

Name of Library	Rockhampton Regional Library	
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Title of project/innovation/initiative	Lively CaRtOoNinG
Date initiated	January 2011
Date completed	Ongoing

The issue/challenge

Engaging the young adult community with appropriate programming has been made possible with the very successful Lively CaRtOoNinG series offered throughout most of 2011 at the Rockhampton Regional Library.

An initial cartooning series for teens held during the January school holidays attracted strong interest, with a request from the group to conduct ongoing cartooning sessions throughout the year.

Talented young staff members with backgrounds in education, graphic arts and multi-media helped to facilitate sessions, with young people themselves taking up the challenge to share their illustrative styles with the wider group. This has greatly encouraged artists' confidence and has helped the illustrators gain experience in facilitating and teaching artistic skills to their peers.

The Lively CaRtOoNinG series has increased network potential and tapped into a committed and focused group in the community.

Project details

Stunning images of dragons, Japanese warriors, and quirky monsters have been a regular feature at the Rockhampton Regional Library this year, as teen artists have created imaginative and stylish illustrations on whiteboards, paper and computers, as they gathered in the Fitzroy Room to share cartooning tips and secrets.

The Lively CaRtOoNinG program has been conducted on a regular basis each week during February, March, May, July and September with teenage artists, in conjunction with talented young library staff, facilitating drawing sessions. The program has successfully engaged the target demographic of young people, with over 80 participants attending each month, and requests from students and parents for further cartooning series to be conducted throughout the year. The program has huge potential for networking, social engagement and recruitment for other young adult programming.

Young artists have helped to provide tuition and guidance to other illustrators, encouraging a collaborative approach to learning. This aspect has been critical to the success of the initiative with strong ownership and investment in the space and program.

The extensive art resources in the collection are showcased for the audience with many of the books used in generating lessons and stimulating artistic response.