

PRESS RELEASE

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Official opening of the Milan Art Project Exhibition

The Minister for Social Services, the Hon Samantha Sacramento MP, officially opened the Milan Art Project Exhibition yesterday evening. The exhibition will run until the 30th January 2016 and is open to the general public.

The Milan Art Project was launched in summer 2015 with the aim of providing artists from the Learning Disability Service at the Care Agency's St Bernadette's Resource Centre and the Dr Giraldi Home with the opportunity to present their artwork in fine arts exhibitions.

During the summer of 2015, art students undertaking a summer placement at the Learning Disability Service worked under the direction of artist Pete Mosca to help guide the service users and develop their work. Support was also provided from staff at St Bernadette's Resource Centre and Dr Giraldi Home to make the project possible.

One of the pieces was created in collaboration with local artist Christian Hook who designed the canvas that was painted by the service users. The effect of this canvas enhances the artwork and demonstrates another manner of collaboration with the service.

The Exhibition currently on display at the Gustavo Bacarisas Gallery is one of two. The second is due to be held at the Scalvini Museum in Villa Tittoni, Desio in the province of Milan from the 5th March 2016 until the 27th March 2016 at the invitation of Profesor Cristiano Plicato, Director of the Scalvini Museum.

Minister for Social Services, the Hon Samantha Sacramento MP, said: 'The exhibitions create a platform for our artists to express themselves in colour, line, shape, movement and texture; having fun whilst learning about themselves and flourishing as fine artists. Once again, the underlying principle of this project has been to showcase the abilities of people with learning disabilities. The artists have undoubtedly reaped the benefits of this educational and cultural experience, thus enriching their understanding of art and expression. I wish to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved in making this a success'.