$25,000 George Chaloupka Scholarship

Arts and Museums Minister Gerry McCarthy today called on Territorians to apply for this year’s $25,000 George Chaloupka Fellowship.

“Dr George Chaloupka is arguably the Territory’s best known rock art historians and is a former Curator Emeritus at the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory,” Mr McCarthy said.

“Territorians should be proud of the work Dr Chaloupka produced during his many years working at MAGNT and I thank Energy Resources of Australia for sponsoring the fellowship so that understanding of Territory rock art becomes richer and broader.

“The fellowship aims to promote and support research and conservation of Aboriginal rock art located in the Arnhem Land Plateau region in the Territory.”

The Fellowship will be granted to an individual to undertake work in one or more of the following areas with a view to publication:

- Pursuing the recording/data collection of rock art sites in Arnhem Land Plateau region in areas not yet surveyed through the work of Emeritus Curator Dr George Chaloupka OAM or other researchers;
- Interpretation of sites by custodians/traditional owners;
- Preservation of rock art;
- Dating of rock art; or
- Researching/documenting the work of Emeritus Curator Dr George Chaloupka OAM held at MAGNT.

“MAGNT oversees a large collection of photographic images and associated documentation of several Northern Territory rock art regions that has been built up through field work and research over 30 years,” Mr McCarthy said.

“The strength of the MAGNT collection is that it records the most complex and extensive body of rock art, which is found in the Arnhem Land Plateau and Kakadu National Park.

“The rock paintings of this region represent not only the world’s longest continuing art tradition but also the world’s longest continuous record of human endeavour.

“Rock art provides information about Australian prehistory, as the artists through time depicted changes in their physical, social and religious environments.”

Submissions for the 2010 Fellowship close on 30 June 2010. Contact MAGNT acting director Darlene Lion on 8999 8220 or email Darlene.lion@nt.gov.au for more information.

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