



## MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate use

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### CASH PRIZES WORTH \$3000 FOR YOUNG PORIRUA ARTISTS

Young Porirua urban artists wanting to see their work displayed in the city centre and be in to win a top prize of \$550 have a month to submit concept drawings to Porirua City Council.

The Big Urban Art Holiday Competition for Porirua Students will give 34 talented young Porirua artists the opportunity to paint a 1.2m by 1.2m artwork on plywood.

"Concept sketches need to be sent into the Council by Tuesday 29 December and the winning applicants will be notified the following week," says Council's Graffiti Management Coordinator Trev Mason.

"Applicants will need to pay a \$10 fee when they collect their prepared boards for painting. The artists can choose to paint at home but PCC's partner in the project, Whitiriria Polytechnic, will open up two of its studios for artists to use from 10-30 January 2010. Studio conditions will be provided at that time to the selected artists."

The panels will be exhibited during the 2010 Festival of the Elements at Te Rauparaha Park on Waitangi Day, when the winning entries will be announced. First prize is worth \$550, second prize \$250 and 22 other prizes worth \$100 each will also be selected.

"This urban art project links into the city's premier community event, the Festival of the Elements, and showcases some of the creative talents of our local youth, reflects our city's commitment to collaborative partnerships and supports cross city holiday programmes," Trev says.

In keeping with the Festival themes of fire, earth, water and air, each art work has to reflect one of these elements, he says.

"The panels need to be colourful and festive. Nothing that could be seen as offensive will be selected and we also don't want words anywhere in the artwork."

The competition is open to students aged 14-24 who live in Porirua. The finished pieces will later be installed in a public space in the CBD.

Download an application form from the Council's website [www.pcc.govt.nz](http://www.pcc.govt.nz) and search "*Urban Art Competition*" or pick one up from the city's libraries, the Council's Customer Service Centre in Cobham Court or The Employment hub at 6 Hagley Street.

Post your completed application form and concept drawing to Porirua City Council Youth Development Coordinator Evie Ross, PO Box 50 218, Porirua, 5240 or drop them into the Customer Service Centre by Tuesday 29 December.

For more information email Evie on [eross@pcc.govt.nz](mailto:eross@pcc.govt.nz).

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Media inquiries initially to Moana Wyatt 237 1411 or Trev Mason on 237 1560.