

**FREE EXCURSION PACKAGE  
FOR PRIMARY & SECONDARY SCHOOLS  
HEALING GARDEN ILLAWARRA  
HIROMI TANGO  
27 AUGUST – 20 NOVEMBER  
Gallery 2 and Mercury Galleries**

**About the exhibition:**

[Healing Garden Illawarra](#) is a participatory journey that explores how art and nature can contribute to well-being for each of us. Using recycled materials from the community, artist Hiromi Tango brings together the neuroscience of arts engagement – mindful artmaking and movement along with colour, light, texture and even aroma - with elements of nature from our own backyard, to create joyous and reflective spaces.



Image: *Hiromi Tango, 2022*, Photography by Josef Ruckli.



*Healing Garden*, Art Dubai, The Sheikha Manal Little Artists Program  
Courtesy of Art Dubai and Photo Solutions

**Community Project:**

With the guidance of contemporary artist Hiromi Tango, local Artist Educators Athena Cabot and Dushan Mrva-Montoya conducted 29 Illawarra Healing Garden workshops in 2021/2022. The workshops were attended by local community members of all ages, genders, abilities, language, and cultural backgrounds. Schools that participated were the following: *Warrawong Intensive English Centre, Coomaditchie Ngaramura Group, Peterborough School, Mt Brown Public School, Russell Vale Public School, Figtree Public School, Hayes Park Public School, Port Kembla Public School and St Patrick's Primary Port Kembla.*

Within the workshops, community members explored their healing connection to nature by exploring colour, textures, shape, words, and language. Healing Garden Elements were created from tissue paper, wool and recycled fabric and clothing donated by local community members and the Wollongong Clothes Swap Group. The Healing Garden Elements created in these workshops have been woven into the Illawarra Healing Garden by Hiromi Tango, on display at Wollongong Art Gallery in 2022.



Image: Year 5 Illawarra Healing Garden Enrichment Program Students, May 2022.

## **Excursion Details:**

**Tour:** Students will tour the exhibition *Healing Garden Illawarra*. The exhibition features an installation, *Dream Room* artworks created by primary students and an animation. Our Gallery Guides will explain how the Illawarra Healing Garden was developed and will include the following activities during the tour:

**Children's booklet of activities:** Written and illustrated by Athena Cabot, this booklet features creative writing and artmaking activities to inspire students to reflect upon the concept of healing.

**Exhibition workstation:** Within the exhibition, there will be a workstation filled with various materials such as tissue paper, wool and recycled fabric and clothing. Students are invited to create their own flower using these materials. Students can then add their flower form to the exiting installation on display. By adding to the installation, our Illawarra Healing Garden will continually grow.

**Excursion date and time:** Bookings must be made between 27 August to 20 November. The Gallery is closed on Mondays and is open from 10am – 5pm on Tuesdays to Fridays. Teachers can book a time that suits their school timetable.

**Duration:** 1 hour

**Numbers:** Due to the space restrictions, maximum number of students per excursion is 20. If the group is larger than 20, we can rotate this excursion with another activity such as a tour of other exhibitions (tours are free).

To book contact Julie Danilov the Gallery's Education Officer.

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