



FESTIVAL OF THE ELEMENTS

WAITANGI DAY

6 February 2008

Elsdon Park

NEWS ITEM

SCULPTURE COMPETITION

This summer's Porirua Festival of the Elements needs people who can turn trash into a work of art. They will have 10 hours to build a sculpture from recycled goods during the festival on February 6. The resulting artwork also needs to last outside for a year, says competition organiser Pearl Freemantle.

"Every year, my two kids and I go to Trash Palace to find recycled items for the sculpture competition," she says.

Artists can plan their sculpture beforehand by viewing pictures of the materials they will be working with on the Porirua Arts Council website. The Waitangi Day festival is a celebration of fire, water, earth and air, and different cultures and the artists need to incorporate these things into their entries, while showing the green side of it.

"It's how art can be made from other people's waste," she says.

Every year, 20 sculptors get the chance to win a first prize of \$1000, with second winning \$500 and third \$250. There is also a public vote where the audience chooses their favourite to get a prize of \$250.

"You can work as a pair, or individually," says Ms Freemantle. "Whole families have competed before. It's really performance art, because there is an audience."

"People who attend are very encouraging and supportive and sculptors quite often help each other."

Two places in the competition are held each year for students from Whitireia Community Polytechnic and Inverloch Art School. Anyone interested in competing should contact Pearl Freemantle on 04-236-7941.

- By Charlotte Pigott

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The Festival of Elements is an event arranged and managed by the
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