



HISTORY OF THE PERMANENT ACQUISITION COLLECTION

Walt Whitman left us with his powerful declaration.

“That you are here – that life exists, and identity,
That the powerful play goes on, and you may contribute a verse.”

It is an honour to be outlining the history of the Permanent Acquisition Collection at Overnewton Anglican Community College. In 1997 Visual Arts staff member Ms Louisa Morelli put forth the idea for a collection of student artworks. It was met with wholehearted enthusiasm by all. Principal Lesley Bell immediately approved and funded the proposal. Throughout the next fifteen years, the relationship between the Visual Arts staff and their students has resulted in a vibrant collection that has made an invaluable contribution to the Overnewton environment.

Each year, both campuses purchase an artwork which is permanently displayed within the College. The work must be produced by a Senior School Visual Arts student and be of an excellent quality. The Taylors Lakes Campus has the additional criterion that it must have a youthful element suitable for a Junior or Middle School audience.

As part of Overnewton's 25th Anniversary celebrations the Visual Arts Faculty is proudly launching 'Argentum' which catalogues the collection. Argentum simply means silver in Latin but there is nothing simple about this body of work. It is a diverse and sophisticated collection consisting of paintings, drawings, collage, photography, sculpture and mixed media. Through their work, some students have addressed themes that encompass aspects of their personal experiences, beliefs and identity. Others have communicated concepts that interpret a vast array of topics that exist in the world around them. The works are held together by a common thread of excellence and sincerity.

The ongoing devotion of the Visual Arts team and the continued support from the Principal Mr Jim Laussen, have provided a beautiful gift of enhancing our college environment. We thank Mrs Zaghis (nee Morelli) for her valuable vision and for enabling so many of our students to have contributed their 'verse'.

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