



# Talent Within *Isolation*

The 2020 Staff and Volunteer Exhibition

SALA



Women's &  
Children's Hospital  
Foundation



Image: Xenia Doorenbosch, Detail of *Creating and photographing miniature safari and travel scenes*

For the past 10 years Arts in Health has invited Staff and Volunteers of the Women's and Children's Health Network to exhibit in 'Talent Within', our annual art and craft exhibition for the South Australian Living Arts Festival (SALA).

This year due to the unpredictability of Covid-19, we decided to do things a little different! Our Arts in Health program invited staff and volunteers to show us what creative projects they have been up to whilst our state was in isolation.

To take part in this year's 'Talent Within *Isolation*', staff and volunteers submitted a photograph (that could have been taken on a smartphone) of their creative project and told us how it kept them motivated and feeling well.

Obviously, the Hospital did not close for Covid-19, in fact it has been a busy and challenging time for staff. However, with gyms and cafes closed and being advised not to socialise, we have spent more time at home, and were curious to see what people have been up to.

Some of us have immersed ourselves in baking gastronomic delights, others spent time exploring their local natural environment or learning a musical instrument and one staff member made alternative travel arrangements by recreating travel scenes in miniature!

This exhibition features artworks from staff and volunteers who work across a number of wards and departments including Hospital School, Paediatric Neurosurgery, Nutrition Department, Department of Respiratory and Sleep Medicine, Infection Prevention and Control, Centre for Education, Play Therapy, Spiritual Care, Psychological Medicine, WCH Foundation and the Executive Office.

Whilst these past months have been an extremely strange time, if nothing else it has created opportunities for us to spend time doing activities that we may not have done otherwise.

We hope this exhibition provides the Hospital community with an interesting and perhaps relatable insight into our fellow colleagues fascinating lives outside the Hospital. Arts in Health would like to thank all participants for giving us a peek into your 'iso time' and sharing your personal stories.

This exhibition will be presented in the Blue Heart Gallery from August to October (visitation is subject to COVID-19 restrictions [www.wch.sa.gov.au/covid-19/COVID-19\\_clinic.html#covid\\_visitors](http://www.wch.sa.gov.au/covid-19/COVID-19_clinic.html#covid_visitors)), and in our new virtual gallery on the WCH Foundation's website [www.wchfoundation.org.au/talentwithin](http://www.wchfoundation.org.au/talentwithin)

Talent Within *Isolation* is a wonderful record of what our talented community has been up to during this unique time. It will also form part of this year's SALA Festival online exhibition [www.salafestival.com](http://www.salafestival.com)



Image: Matthew McCurry, *Kombucha*



Image: Hannah Joseph, *Hand painting pots*



Image: Corinne Habel, *Iso-blanket*



Image: Marisa Salvati, *Leant how to make traditional Italian pizzelle (waffles)*

The Women's & Children's Hospital Foundation (WCH Foundation) raises funds in support of the Women's and Children's Hospital in Adelaide, South Australia. The WCH Foundation is committed to ensuring that mums, children and their families have access to the very best in medical care, hospital facilities and support services at a time when they need it the most.

The WCH Foundation has developed a number of Arts in Health programs to integrate art into the life of the Hospital to improve people's health and wellbeing. We try to make the environment more 'child-friendly', making it look better and helping to make the time spent in hospital 'feel better'.

The Arts in Health program delivers a range of activities throughout the hospital across art forms such as: Visual Arts, Digital Media, Music and Performing Arts, Public Art, Literature and the Therapeutic Arts (Play Therapy, Art Therapy and Music Therapy). From providing pencils and colouring books in waiting areas, to managing Gallery spaces and art displays in the Hospital, collaborating with Hospital School on book week activities and working closely with the Play Therapy Team, the Arts in Health program delivers smiles and fun throughout the Hospital.

The WCH Foundation's Gallery program coordinates five galleries in the Hospital, providing a space away from the stresses of treatment to distract, entertain and inspire, improving the visual environment. The artworks displayed in the exhibition spaces come from a range of sources – internally from hospital staff, patients (women & children) and their families, through specific Arts in Health activities and externally from local artists and art collectives.

This exhibition was planned and exhibited on the lands of the Kaurna People, we pay our respects to the Kaurna Elders past and present and to the Elders of the lands this brochure reaches.

Cover image: Sue McKay, *'In Isolation'*, photograph

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