



**Media Release:**

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## **Artist in Residence Program Begins at Araluen**

A new 'Artists in Residence' portal is now operating at the Northern Territory Government's Araluen Arts Centre.

Director of the Alice Springs Cultural Precinct, Tim Rollason, said the first artist in residence is local artist Dayananda, who specialises in jewellery made from crystals and has established the *Maid in Earth Studio*, in the Araluen Arts Centre foyer.

"Dayananda will be in residence at the Araluen Arts Centre from Wednesday through to Saturday each week until the end of 2008," Mr Rollason said.

"While plans are in progress to initiate a wider Artist in Residence program in 2009, a proposal from local artist Dayananda has brought the program forward, with an artist in residence portal now operating on a trial basis.

"The trial will establish if the space is viable for artists to work from, and what, if any modifications may be required to the space to accommodate working artists.

"The heritage listed Araluen Homestead which will provide accommodation for visiting artists in the near future was recently renovated.

"The Araluen Arts Centre is currently in the process of furnishing the original Araluen Homestead.

"With the availability of new accommodation for visiting artists, Araluen Arts Centre will be looking to work with local arts organisations to assist and develop opportunities for visiting artists in Alice Springs."

The Araluen Homestead will accommodate its first group of artists in August 2008, who will be coming to town in preparation for activities surrounding the Regional Arts Australia National Conference *Art at the Heart*, as part of the *Imagine Alice* project being coordinated by RedHOT Arts.

In 2009, it is proposed that artists throughout the Central Australian region and Australia be offered subsidised accommodation to assist with activities in the town and in order to broaden the Araluen Art Centre's visual arts program by offering opportunities for artist's interaction and engagement with the wider community.

For further information on the Artist in Residence program contact Araluen Arts Centre Director Tim Rollason on 8951 1126 or go to [www.araluenartscentre.nt.gov.au](http://www.araluenartscentre.nt.gov.au)

Ends

**Media Note - Further information contact Tim Rollason on 8951 1126**

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