

Who's who on the panel?

Natalie De Vito

Natalie's curatorial interests in producing artists' work that addresses social engagement by encouraging interaction between the artwork and the audience, as well as between audience members, and often in unconventional and public spaces brought her to Mammalian Diving Reflex.

Natalie's experience includes being Artistic Producer, Artist Weekend 2008 for the Ontario Arts Council, Acting Media and Visual Arts Officer at the Ontario Arts Council, Head of Development and Marketing at The Power Plant Contemporary Art Gallery, and Co-Director of Mercer Union Centre for Contemporary Art. She has produced, curated or coordinated over 50 exhibitions, events, and performances, and has toured many internationally.

Natalie holds a B.Sc. (Double Programme) in human anatomy and art history from McGill University, Montreal, and a M.A. in art history from York University, Toronto. She was former vice-president of both the Canadian Filmmakers Distribution Centre (CFMDC) and C Magazine.



Eva Verity

Eva is currently pursuing graduate studies in Art History at York University. Her research examines contemporary art and its ever-changing relationships to social structures and institutions. In particular she investigates issues of originality, canonicity and influence by relating the practice of sampling in music to appropriation in the work of contemporary visual artists who represent canonical masterpieces.

Eva's involvement in the Art Gallery of Ontario's **In Your Face** project sparked her interest in interactive art and its potential for community building and social activism. She completed her Honours Bachelor of Arts in Art History and Cultural Studies and Critical Theory at McMaster University in 2006.

Colin Walker

Colin is the Director of Cultural Development and Strategic Programs at the Department of Culture and the Arts. He is a senior arts manager with extensive experience and networks in the private, not for profit arts and government sectors. Prior to joining the Department, Colin was a Director and Head of International Development, at Arts & Business, the world's largest organisation forming partnerships between the private sector and the arts. He has acted as an arts consultant to a range of international brands and many of the most recognisable arts institutions in the UK. Colin is a board member of Healthway and sits on the State's Graffiti taskforce.

Lex Randolph

Lex is a young(ish) person passionate about the arts and empowering young people to be active in their communities. She has worked in the arts since graduating from a Bachelor of Musical Arts in 2002 (majoring in Music and Anthropology), and has since completed studies in Arts Management, and worked in community service and arts organizations. Lex taught music (violin and piano) to people of all ages for 8 years. She has also been active in community choirs, orchestras, and as a professional performer.



Lex has been involved in various youth arts projects with DADAA, Awesome Arts, and Swan Friendship Club. She has experience working with different communities as an artist, and an arts administrator. Lex is currently a project coordinator at DADAA WA and is working with young people with and without disabilities to assist them in getting their voice heard and connecting with their communities through the arts.

In her spare time, Lex loves to sing and play the violin, as well as listen to contemporary alternative music, walk in the bush, discuss social justice issues and contemplate innovative (and sometimes crazy) ideas about anything and everything!



Phil Beckett

Hi, my name's Phil. I've been involved in a number of programs aimed at providing young people with advocacy in their community as well as safe, local entertainment since I was about 15. In 2008, I became involved with the Hyper Series, which includes WA's largest youth-run and organised all-ages music festival ("Hyper Festival"), attracting over 3,500 punters every year. I also have a cadetship at the accounting firm, KPMG, which runs alongside my study at UWA.

Hallie Mckeig

Hallie is the Director of Filmbites Youth Film School and Oneiric Productions. Hallie graduated from Post Graduate studies in Film and Television from Curtin University. She has worked at Channel Nine as a Promotions Director, writing, producing and directing in house commercials for the network, worked in Canada in production on films such as "Like Cats and Dogs", "The Pledge" and "Snow White", used film to teach English as a second language to students in Taiwan and for the last six years built Australia's only dedicated Youth Film School. Her students have won and been nominated for local and national awards, been screened in Korea, appeared and work on local TV series, commercials and films and have also gained employment through her studio. Hallie believes strongly in the potential and voice of young people and the power of story and filmmaking to bring people together and change lives.

Sofie Lines

Sofie Lines has been actively involved in the arts sector, particularly youth arts, for several years. Sofie began her career in the arts in her hometown of Denmark where she volunteered at Denmark Arts Council through a school work placement, which evolved into a twelve-month traineeship funded by the Shire of Denmark.

After successfully applying for YCulture Regional funding for a project with Denmark Arts Council Sofie was invited to become a member of the YCulture Regional Panel and since contributed three years on this Panel.

Sofie has received awards recognising her efforts including the 2008 Regional Arts Australia Volunteer Award in the 2008 Youth Category and the Shire of Denmark Young Citizen of the Year Award.

Sofie relocated to Perth at the beginning of 2009 to take up a position at Country Arts WA as the Regional Arts Development Assistant. Since moving to Perth she has become a member of the YCulture Metro Panel.

Sofie has recently enrolled in the Bachelor of Arts Management at the WA Academy of Performing Arts and is planning to continue learning and developing her career in the arts.



Danni McGrath

Danni McGrath is a young person who is actively involved and engaged in the Perth contemporary arts scene. In 2009 Danni attended Propel Youth Arts WA's ArtsCAMP. There she confirmed that she had a strong passion to become a full time practicing artist. In 2009 Danni graduated from Rossmoyne High School. In her last year of high school and in the past few months Danni has been extremely busy coordinating her first professional arts project.

The Debut Project involves a group exhibition, where seven artists, aged 16 to 18 will exhibit a body of work created over the summer months with the assistance of some of Perth's highest profile artists and a submissions based arts zine, "untitled(YOUTH)", that will feature the work of young artists aged 13 to 25. The exhibition promises to be a vibrant exploration of the young artists' view of their world. It will be held at Free Range Gallery, Perth, opening on the 19th February, 2010.

Danni has managed to secure a massive amount of financial and in-kind support from the Perth arts community. This speaks to her amazing energy and curiosity as a creative WA young person.