

NEWS RELEASE

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Reachout With Arts In Mind

A campaigning arts based project that provides a creative voice for adults suffering from mental ill health is staging an exhibition at Stirling University Innovation Park.

The 'Reach Out With Arts in Mind' mixed media exhibition at the Innovation Park will run from 4 June and end on 7th July and is open to the public.

The exhibition which will feature a raffle for two pieces of art produced by members of the Outreach project with proceeds going to the running of the project will open to the public at 5.30pm on June 4th.

The exhibition is part of the highly successful 'Art on the Park Programme' introduced to provide local artists with an opportunity to display their work and to create closer links between the Innovation Park and the local community.

The works will be displayed in Scion House at the Innovation Park and will feature jewellery, oil paintings, sculpture and photography.

'Reach Out With Arts in Mind' is an Alloa based charity established in 1993 which provides a creative drop-in facility for 98 adults from Clackmannanshire and across Forth Valley.

It is known for campaigning to empower local people to develop a voice through raising awareness and challenging oppressive stereotypes of mental ill-health.

Importantly it is also recognised as a popular adult learning project using the creative arts as a route to recovery.

A key element of Reachout is that it is self-managed by members giving them a sense of ownership which has been vital to its success.

Lynn Blaikie, the Innovation Park's Operations and Business Development Manager, said: "We are delighted to provide the Outreach project with the opportunity to display beautiful works of art while making a very potent statement about the therapeutic merits of the arts. This event and the work of the project is an excellent fit with our Art on the Park objectives."

Lesley Arthur Project Manager, Reachout With Arts In Mind, commented: "Our project aims to help people experiencing mental ill-health regain their self confidence by expressing themselves through the medium of the arts. An important part of that process is presenting their excellent work to the public. We are extremely grateful to the Innovation Park for their interest in our programme and providing a forum to exhibit the work of our members."

Opening Times for the exhibition are: Monday- Friday 8.30am – 5pm
(Evenings & weekends by appointment only)

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Editor's Notes

- Reachout is supported by Clackmannanshire Council, The Fairer Scotland Fund, Voluntary Action Fund, Lloyds TSB Foundation for Scotland, Coalfields Regeneration Trust, The Robertson Trust and is a registered Scottish Charity No: SC023779
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