



MEDIA RELEASE

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AUTISM CONFERENCE ART EXHIBITION

Award-winning paintings and drawings by children and adults with autism is being exhibited at the Asia Pacific Autism Conference in Perth today and tomorrow.

The work of Julian Poon, 15, of Perth, was selected from more than 12,000 entries for the prestigious Royal Academy of Arts summer exhibition in London in 2010. Julian and his art were featured in a BBC TV documentary on the exhibition.

Rian Hronsky, 25, of Perth, was discovered by prominent Port Hedland artist David Hooper. Mr Hooper bought a painting by Rian that was exhibited at the Port Hedland Art Awards. Mr Hooper did not know Rian had autism. Mr Hooper has since mentored Rian's development as an artist.

The paintings and drawings are on display in the registration area of the Asia Pacific Autism Conference at the Burswood Entertainment Complex Convention Centre today and tomorrow.

Both Julian and Rian and their parents are available for interview.

The conference is the world's biggest gathering this year of international experts on autism. Experts from America, England, Belgium, Sweden, Kuwait, Singapore, India and Australia are presenting their peer-reviewed research findings at the conference on September 8-10.

More than 1,300 people from 22 countries and every state and territory in Australia are attending the conference. The Autism Association of Western Australia is hosting the three-day conference. The Western Australian Government is principal sponsor of the conference, which was officially opened by the Premier of Western Australia, Colin Barnett.

Further conference details at www.autism.org.au and www.apac11.org.

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by Rian Hronsky