

GRANTS AVAILABLE to support positive ageing

Grants worth up to \$250,000 in two programs are being made available by the NSW Government to promote and support positive ageing in the community.

Minister for Ageing and Disability Services Paul Lynch said today that the Applied Research Grants Program would provide maximum grants of \$250,000 over two years.

A Positive Ageing Grants Program would provide grants of up to \$50,000.

Mr Lynch said the grants acknowledged the growing contribution of older people in the community.

“People in New South Wales are living longer and leading healthier lives and that is great news,” he said.

“It means that we’ve made great advances in medical science and people

are reaping the benefits of better standards of living,” Mr Lynch said.

In NSW, the number of people now aged over 65 is projected to increase by more than 50 per cent by 2030 and by 2040 will have doubled the present proportion.

“The implications of this rapidly ageing population are wide-ranging and complex and while they present challenges, they also offer opportunities and benefits,” Mr Lynch said.

He said a happy and healthy ageing population could contribute knowledge, experience and skills to the community and the work force.

The Positive Images of Ageing grants are aimed at community groups, local government organisations and not-for-profit bodies to develop creative and

cultural projects that promote positive messages on what it means to grow older and enhance the wellbeing of older people and improve their participation in the community.

“Successful applicants will need to develop and implement short-term projects that bring older people, artists and the community together in an interesting and creative way,” Mr Lynch said.

The research grants would focus on participation by older people as volunteers in the non-government sector and the integration of care across primary health and community services.

“Among other things, research will examine the efficacy, cost-effectiveness and quality of service performance of programs dealing with demographic

change,” Mr Lynch said.

“The projects will also help foster partnerships between service providers and academia, thereby supporting the translation of research into practice,” he said.

The grants are being made available through the Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care (DADHC).

Applications for both grant programs close on November 27, 2009. Guidelines and application forms are available at www.dadhc.nsw.gov.au or by calling the Seniors Information Service on 13 12 44.

For applied research grants, information packages and application forms are available at www.dadhc.nsw.gov.au/tenders or by calling (07) 5569 3984 between 9.30am and 3pm on weekdays.

“HORROR: COME DARKNESS” EXHIBITION

featuring photographic works by Alex Proyas & Effy Alexakis

International film director Alex Proyas and documentary photographer Effy Alexakis are two Greek-Australians featured in a new major exhibition at the Macquarie University Art Gallery, Sydney. They are two of 21 prominent national and international artists selected for the show by Macquarie University curators Rhonda Davis (Macquarie University Art Gallery) and Associate Professor John Potts (Media, Music and Cultural Studies). Titled Horror: Come Darkness, the exhibition opened on Wednesday 23 September 2009 and will run until 11 November.

The exhibition features cinematic effects, literary sources, technological visualisation, painting, photography, installation, video and sound devices to effect the stimulation of horror.

The curators describe Proyas’ photographs as “narratives which allude to the alchemy of nocturnal illusions” that are “inspired by film noir” and in which the artist “aims to create a ‘mythology’ in each still that can be transported into the next”. Moreover, they perceive Proyas’ series as “a theatre of murder, guilt and betrayal”. For the artist himself, the works are “like a good song or a good dream... that resonate in some deep, dark

way with the viewer”.

The photographic series by Alexakis Where the Wild Things are, offers for the curators “two constructed allegorical worlds where childish innocence becomes victim to nightmarish fear and potentially ominous horror”. The series title directly references Maurice Sendak’s internationally popular 1963 children’s picture book. Davis and Potts argue that “as in Sendak’s book, a child is attempting to deal with the uncontrollable and frightening aspects of life through the realm of games and fantasy”, but “while the ‘wild things’ in Sendak’s work were imagined, the treat to this young child’s safety is presented as real”. Both Proyas’ and Alex-

akis’ work are apparent departures from what they are best known for – Proyas having acquired renown as the director of films such as The Crow, Garage Days, Dark City, I Robot and Knowing, and Alexakis for her ongoing 27-year photographic odyssey documenting the historical and contemporary presence of Greek-Australians. Yet, both have been creating such diverse work for quite sometime, which unfortunately has constantly fallen into the shadows cast by their major undertakings.

Other prominent artists represented in the exhibition are: Stephen Birch, Scanner, Louise Hearman, Alasdair Macintyre, Tim Silver, Monika Tichacek, Sam Leach, VR Morrison and Darren Sylvester.

The exhibition is accompanied by a full-colour seventy-page catalogue, featuring selected samples of the artists’ displayed works and essays by the curators.

With “the spectacle of horror manifesting itself as a means of escapism from the everyday”, this well-crafted exhibition will undoubtedly attract considerable, popular interest. Of course, for



Greek-Australians, the work offer a particular fascination of Proyas and Alexakis will and insight.



ΠΑΝΕΛΛΗΝΙΟ ΣΟΣΙΑΛΙΣΤΙΚΟ ΚΙΝΗΜΑ

Κάνουμε γνωστό στα μέλη μας
και σε όλη

την Ελληνική Παροικία

ότι τα γραφεία μας
επί της 249 Marrickville Rd., Marrickville.

Θα είναι ανοιχτά

την Δευτέρα 5 Οκτωβρίου 2009

λόγω εκλογών στην Ελλάδα

από τις 5 μ.μ.

και θα προσφέρονται
ποτά και μεζεδάκια.

ΟΛΟΙ ΕΥΠΡΟΣΔΕΚΤΟΙ