

MEDIA RELEASE

25 January 2018

For immediate release



Guildhouse Incorporated
ABN 75 442 934 320



South Australian artists Limber UP

Guildhouse is thrilled to announce the recipients of the 2018 LimberUP mentorships.

LimberUP is a career development mentorship program dedicated to providing South Australian creative professionals with flexible, funded opportunities to develop skills and artistic practice.

- Artist, writer and educator Roy Ananda will help photographic visual artist Steph Fuller develop the language she uses to talk about her work and extend her practice.
- Perth-based cultural leader Professor Ted Snell will mentor curator and arts writer Eleanor Scicchitano, helping her map out ways she can build a national practice from Adelaide.
- Visual artist Louise Flaherty will work with mentor Laura Wills to expand her practice to engage community and develop a participatory practice.
- Glass artist Naomi Hunter will have one-on-one sessions with third generation flame worker Peter Minson during her four week Graduate in Residence at the Canberra Glassworks to further develop her skills and methods of working with glass.
- Under the mentorship of chief botanist Professor Michelle Waycott, artist Rebecca McEwan will engage with and observe the unique and specialised environment of the State Herbarium, developing her study of bees and pollination.

Guildhouse Executive Director Emma Fey says "this ambitious group are the fifth cohort to benefit from the LimberUP program over four years."

Since 2014, 84 artists and creative professionals have participated in Guildhouse mentorship programs with significant outcomes, reporting long-term impact on career development, networks and skill development.

In a new partnership with artist run initiative FELTspace, Guildhouse will also provide mentoring support to three emerging artists through FELT's graduate award program for 2018:

Eduard Helmbold, University of South Australia

Kate O'Boyle, Adelaide Central School of Art

Danny Vines, Tafe SA (Adelaide College of the Arts)

The three FELTspace award graduates will be mentored through exhibition logistics and marketing in the lead up to their SALA exhibitions in August. They will also work one-on-one with industry leaders best suited to their individual practices.

"Like all professionals, artists need career development to build skills and enhance their capabilities. However, unlike the majority of Australian professionals, these experiences are not available through employer-funded programs," says Fey.

LimberUP mentorships have been made available annually with support from Arts South Australia, through the industry development funding awarded by the Arts Minister in 2014.

Arts South Australia Executive Director Peter Louca says the state government is really pleased to fund the mentorship program, which provides an artist fee to both the mentor and the mentee in acknowledgement of expertise and time out of their practice,

"Artists are predominantly solo operators and micro businesses, and often lack the financial security and infrastructure to facilitate access to new skill-sets or knowledge," Mr Louca said.

"Many high profile, established South Australian creative practitioners have participated as mentors, building capacity and new networks for emerging and mid-career artists."

Ms Fey says LimberUP provides a great deal of flexibility, allowing creative professionals to identify a creative or business goal and secure expert tutelage and support, often resulting in life-long professional relationships and outcomes.

"The importance of high quality, funded career development in underpinning a thriving, ambitious arts sector cannot be overstated."

Demand for Guildhouse mentorship programs is strong, and the application process is increasingly competitive. In order for this proven and highly valued program to continue, we need to secure its future to strengthen sector capacity. You can support this program by making a donation today guildhouse.org.au/donate

For information, a selection of hi-res images or to arrange interviews please contact Emma Fey emma.fey@guildhouse.org.au 0423 721 820.

Image: Steph Fuller, Launch (detail), 2014

Guildhouse is supported by the South Australian government through Arts South Australia and by the Visual Arts and Craft Strategy, an initiative of the Australia, State and Territory Governments.

