



INFO BULLETIN For Immediate Release

17 May 2013

Children's design for Mary Poppins carpetbag to be immortalized in bronze

The Southern Highlands Youth Arts Council (SHYAC) is staging a competition to design the symbolism to be included on the carpetbag of the life-size Mary Poppins statue currently being sculpted for Glebe Park.

The selected design will best represent through symbolism the special connection that Bowral has with the creation of the magical nanny by author PL Travers, who lived in the town as a child and teenager 100 years ago.

The prize for the winning design – or designs – will be the secret inclusion of the child's initials somewhere on the carpetbag in the final bronze statue. The carpetbag will be promoted for brass rubbings and is expected to be a popular pastime for visitors and tourists in the decades and centuries to come.

Sculptor Tanya Bartlett, who is nearing the end of the sculpting process before moulds and casting take place said this last minute inclusion was originally suggested by Melissa McShane based on her own memories of doing brass rubbings when travelling in Britain and Europe with her parents as a 10-year-old.

"I loved the suggestion as soon as it was made and Melissa has agreed to assist me in judging the designs that get submitted," said Tanya.

SHYAC President Allen Cupitt said the art design competition would give children yet another special connection to the creation of the Mary Poppins Birthplace Statue.

The competition is restricted to primary school children aged 12 or under. Entry forms are being emailed to local schools so they can print them as needed. Deadline for entries is **5pm Wednesday 5th June 2013**.

Download an entry form, competition details and conditions from SHYAC's website www.shyac.org.au

For more information contact SHYAC Manager Mandy Bransgrove via email office@shyac.org.au or phone 02 4801 0622