



Life not limits

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More than meets the eye: WA artists flip the script on living with neurological conditions

Western Australians are invited to witness a vibrant celebration of creativity and self-expression in *Art Without Limits*, an exhibition curated by MSWA showcasing the extraordinary talents of artists living with multiple sclerosis (MS) and other neurological conditions.

This inspiring exhibition moves beyond the limitations of diagnosis to highlight the unique perspectives, skills, and passions of more than 50 artists from across the state.

Art Without Limits offers a powerful platform for these individuals to share their stories and demonstrate who they are, beyond their condition.

Opening to coincide with World MS Day on Friday, 30 May, the theme of this year's exhibition is – Expression of Self – showcasing a diverse collection of paintings, photography, sculpture and mixed media.

Each piece offers an unfiltered glimpse into the artist's lives and personalities, revealing their strength, resilience, and the joys they've discovered within themselves and their communities.

Among those featured in the exhibition is MSWA Client Hank Gidney. Diagnosed with MS in 2018 after a long career in the design and creative industries, Mr Gidney uses art to express and navigate the complexities of his condition.

“For me, creating art is a way of making sense of MS – trying to understand what it would be like if it had a colour, a sound, a feeling,” Mr Gidney said.

“Art gives me a way to express things that are often invisible or impossible to explain in words.

Mr Gidney facilitated a series of workshops in the months leading up to the exhibition for MSWA Clients and the community, empowering participants to transform their personal experiences into compelling visual narratives.

“This is about providing a space for people to share their stories authentically,” Mr Gidney explained.



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“Everyone’s journey with MS is different, and this exhibition celebrates that individuality.”

Art Without Limits seeks to foster connection and understanding, challenging perceptions and breaking down the isolation that can sometimes accompany neurological conditions.

Recent studies show that [two thirds](#) of Australians living with MS face loneliness, often due to stigma, changes in work and the impact on relationships.

Every day, approximately one to two Australians are diagnosed with MS. In Western Australia alone, an estimated [2,905 people were living with MS as of 2021](#)—representing 25.6% increase since 2010, and is increasing at a faster rate than population change in Australia (14.1% from 2010-2021).

MSWA CEO Melanie Kiely said the exhibition had been designed to show that despite the limits of their condition that people with neurological conditions can push their limits and use their condition as inspiration to achieve incredible things. The art gives an insight into that journey.

“Living with MS and other neurological conditions often means carrying experiences the world can’t see,” said Ms Kiely.

“Through *Art Without Limits*, our Clients are challenging assumptions and opening new conversations about what it means to live with these conditions– and in doing so, inviting all of us to look with greater empathy, curiosity and respect.”

The exhibition opens at Central Park Tower, Perth on Monday, 26 May and Stirling Street Arts Centre, Bunbury on Thursday 29 May. The exhibitions are free to attend, for more information visit mswa.org.au/art-without-limits-exhibition

In celebration of World MS Day (30 May), Perth landmarks including Matagarup Bridge, Council House, Kings Park, Optus Stadium and bridges across Perth will light up red in a show of solidarity.

- ENDS -

Visuals of the artworks are available [here](#).

Images of Hank’s workshops are available [here](#). Photos are credited to Saskia Luca-Gidney.



Event details

Art Without Limits will be on display at two locations:

- **Perth exhibition**

[Central Park Tower Perth, 152-158 St Georges Terrace, Perth](#)

Exhibition open from 8am – 5pm, Monday, 26 May to Friday, 30 May.

Free entry

More information at mswa.org.au/art-without-limits-exhibition

- **Bunbury exhibition**

[Stirling Street Arts Centre, 122 Stirling Street, Bunbury](#)

Exhibition open from 9am – 4pm, Friday, 30 May to Thursday, 5 June (excluding Sunday and Monday).

Free entry

More information at mswa.org.au/art-without-limits-exhibition

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About MSWA

[MSWA](#) provides vital support and services to people living with neurological conditions in Western Australia, striving to help Clients and the wider neuro community to live their best lives. This includes supporting people living with multiple sclerosis (MS), stroke, Parkinson's disease, Huntington's disease, motor neurone disease (MND), acquired brain injury and other conditions afflicting the brain and central nervous system.

MSWA has a team of almost 1000 staff who all work passionately to provide the best possible care to people right across the metro area and regional centres of Western Australia.

MSWA is a non-government, not-for-profit organisation. The money we raise through our fundraising efforts, government grants and other income generating programs goes directly to providing supports and services to people living with neurological conditions.

Our team of experienced nursing and allied health professionals provide information and a range of supports from the time of diagnosis. All MSWA programs are delivered in accordance with both the Disability Service Standards and our own service standards.

In addition to our direct care services, we also provide funding for vital research into neurological conditions.