



PARTNERS IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FIJI

TRASH IS TREASURE!!

A cutting edge art installation 'REFUSE' was launched on Thursday April 15, 2010 at 5:30-7:30pm at the Fiji Museum. Fiji's debut exhibition made entirely from waste material shows until June 15 before beginning its Suva-wide tour.

Fiji NGO's and vibrant artists merged together for a fantastic night of celebration and festivities including the formal launch of the installation and a fun trivia night. The art installation will be open for two months, until the 15th June, at the Fiji Museum. Come and take a look!

Mary Jane, an independent artist, who created the idea with Irami Buli, states: "The exhibition comments on our consumption and waste, provides information regarding waste and pollution in Fiji and promotes healthy living."

Rosie Catherine, Disabilities Rights and Mental Health Officer, and one of the event organizers says: "We are really please with the success of the evening for both awareness raising and fundraising for the Youth Champs."

She continues: "Participants of this exhibition come from all walks of life, including psychiatric survivors, many psychiatric survivors are isolated in society. This exhibition refuses to allow the separation of people by creating an installation by anyone who is interested. It also shows that creativity is limitless and anyone can create anything, even out of rubbish."

The collaborators for the exhibition include independent artists Mary Jane Connor, Irami Buli, Derek Cleland, Waqa Vuidreketi, and Waqa Tubuka, along with organizations including Youth Champs for Mental Health and St Giles Psychiatric Hospital.

Ends

Media Inquiries: For interviews, photos or further information, please contact: Jane Henty, jhenty@pcdf.org.fj or phone 8620559.

Images: By Kirsty Barnby

Note: JPEGs available on request

Caption Pictures: Image from the REFUSE art installation.



Caption: Quiz night participants- Raising money for Youth Champs for Mental Health



Caption: Trivia night participants



Caption: World Wide Conservation Fund participants at the trivia night



Caption: Trivia participants



Caption: Trivia participants



Caption: Guest of honor Mere Ratunabuabua, Principal Cultural Development officer at the Department of Culture and Heritage, receiving a 'Refuse' doll at the launch of the 'Refuse' exhibition.



Caption: Curator Mary Jane Connor at the launch of 'Refuse'.



Caption: Artist Derrek Cleland presenting at the opening of the launch.



Caption: Mere Ratanabuabua, Principal Cultural Development officer at the Department of Culture and Heritage and Vanessa Eden from Fiji Arts Counsel exploring the installation, 'Refuse'.



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Editor's Notes:

About Partners in Community Development Fiji:

PCDF holds a 30 year legacy of providing valuable lessons, guidance and most importantly, inspiration for the future. PCDF aims to assist the people of Fiji in all aspects of development; environmental, infrastructural, governmental and social.

Goals:

- ✓ Protect our coral reefs
- ✓ Conserve our fresh water
- ✓ Promote good governance
- ✓ Reduce the stigma attached to mental health issues
- ✓ Support sustainable livelihood initiatives

Partners in Community Development Fiji is one of Fiji's longest established development NGO's and is completely reliant on voluntary donations to continue its work.

Mission Statement - Working in partnership with communities to empower and assist with informed decision making for their own future development.

Partners in Community Development Fiji

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