Welcome to the Fairfield City Capture Fairfield Visual Arts and Photography Book

Fairfield City Council’s 2019 Capture Fairfield Visual Arts & Photography Competition saw 42 visual art and 434 photograph submissions entered, whereby entrants showed off their creative talents in capturing the essence of our City.

This year’s Local Government Week theme of Your Council attracted entries from budding artists and photographers in child, youth and adult categories, which showcase the places, diversity and community spirit that make Fairfield City a wonderful place to live and visit.

 Judges made their selection based on the skill and strong visual appeal of the works submitted.

The judging panel was made up of Fairfield City Mayor Frank Carbone, Deputy Mayor Sera Yilmaz, Fairfield City Museum Coordinator Carmel Aiello, local artist May Zuhair Jamil and Fairfield City Council Communications and Marketing Manager Lisa Mifsud.

The following pages showcase many of the 2019 Capture Fairfield Visual Arts & Photography Competition entries including the winning and highly commended works.

Thank you to everyone who entered the competition and congratulations to our winners. We have enjoyed exploring Fairfield City through your eyes and look forward to next year’s submissions.
Message from the Mayor

Fairfield City is a region with wonderful facilities for families to enjoy. Council’s Capture Fairfield Visual Arts & Photography Competition is an opportunity for residents and visitors to showcase their unique interpretation of Fairfield. It has inspired many people to explore some of our hidden gems.

Since its inception in 2017, the competition has steadily grown in the number of submissions received from people of all ages, introducing a visual arts category for the first time this year.

I am impressed by the quality of works and would like to thank everyone who entered the competition. As I looked through each submission, I feel great pride for our City and its people.

I hope you make the time to visit the exhibitions at Fairfield City Council Administration Centre and Whitlam Library Cabramatta and get inspired to enter next year.

Frank Carbone
Mayor of Fairfield City
Message from the City Manager

Council has taken an innovative approach to celebrate Local Government Week with an interactive project that provided opportunities for the whole community to participate in and enjoy.

The Capture Fairfield Visual Arts & Photography Competition has highlighted the skills and creativity of members of the community and visitors to our City. I would like to congratulate everyone who submitted the works which clearly reflect the diversity of our people and City.

I look forward to seeing more entries submitted in future years.

Alan Young PSM
City Manager
“Honey Bees is a hexagon mandala painting representing the bees that are so vital to the continued health of our planet and food production. This painting is inspired by the award winning bees kept at Bossley Park High School. They produce award winning honey and help pollinate the food crops grown by students in Agriculture classes. As the Fairfield City area has so many natural spaces which contain a diverse range of flora and fauna species, I thought it would be important to acknowledge the little worker bees that are such a vital part of the continued growth and development of the area.

Ann-Maree Ager is an award winning artist who has dedicated herself to the education of young people. She has taught at Bossley Park High School for over 14 years. As the Head Teacher of the Visual Arts Faculty she worked with the community, local artists and the Fairfield Museum and Gallery to provide learning opportunities to the students and their families.

Now as one of the Deputy Principals at Bossley Park High School she works on supporting students more holistically but has maintained her own art making practice, exhibiting regularly and winning many awards for her painting and leathercraft. Most recently Ann-Maree was award Most Successful Exhibitor at the Sydney Royal Easter Show 2019 in Leathercraft and in May was ranked 6th in the world at the 2019 World Leather Debut in the USA.”
“My painting is about Fairfield station because it symbolises the heart of Fairfield. The station is a place where you see a mix of cultures, professions and ages coming together. People meet and socialise there. For my painting I used oil paint. I enjoy painting because it relaxes me and I can express myself through my art.

My name is Farishta Rezai, I am 18 years old. I was born in Afghanistan but spend most of my growing years in Pakistan. I come from a family of six. We came as refugees a few months ago for a better future. I have spent a lot of my time in drawing and painting because sometimes I used it as an escape from difficult situations that I have experienced. Art for me is a safe place.”

Farishta Rezai

Second Prize
Farishta Rezai, Adult (18 years +)
“The Autumn Light”
Your Council Your City
“My artwork consists of two Rainbow Lorikeets drawn with coloured pencil. I believe this represents Fairfield City as our community is constantly developing, but our native birds stay the same as they always have. I chose to draw Rainbow Lorikeets as they have such beautiful striking colours and stand out amongst all other birds in area.

My name is Kayla and I will be 16 years old soon. I enjoy drawing (especially dogs and birds) and have been living in Fairfield City my whole life. I love animals and would like to work with birds or native animal conservation in the future.”

Kayla Bitetto

“The artworks were compelling, reflecting the creativity that is present in the community.”

Museum and Gallery Coordinator
Fairfield City Council

Winner
Kayla Bitetto, Youth (12-17 years)
Bossley Park High School
“Fairfield City Natives”
Your Council Your City
Winner
Stephanie Garcia, Child (5-11 years)
King Park Public School
“My Portrait is who I am”
Your Council Your Community

Highly Commended
Clara Nguyen, Child (5-11 years)
King Park Public School
“Tigers in the Grass”
Your Council Your Community
Highly Commended
Min Phan, Child (5-11 years)
Lansvale Public School
“Lunar Year Celebration”
Your Council Your Community

“My art work shows the different sights that can be seen at Lunar Celebrations. The bright lights of the lanterns, fireworks and other cultural symbols, are important cultural representations that seem to lift off the paper as they contrast against the dark night sky. The moon plays an important role as it seems to bring these symbols to life.

I am 11 years old and live in Cabramatta with my family. I am in Year 6 and go to Lansvale Public School in Canley Vale. I enjoy mathematics because it challenges my brain and I love art because art lets you express your creativity. I especially like to use water colours and using different techniques such as using paint and appliqué.”

Min Phan
"My artwork, “We Celebrate Diversity”, celebrates the diverse youth of Fairfield City. I drew inspiration from the origins of Fairfield, through the native bush of Cumberland Woodland in my painted fore and mid-ground greenery, and the Gandangara people whose legacy is still present today. Through this, I hoped to acknowledge our diverse communities both past and present in both my focal characters and in bursts of colour throughout the landscape.

These bursts of colour include spots of red, green, yellow and white over the mid-ground fields of grass, each of which represents a different, bright hope of Fairfield City residents. My main focus, however, is on the six foreground characters, each of diverse culture, gender identity, age and story, against an Aboriginal-inspired Sun on fluffy white clouds, washing over the natural landscape, giving life and hope. From detail on the greenery to rainbows of colours adorning each of my characters, I put a lot of effort into creating an image of diverse yet unified communities in Fairfield City, both past and present.

Hello! My name is Lauren Alzamora and I attend Mary MacKillop Catholic College as a Year 9 student in their Newman Selective Stream. I’ve lived in Fairfield City my entire life, and come from a mixed culture family myself, so Fairfield City and the idea of celebrating diversity has always appealed to me. I thought that the “Capture Fairfield Visual Arts” competition would be a fun way to express that with something I love! I enjoy visual arts, particularly simple sketches, so this competition was a fun opportunity to push myself outside of my comfort zone a bit between my studies. Thank you for this opportunity!"

Lauren Alzamora
“My artwork captures the diversity of the community who live within Fairfield City through three girls in their national costume linking arms. The national costumes selected are a sample of some of the festivals celebrated in Fairfield City including NAIDOC week, the Moon Festival and the Culinary Carnival. The differences of the girls are a celebration and makes our community stronger.

My name is Monique Vuong and I am 14 years old. I am in Year 8 at Freeman Catholic College. My cultural background is Aboriginal, German and Vietnamese, so I feel right at home in the richness of diversity that is Fairfield City.”

Monique Vuong

Highly Commended
Monique Vuong, Youth (12-17 years)
Freeman Catholic College
“Celebrating Diversity”
Your Council Your Community

“This artwork is a digital creativity that started from a photo of my sister taken at the Bring it On Festival this year while riding a bumper car, one of the few rides she went on because each year it is my parents passion to ensure my sister gets her share of the festival as much as she can, an appreciation for being my number one supporter while I am on stage performing music covers. Using my newly bought iPad Pro and Apple pencil, I edited the photo to create a whole new art piece for effect. The Anime and fantasy world is an incredible place for the creative/visual arts thus it is an important part of my artworks.

I attend a Creative and Performing Arts School since Year 7 and have performed on many stages in NSW, in and out of school, both for school and for myself. Art is one of my favourite creative things to do outside of performing. I take after my mother who is incredible at sketching, since she was a teenager but she didn’t have the luxury of digital thus she loves her old fashion pencil on paper. The skills I have in art include video editing, drawing, digital art, painting, sketching.”

Saphia Tamalemai

Highly Commended
Saphia Tamalemai, Youth (12-17 years)
“Bring It On!” (digital art video)
Your Council Your Community
“Folkloric dancing has been part of my family’s life for decades. This artwork is of my daughter just after a performance.

I am an artist who has lived in Fairfield most of my life. I immigrated to Australia from Bolivia in 1973. I have raised my five children here and I am proud to call Australia home.”

Melvy Connell

Each submission tells a unique narrative of a personal connection or experience with our community.

Communications and Media Coordinator
Fairfield City Council

First Prize
Melvy Connell, Adult (18 years +)
“Yellow Costume”
Your Council Your Community
“With my artwork I try to convey the diversity and multiculturalism of Fairfield City and my eating adventures throughout it. Cuisine and the appreciation of food is something that binds people across cultures and the body of my artwork is comprised of Coke cans collected from many meals enjoyed together with family and friends.

My use of mixed media represents the coming together of seemingly disparate materials to form a coherent woven together whole; this is seen through use of thread and the patchwork quality of the work. Sriracha is a unique icon in the minds and palettes of ethnic communities that make up Fairfield City. Sriracha also symbolises the vibrancy of Fairfield City’s community and the spice that adds to the city’s multiculturalism.

I am a 26 year old lifelong lover of food, art and design. I am a secondary school Design and Technology teacher and in my spare time I am constantly searching for ways to challenge myself creatively whether it be practising or going to classes to learn new skills. Yayoi Kusama, Salvador Dali and Roy Lichtenstein are some of my most admired artists who I draw immense inspiration from. My creative journey has taken me across mediums of ceramics and textiles and various forms of mixed media.”

Bernadette Huang
**Third Prize**

**Sandra van Dyk, Adult (18 years +)**

“**A Moment in Time**”

Your Council Your Community

“I grew up in Fairfield, and went to a local primary and high school. I also participated in local sporting and community groups. The group photos I have of all of these are my favourite memories. Looking at the photographs reminds me of the fun, friends and laughter I experienced throughout my youth in Fairfield. I have painted a group of people who could be anyone to represent those memories, and the passing of time.

I am a Visual Arts teacher in south west Sydney, and grew up in Fairfield. Some of my family still live there and I visit the area regularly. I am mostly a sculptor but I like to challenge myself with painting and drawing. I love being a part of a community that is diverse and inclusive, like the schools in which I work, and Fairfield where I grew up. It’s that diversity that brings a richness to our experiences and constantly teaches us new things.”

*Sandra van Dyk*
Capture Fairfield
PHOTOGRAPHY

WINNER
Mia Caballero, Child (5-11 years)
“Dark Oak” – Bossley Park
Bossley Park Public School
Your Council Your City
This photography competition has encouraged local students to explore natural wonders in their community and get creative with photography.

Natural Resources Officer
Fairfield City Council

Highly Commended
Neven Tomena, Child (5-11 years)
“Dark Alley” - Bossley Park
Bossley Park Public School
Your Council Your City
Highly Commended
Rebecca DiMarzio, Child (5-11 years)
“Golden Afternoon” – Bossley Park
Bossley Park Public School
Your Council Your City
Highly Commended

Jessica O'Keefe, Child (5-11 years)
“A Pile of Leaves” - Bossley Park
Bossley Park Public School
Your Council Your City
The composition of the entries particularly that of the youth, were far more advanced than we’d ever imagined.

Capture Fairfield Judge
Fairfield City Council

WINNER
Giovanni Gorgis, Youth (12-17 years)
Fairvale High School
“Surburban Outskirts” - Moonrise Lookout Horsley Park
Your Council Your City
Highly Commended
Lachlan Hyde, Youth (12-17 years)
Patrician Brothers’ Fairfield
“Bridging our heritage connecting our future” – Lansdowne Bridge
Your Council Your City
Highly Commended
Huy Dang, Youth (12-17 years)
Patrician Brothers’ Fairfield
“Lone Bench” – De Freitas Wetland
Your Council Your City
Highly Commended

Andrew Nguyen, Youth (12-17 years)
Patrician Brothers' Fairfield
"Train Station" – Fairfield
Your Council Your City
“Upon judging the photographs it became very clear that the standard of all the entries was without a doubt very high.”

Capture Fairfield Judge
Fairfield City Council

WINNER
Dean Pipatvong Adult (18 years +)
“The Dairy” – Western Sydney Regional Park
Your Council Your City
Highly Commended
Lin Cai, Adult (18 years +)
“A Walk in the Park” – Endeavour Sports Reserve

Your Council Your City
“The submissions were successful in capturing the essence of diversity and colour in our City.”

Capture Fairfield Judge
Fairfield City Council

Highly Commended
Ian Tate, Adult (18 years +)
“Serenity” – Heiden Park
Your Council Your City
Highly Commended
Zayd Naeem, Adult (18 years +)
“Autumn Vibes” – Phelps Street, Canley Vale
Your Council Your City

Highly Commended
Shaun Larkham, Adult (18 years +)
“Strays Need a Home” – McBurney Road, Cabramatta
Your Council Your City
Highly Commended

Lara Kurtonal, Child (5-11 years)
Bossley Park Public School
“Fun at the Park” – Wetherill Park
Your Council Your Community

Winner

Merryanne Tedjo, Child (5-11 years)
Old Guildford Public School
“Upside Down Fun” – Old Guildford
Your Council Your Community
Highly Commended
Ayah Chaker, Child (5-11 years)
“Excitement in the Easter Hat Parade” – Old Guildford Public School
Your Council Your Community
Highly Commended

Paige Tuitama, Child (5-11 years)
“Easter Hat Parade” – Old Guildford Public School
Your Council Your Community

Highly Commended

Defne Rasimoglou, Child (5-11 years)
“A Sneaky Look Back” – Old Guildford Public School
Your Council Your Community
Our city centres are full of great meeting places and diverse cultures. Capture Fairfield encourages people to get out and discover them and share their experiences with everyone.

Fairfield Place Manager
Fairfield City Council

WINNER
Dominic McGregor, Youth (12-17 years)
Patrician Brothers’ Fairfield
“Nature in a photo” – Fairfield
Your Council Your Community
Highly Commended
Daniel Nguyen, Youth (12-17 years)
“Morning Conversation” – The Crescent Plaza
Your Council Your Community
Highly Commended

Joseph Vu, Youth (12-17 years)
“Family” – Patrician Brothers’ Fairfield
Your Council Your Community
Highly Commended
Blake Vella, Youth (12-17 years)
“WSW Event” – Marconi, Bossley Park
Your Council Your Community
Highly Commended
Viraphong Phomphithak, Adult (18 years +)
“Roast Ducks” – Cabramatta
Your Council Your Community

"We know that Fairfield residents are proud to belong to a diverse multicultural community."

Social and Cultural Development Officer
Fairfield City Council

Left:
WINNER
Viraphong Phomphithak, Adult (18 years +)
“Xiangqi Chinese Chess Game” – Cabramatta
Your Council Your Community
Highly Commended
Viraphong Phomphithak, Adult (18 years +)
“Tuk Baht Laos New Year” – Smithfield Road
Your Council Your Community

“Through the eyes of Capture Fairfield we can see the true beauty of our vibrant places.”

Cabramatta Place Manager
Fairfield City Council

Left:
Highly Commended
Zaya Odeesho, Adult (18 years +)
“Dance! Dance! Dance!” – Fairfield Showground
Your Council Your Community
Man Gia Loi, Adult (18 years +)
“The Lion of Pai Lau” – Cabramatta
Your Council Your Community

Darren Pendlebury, Adult (18 years +)
“The Dutch Shop” – Smithfield
Your Council Your Community
Vesna Arbanas, Adult (18 years +)
“Leap of Faith” – Lizard Log
Your Council Your Community

Ann-Maree Ager, Adult (18 years +)
“Peak a boo” – Bossley Park High School
Your Council Your Community
Oliver Mai, Adult (18 years +)
“Serenity” – Lansvale
Your Council Your Community
Lara Kurtonal, Child (5-11 years)
“Pots” – Bonnyrigg Garden Centre
Your Council Your City

Indiana Caballero, Child (5-11 years)
Bossley Park Public School
“Stormy Webber” – Bossley Park
Your Council Your City
Jasper Tran, Youth (12-17 years)
Patrician Brothers’ Fairfield
"Walkway of Art" – The Crescent Plaza, Fairfield
Your Council Your City

Jason Majarian, Youth (12-17 years)
Patrician Brothers’ Fairfield
“The Haunted Tree” – Fairfield
Your Council Your City
Jasper Tran, Youth (12-17 years)
Patrician Brothers’ Fairfield
“Walkway of Art” – The Crescent Plaza, Fairfield
Your Council Your City
Darren Pendlebury, Adult (18 years +)
“Cawarra Park” – Cawarra Park
Your Council Your City

Patrick Delmage, Adult (18 years +)
“Abbotsbury's Peace and Tranquility” – Abbotsbury
Your Council Your City
Matrin Ratcliff, Adult (18 years +)
“Sunrise over Bradbury Wharf” – Bradbury Wharf, Lansvale
Your Council Your City
Oliver Mai, Adult (18 years +)
“Yin and Yang” – Lennox Reserve, Canley Vale
Your Council Your City

Susan Ginn, Adult (18 years +)
“Parachute Puff Ball” – Sackville Street, Fairfield
Your Council Your City
Lin Cai, Adult (18 years +)
“Park at Dawn” – Endeavour Sports Reserve
Your Council Your City
Martin Ratcliff, Adult (18 years +)
“Looking at me, Looking at you” – Cabramatta Creek, Lansvale
Your Council Your City

Anita Ansel, Adult (18 years +)
“Blue Wren” – Abbotsbury
Your Council Your City
This Capture Fairfield book gives the community the opportunity to shine through the eyes of individuals as they explore the hidden natural beauty of Fairfield City’s indigenous flora and fauna, as well as the wide range of exotic flora which complements this and reflects the cultural diversity of the City of Fairfield.

Bush Care Officer
Fairfield City Council

Shaun Larkham, Adult (18 years +)
“City Life of Zen” – Cabramatta
Your Council Your City
Erin Foster, Adult (18 years +)
“Vintage Village” – Fairfield City Museum & Gallery
Your Council Your City
Zahir Hedo, Adult (18 years +)
“Sun behind the Clouds” – Powhatan Reserve
Your Council Your City
Alex Benetel, Adult (18 years +)
“Blush Sky” – Western Sydney Parklands
Your Council Your City

Haylee Tumanik, Adult (18 years +)
“One oak, many branches” – Oakdene Park
Your Council Your City
Theresa Duong, Adult (18 years +)
“Living in Harmony” – Cabramatta
Your Council Your City

Jade Aragoza, Adult (18 years +)
“Keep Looking Up” – Fairfield Park
Your Council Your City
Aaron Mollica, Youth (12-17 years)
Patrician Brothers’ Fairfield
“Reflections” – Fairfield
Your Council Your Community

David Jacobsen, Youth (12-17 years)
Patrician Brothers’ Fairfield
“Life By The Sun” – Fairfield Creek
Your Council Your Community
Jayden Huynh, Youth (12-17 years)
Patrician Brothers' Fairfield
“Ducks Wandering Around” – Makepeace Oval
Your Council Your Community

Jayden Huynh, Youth (12-17 years)
“Winter Tree” – The Horsley Drive, Fairfield
Your Council Your Community
Fairfield City Council would like to thank the 2019 Capture Fairfield Visual Arts & Photography Competition entrants.

We hope this year’s talent inspires you to capture the beauty of our City in 2020.

“Entries from this competition will form a pictorial history of our current heritage that will be preserved for our future generations.”

Heritage Librarian
Fairfield City Council

Pictured: Penelope Ty and Scarlett Aidone
Bossley Park Primary School