Arts (Screen Studies), Flinders University
- Tim Parish
  Bachelor of Arts (Media Arts), Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology

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**Short biographies of 2002 Arts Scholarship recipients**

**Jacqueline Bransgrove (Alice Springs)**

Bachelor of Arts (Media Arts), Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology

Jacqueline had artwork selected for inclusion in the 'Exit Art' exhibition of final year students in 2000. She has been involved in designing sound and lighting for several local community arts projects and has made short films. One of these, 'Girl!' was presented at the Hong Kong Youth Film Festival and the International Film Festival of Taiwan and her film "Wedding Tackle" won Best Production award in 2000 at the Darwin Fringe Festival.

Jacqueline’s artistic talent and output have gained recognition and she has achieved well in being considered for a course that has only thirty places to offer.

**Phoebe Costigan (Darwin)**

Diploma in Arts (Dance and Performance), Dance Factory (Melbourne)

Phoebe has successfully completed a year of study at the Dance Factory at
Certificate Three level, and has been accepted into the Diploma in Arts course, which commences at Certificate Four level. Phoebe was awarded a school Certificate of Merit in Expressive Dance and has performed in many school plays, concerts and the Eisteddfod. She also performed in the 1998 Fashion Awards and choreographed dance performances. She studied for four years at the Lisa Campbell School of Dancing and has performed in Tracks Inc and Juniper Tree dance productions.

Virginia Cowley (Darwin)
Bachelor of Contemporary Arts (Dance), Deakin University
Virginia gained high achievement awards at school in Dance in 1998 and 1999. She has represented the NT in National Dance and Callisthenics championships, represented her school during Dance Week and performed at school assemblies.

Virginia has danced, performed and taught others in Darwin for 13 years. She intends to bring her talents and skills back to the NT on completing her studies at Deakin.

Miranda O'Keefe (Alice Springs)
Bachelor of Arts (Screen Studies), Flinders University
Miranda has produced films that have been successful at both national and international film festivals. Her film ‘Ekstasis’ has been showcased in New York, London, Taipei and Hong Kong. Additionally her film ‘Chip Fashion’ was the runner up in the Best Film category in the youth section of the 1999 Darwin Fringe Festival Film competition and received a commendation for best special effects. She has demonstrated a high degree of motivation and commitment in completing her secondary studies, whilst also maintaining part time employment and continuing an active role as a volunteer with young people in the community.

Tim Parish (Darwin)
Bachelor of Arts (Media Arts), Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology
Since becoming interested in new media, Tim has worked individually and collaboratively on multimedia projects and performances in Darwin, has curated and organised local alternative film festivals and music video competitions, been employed as multimedia artist in residence at Darwin High School and with video production houses. Additionally he has been an active member of the Darwin Film Society organising specific events, been president of the NTU Film Group, and a member of the Darwin Fringe. He has worked as a camera operator and editor on documenting arts projects and has produced two issues of "verb" a multimedia art magazine in print and CD Rom, one self funded and the second with funding through the Northern Territory Government's Arts Sponsorship Program.

Tim has shown solid commitment and achievement to date in study, in artistic endeavour and involvement in community based arts and other practical applications in new media arts.