

Tai Poutini Polytechnic Media Release

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West Coast students carving out a niche in Jade Exhibition

Prominent greenstone and stone sculptures which move, ornate animals, flutes, wind chimes, traditional pieces and abstract carvings are all part of a unique exhibition opening in Greymouth.

The annual Tai Poutini Polytechnic Exhibition showcases the creations of the polytechnic's Jade and Hard Stone Carving students. It will be held at the Left Bank Gallery from 10-24 November 2017.

Carving Tutor Sheree Warren says this year there are a huge variety of works from the students, each one distinctively different and personal.

"The students have spent hundreds of hours crafting their pieces and have all done an amazing job. The exhibition includes a range of work - from stunning realistic animal sculptures, right through to some original ornate pieces and conceptual carvings. Each piece is really unique."

"They're excited. This is what the students have been working up to. They've spent a lot of time learning the base technical skills, problem solving and the design process. It can be an unforgiving craft so there is a lot of pre-thought and preparation in carving these pieces."

Sheree Warren says two large unique limestone carvings, created by the students, will feature prominently at the exhibition's opening night.

"Because they don't fit inside the exhibition we can only show them on opening night, on the footpath outside the gallery. Each one weighs close to one and a half tonne."

After the exhibition opening, one of the sculptures will be listed for auction on Trade Me – people can also contact the Polytechnic to arrange a viewing.

The Tai Poutini Polytechnic Jade Exhibition opens on Friday 10 November and runs until 24 November 2017. It will be open Tuesday to Friday, from 10:30am to 4pm and on Saturdays from 11am to 2pm.

For more information contact:

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