

**Speech by Mayor Logan K Howlett, JP**

**Official Opening**

**Art X 5 Fine Arts Exhibition**

**Hamilton Hill Memorial Hall**

**Friday 10 March 2017**

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Good evening ladies and gentlemen, girls and boys.

My wife Patricia and I are delighted to join with you on this very special occasion as we see six local artists bring their works together for an exhibition at this historic location – a hall that was opened in 1925 and that was brought back to its original opulence in 2008. The round room and other appropriate additions were added at the time to provide additional functional space..

I acknowledge the Whadjuk People of the Nyungar Nations, the Custodians of the Land we are meeting on tonight and I pay respect to their elders both past and present.

Having had the opportunity to have a ‘sneak preview’ of the exhibition I can say that it is one of the best exhibitions I have ever seen anywhere in the world.

The balance of paintings, glasswork, wood turning, photography and picture framing techniques have combined to produce an eclectic mix that will attract the attention of those visiting during the Exhibition opening hours over the coming week.

Congratulations go to the artists for not only producing their work but to how it is displayed within the gallery. The curating of any exhibition can be the ‘maker’ or ‘breaker’ of its appeal, and in this case, the venue and exhibits have been carefully assessed to maximise their presentation.

It is now an opportunity for everyone to give consideration to purchasing a piece for their home and/or office. With the artists present tonight there is also the opportunity to talk with them about their creations – an important aspect when you decide to buy.

My wife Patricia and I have an ever increasing number of paintings, prints, wood work, ceramics and glasswork in our personal collection. Our collection has been gathered from our travels and also in support of local artists who continue to deliver high quality work that anyone would be proud to own.

I now have great pleasure in officially declaring open the Arts x 5 Arts Exhibition and invite you to view the works of this truly magnificent exhibition.

Thank you.