

Photo comp. now open

A total of \$610 in prize money is up for grabs for budding photographers.

The Finley Arts Network is running a competition designed to connect young photographers through their art.

Competition co-coordinator Dru Morgan is encouraging young photographers to enter. She said it's a chance to express how the entrant is feeling during isolation.

"We wanted to provide an option for kids to get organised and express their creativity during isolation," she said.

"The competition is in response to restrictions and isolation. They are difficult for everyone, but I think our youth are especially affected.

"While our youth can't connect with their friends, we thought this would be a good way for them to connect via their art, and potentially win a bit of money while they do it."

Entries will close on June 19, with prize winners announced on June 26.

Ms Morgan said the three categories under the theme Isolation will allow photographers to express their art in a variety of ways.

"We have made the competition pretty straight forward and easy for the junior ages, but our senior youth entrants are

able to submit photo manipulation or digital art," she said.

"Isolation can mean different things to different people.

"For some, it can mean loneliness, separation or disconnection. For others, it can mean blissful solitude or seclusion. Being cut off from others can be a positive or negative experience.

"Your photo can be of a landscape or urban scene, or it can be a portrait of a person or even an animal.

"Photos will be judged on quality, creativity and how well they express the theme of isolation."

Categories include: Colour photograph (senior and junior); black and white photograph (seniors only); and creative photo art and editing (seniors only).

The junior first prize is \$50, while there is \$100 up for grabs for the winner in each senior category. Prizes of \$50 and \$25 will go to the runner up and third prized photos respectively in the senior categories.

Entries must be sent in jpeg file to finleyartsnetwork@gmail.com. Include your name, date of birth, title of work and entry category for each photo submitted.



■ Cassady Sibraa.



■ Abbey A'Vard.

Young creatives

Finley Arts Network's photography competition is already giving the Southern Riverina's youngest photographers a chance to explore their creativity.

Entries for the competition opened earlier this month, and 13 year-old Abbey A'Vard has already finalised her submissions.

The Finley teenager became interested in photography last year.

"I'm interested in art photography because I love taking photos of the Australian landscape," she said.

"I also like to draw because it is relaxing and enjoyable.

"Entering the competition has allowed me to showcase my love for photography.

"Sharing your life experiences through photography is important because it helps you capture anything you find is important to remember."

Abbey has entered the junior section, where a \$50 prize is offered to the winner.

"I would be very happy and save the money if I won," she said.

Also entering in the junior competition is 10 year-old Cassady Sibraa, who says she enjoys the chance to be creative through photography.

"I think photography is fun because you get to experiment with angles and filters," she said.

"I feel if you do the photo right, the viewer will get the vibe."

Cassady started taking photography seriously two years ago, and also loves music and photo editing.

She first heard about the competition at school and couldn't wait to enter.

"If I win the money, I will put it towards a new camera," she said.

Become a Community Garden member today

The Berrigan Community Garden has been a great asset to our community.

The recent donation of the rotunda from the Lions Club looks fantastic.

It costs just \$5 for a membership, and allows you to be active at the garden, so come along and join us.

Community members are always welcome to come and pick your vegetables or pick up a plant for a small donation.

The Community Garden also holds working bees on Wednesdays at 1.30pm and Saturdays at 9.30am.

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Competition golf returned for the first



time at the Berrigan Community Golf and Bowling Club last weekend.

If you would like to come and play, new members are most welcome.

Competition golf is on Friday and Saturday at 3pm and Sundays at 12.30pm.

The course is looking fantastic after some great rain.

ISOLATION SURVIVAL

Life at Finley Regional Care has certainly changed in the current circumstances. Given that families haven't been able to visit as much, FRC has found new and innovative ways to keep residents in contact with family and friends; as well as modifying their activities program to keep the residents engaged and keep smiles on their faces.

Many residents have had to embrace new technology in order to keep in contact. FRC has made "over the fence" visits possible, maintaining social distancing requirements, allowing family and friends to see how well their loved ones are doing in these challenging times.

Families from further afield are able to have a virtual visit, which has been an eye opener for many of the residents who have never engaged in such technology. They are amazed that they are able to see and talk to their far away families and often comment on how incredible it is. The residents and their families have been understanding during the visitation restrictions, acknowledging that is in everyone's best interests to keep covid-19 and Influenza well and truly out of FRC.

The FRC activities team has also had to adapt many of it's activities. Face to face religious services are not permitted so they now stream a "virtual church" from St Andrew's Cathedral in Sydney which has proved enormously successful. Having a real choir singing hymns adds a much more authentic touch to the service.

Another highlight has been the garden walks followed by a wine and cheese afternoon. Conversation flows freely while they share a tipples and some quality cheese. FRC has also recently introduced a "magic table", thanks to FRC's hardworking Auxiliary for their ongoing financial support. This amazing technology projects games and puzzles onto a table and residents are able to manipulate the images to complete the chosen task. Jigsaws are completed, leaves are raked up, masterpieces are painted, stars are sent shooting, and again the residents are fascinated with this new technology.

All of this thinking outside the box at FRC has kept spirits up for both residents and staff who are working hard to keep things as normal as possible during this tough time. Management are working closely with health authorities daily to keep up to date with current circumstances and are communicating regularly to staff and families to keep their minds at ease.

