

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

31 July 2016

# Victim Support Service launches SALA Festival pop-up gallery to highlight victims' experiences of crime

## KEY POINTS

- Victim Support Service to host free exhibition of artwork by victims of crime as part of 2016 SALA Festival.
- The exhibition will be officially opened on Wednesday 3 August at 5:30pm by the Honourable Dr Robyn Layton AO QC.
- The exhibition will run from 4 – 31 August at the VSS Head Office.

Artworks by victims of crime from around South Australia will go on display at Victim Support Service (VSS) this week. The ['Acceptance, Transformation and Recovery' Art Exhibition](#) explores victims' experiences in the aftermath of crime.

Some of the works will be available for purchase from the artists.

The free event has been organised by VSS in celebration of the 2016 South Australian Living Artists (SALA) Festival.

VSS Chief Executive Julian Roffe said the exhibition gives victims of crime a valuable opportunity for self-expression.

"Many people who have experienced crime find it difficult to articulate how they are feeling, so they use art to express their emotions in the aftermath of crime," Mr Roffe said.

"Art gives victims of crime a safe way to explore their reaction to crime and supports their journey to recovery. It gives victims a voice and enables them to share their stories."

The exhibition will be officially opened on Wednesday 3 August at 5:30pm by the Honourable Dr Robyn Layton AO QC.

The exhibition will run from 4 – 31 August at the VSS Head Office at Level 1/11 Halifax Street, Adelaide. Opening hours are 9am-5pm, Monday to Friday.

Call the Victim Helpdesk on 1800 VICTIM (1800 842 846) to express your interest in attending the official opening or to find out more about the exhibition.

**ENDS**

## MEDIA ENQUIRIES

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**Victim Support Service (VSS)** is a statewide, not-for-profit organisation that provides practical and therapeutic support to victims and witnesses of crime in South Australia. Our services include:

- information and advocacy
- counselling
- practical assistance
- support for victims of family/domestic abuse.

For more information go to [www.victimsa.org](http://www.victimsa.org).