



**Australian Government**

**Australian National Botanic Gardens**

20 OCTOBER 2006

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **Botanic Gardens awards student photographers**

Entries in the tenth annual photographic competition run by the Friends of the Australian National Botanic Gardens will be on display this weekend. The display will be opened at an event acknowledging prize winners on Saturday 21 October, at 12 noon in the Theatrette.

This year the competition attracted 229 entries in six categories – the second highest number since the competition began in 1997. All entries will be displayed for public viewing in the Dickson Room this weekend, and will remain on display for several weeks.

“The competition provides an important opportunity for students to increase awareness of the value and beauty of Australian native plants,” Acting Director of the Australian National Botanic Gardens Jim Croft said.

“The Friends are very happy to sponsor such a successful event which encourages young Canberrans to express their appreciation of Australian native plants through artistic creativity,” President of the Friends of the Australian National Botanic Gardens Andrew Walker said.

The competition is open to students from High Schools and Colleges throughout the ACT, and all entries must feature some aspect of the Australian National Botanic Gardens, such as plants, wildlife, scenery or visitors.

Cash prizes are awarded for each category and an additional award is given for the benefit of the Photographic Department of the School or College whose student is awarded the First Prize in each category.

The information leaflet and membership application of the Friends of the Australian National Botanic Gardens features the winning black and white photograph from the 2001 competition.

The Friends of the Australian National Botanic Gardens is a support group whose aim is to increase community awareness of the scientific, educational, recreational and conservation functions of the Gardens.

Projects funded by the Friends in recent years include the purchase of palms, cycads and tree ferns for the Rainforest Gully, funding for the Rainforest Gully fogging system and the purchase of electric scooters for use by visitors. Fundraising efforts by the Friends include the popular annual Summer Concert Series, and other events and activities.

For more information: [www.anbg.gov.au/friends/photoinfo.html](http://www.anbg.gov.au/friends/photoinfo.html)

<b>What:</b>	Annual photographic competition for ACT High School and College students
<b>Where:</b>	Dickson Room, Australian National Botanic Gardens
<b>When:</b>	Saturday 21 October, 12 noon

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