

Polytechnic sculpture to be gifted to community

Tai Poutini Polytechnic carving students are working on a limestone sculpture that will be gifted to the local community at the end of the year.

The large artwork will be part of the Greymouth Business and Promotions Association (GBPA) CBD Revitalisation Plan and is to adorn the Town Square.

The artwork will be displayed in the courtyard of the Left Bank Art Gallery as part of the upgrade of the area and the conversion of the gallery garage to a West Coast Hut.

Students will work on the sculpture as their group project for 2021, beginning with talking to the gallery and business association about the design details. It will be completed by the end of the year and presented to the community ahead of the annual student jade carving exhibition in December.

Jade and Hard Stone Carving Tutor Sheree Warren says students are delighted that their work will contribute to the town's revitalisation.

“We are focused on developing the concept for the design and students will work together on the carving throughout the year. Each year we carry out a group project as part of our curriculum and it feels right that we gift this to the local community.”

Leader – Engagement Mequa Hourston says the project is a great way for the Polytechnic to connect with and support the local community.

“We're really excited that the artwork will be on display for everyone to see. Working alongside the GBPA beautification project been a great opportunity us to strengthen our ties with the local community.”

Grey District Mayor Tania Gibson says it's fantastic to see the community coming together to contribute to the revitalisation of the town centre.

“Public artworks are a great way to connect people to places and I know that the community will be excited to see what the students are designing. I'm really looking forward to watching the artwork progress during the year and would like to offer a big thank you on behalf of the town to the Polytechnic and the students involved for sharing their work with us all.”

Justine Donaldson, GBPA Deputy Chair and CBD Beautification Project Lead, says it's fantastic to have the support of the Polytechnic.

“We're really looking forward to working with students on a design that works for our town centre. The beautification project is all about creating a town centre we can be proud of and attracting more people to visit, so artworks like this are fantastic to have. We can't wait to watch the design emerge throughout the year as the students work on the piece, then have it unveiled in the heart of town.”

For more information contact:

Mequa Hourston, Leader - Engagement

DDI: 03 7699 405 | Mobile: 027 237 5844 | email: mequah@tpp.ac.nz