Aboriginal art showcased as Desert Mob celebrates 25th anniversary

23 August 2015

One of Australia’s premier Aboriginal art and cultural events - Desert Mob 2015 - is celebrating its 25th anniversary in September with a series of events at the Araluen Arts Centre.

“Desert Mob 2015 continues a 25 year tradition of revealing and celebrating the vast geographic, linguistic and cultural diversity of Aboriginal artists from Western Australia and across the central and southern Northern Territory, including several Alice Springs-based art centres,” Chief Minister Adam Giles said.

“Desert Mob has now evolved into one of Australia’s major arts events and also offers the opportunity for visitors to gain a unique insight into the lives and culture of Aboriginal artists living in Central Australia.”

The Desert Mob Exhibition will officially open at the Araluen Art Centre on Friday 4 September and run until Sunday 1 November.

The exhibition will span three galleries and feature a broad range of two and three dimensional artworks, including painting, ceramics, works on paper, photography and sculpture.

A Desert Mob Symposium will be hosted in the Araluen Arts Centre Theatre between 10am and 3.30pm on Friday 5 September. The theme this year will be Stories from the Artists.

The Symposium is presented by Desart and brings together artists from art centres and special guests for a day of inspiring stories and remarkable projects that reinforce the importance of culture, country and community in their lives and artworks.

“Dance also returns to Desert Mob this year as part of the 25th anniversary celebrations with a Desert Mob DanceSite,” Mr Giles said.

“The Desert Mob DanceSite will bring together several groups from across Central Australia in a dynamic and culturally rich performance of traditional dance and song on the Araluen Art Centre grounds, being held from 4pm – 6pm on Friday 4 September.

“A highlight of the Desert Mob opening weekend will be the Desert Mob MarketPlace from 10am to 2pm on Saturday 5 September at the Araluen Arts Centre.
“This large, vibrant outdoor/indoor market event provides an opportunity for unique interaction between artists, art centre staff and buyers.”

To learn more about Desert Mob 2015 go to www.desart.nt.gov.au or www.facebook.com/desertmob

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