**THE OCEAN PROJECT 2024**

Art has a capacity to reveal, communicate and evoke complex information, emotions, images and ideas. Addressing key topical science and art themes, *The Ocean Project 2024* links art with science for educational and public benefit outcomes.

The ocean is a key arena for scientific research in WA and globally; with biological, mathematical, environmental, social, economic and cultural concerns and impacts.

For many years CSIRO Environment at IOMRC at UWA has been researching Oceanography and Marine Biology in WA; including marine ecology in the field, mathematical modelling and research in cognitive and social sciences; which currently has a focus on the [*Ocean You Want-*for the*UN Decade of the Ocean*](https://oceandecade.org/)

A collaborative partnership between [Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery (LWAG),](https://www.uwa.edu.au/lwag/home)  [Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) Environment )](https://www.csiro.au/en/about/locations/state-locations/wa/iomrc) and the [School of Design, UWA](https://www.uwa.edu.au/schools/design), along with a commissioned artist Kirsten Hudson, together with staff and students of Wesley College and Kalamunda Senior High has been investigating how art might communicate and bring western science, Indigenous cultural knowledge and community science about the ocean to a wider audience - especially to students at all levels.

The Project commenced with a public discussion: *Challenges in ocean research – how might art help?* that was held in April 2024: see

<https://www.uwa.edu.au/lwag/events/challenges-in-ocean-research---panel-discussion>

Related artwork by Kirsten Hudson that was commissioned and exhibited at LWAG in *ODE: An Acknowledgement of Sea Country* (17 July-14 August), was accompanied by a Panel discussion with CSIRO Environment scientists: see

https://www.uwa.edu.au/lwag/events/exhibition-launch-and-conversation---artist-kirsten-hudson-with-marine-research-scientists-fabio-boschetti-and-matt-andreotta

Following hands on science activities with CSIRO scientists and discussion with the commissioned artist about her work, students from Wesley College and Kalamunda Senior High have created their own artworks for *The Ocean Project II* – *students’ exhibition* to be seen in the Schenberg Study Centre at Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery (14 -23 November 2024).

The project has been financially supported by the Friends of the Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery who are committed to supporting art projects for students that feature art and science.

This project involving school and college students has objectives that align with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child Article 29 section (e) ‘The development of respect for the natural environment’ and also Article 31; which includes: to ‘respect and promote the right of the child to participate fully in cultural and artistic life and shall encourage the provision of appropriate and equal opportunities for cultural, artistic, recreational and leisure activity.’

 Additional Resources:

*The Ocean Project 2024* (<https://www.uwa.edu.au/lwag/partnerships/the-ocean-project-2024>

Kirsten Hudson was the artist commissioned as a key part of *The Ocean Project 2024*, and whose works were exhibited at Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery. Her exhibition was *ODE (An Acknowledgment of Sea Country)* ([https://www.uwa.edu.au/lwag/partnerships/ocean-project-2024-exhibition](https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.uwa.edu.au%2Flwag%2Fpartnerships%2Focean-project-2024-exhibition&data=05%7C02%7Cclare.senior%40uwa.edu.au%7C6e1bf359b49f44ec592908dcf6f9a947%7C05894af0cb2846d8871674cdb46e2226%7C0%7C0%7C638656799379833833%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=RAMGRsPDdqNypqDBU05J0BUHiNQ0BljUMNlfc5zb5MM%3D&reserved=0)).

A recording of the panel discussion with Kirsten Hudson and two of the CSIRO Environment research scientists who are Partners in this project development and execution. They are Dr Fabio Boschetti (an applied mathematician), and Dr Matthew Andreotta (a psychologist). <https://www.uwa.edu.au/lwag/events/exhibition-launch-and-conversation---artist-kirsten-hudson>

The exhibition of student’s artworks [https://www.uwa.edu.au/lwag/events/exhibition-launch---the-ocean-project-2024---students-exhibition](https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.uwa.edu.au%2Flwag%2Fevents%2Fexhibition-launch---the-ocean-project-2024---students-exhibition&data=05%7C02%7Cclare.senior%40uwa.edu.au%7C6e1bf359b49f44ec592908dcf6f9a947%7C05894af0cb2846d8871674cdb46e2226%7C0%7C0%7C638656799379864433%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=ZrDX%2F31%2FMPizVvrDdeDVtGTRirc%2BtLlKVZ8bxukyCH4%3D&reserved=0)

Video documentation of the initial stage: a key-note lecture about the topic with Dr Beth Fulton, a Senior Principal Research Scientist with CSIRO Environment, where she leads the Integrated Ocean Stewardship Research Domain <https://www.uwa.edu.au/lwag/events/challenges-in-ocean-research---panel-discussion>