

# SCHOOL OF PLASTIC FISH



# Introduction

Our School of Plastic Fish (SoPF) program consists of two elements; the installation exhibit and the plastic waste workshops. Whilst the program is designed for the two elements to operate together, as they compliment each other, we do offer both aspects as stand alone programs should that suit your needs better.

Here, we will provide a brief description of both the installation exhibit and the plastic waste workshops, and an estimated budget for each.



# About Us

Awareaway exists to create awareness and positive behaviour change towards creating more sustainable habits and relationships with our ecosystems and the resources we benefit from. Our core goals are to instil a sustainability mindset; to live within the limits of our ecosystems, to be regenerative in our actions, to reconnect with nature and each other, and to provide support to marginalised community members through meaningful training and employment opportunities.

## MISSION

**Tackle Australia's waste crisis.** Changing the way people think about rubbish and transforming the disposable into the precious.

**Education.** Inspiring positive change by creating space for discussion on how to combat our single use culture and misuse of precious resources.

**Art for Change.** Supporting a range of socially progressive creative projects with a range of environmental outcomes.

**Reach out.** Offering employment and collaboration opportunities to members of marginalised communities – especially refugees.





# Workshops

1.5hr educational and interactive workshops, where we introduce the problem of plastic pollution, creatively engaging participants through making fish artworks from 100% plastic waste.

We explore some of the environmental problems associated with plastic pollution, from its extraction to how it ends up in our environment. We introduce ways in which we can combat plastic pollution, providing practical actions and a discussion. Our student-centred approach works with students, wherever they are at in their understanding of sustainability.

Each student is guided through making their own fish from plastic waste, including: designing and drawing their fish on plastic waste fabric, sewing it up and then stuffing it with soft plastic waste. Completed fish can be hung in our gallery installation 'School of Plastic Fish' (if it is currently exhibiting), or taken home as a memento.

\*As this is a hands-on activity we require either parental attendance, or a minimum of 1 assistant per 7 students, this could be council staff, parent volunteers, or, we can employ our own assistants and add the cost to our quote.



# Budget

## A1.5hr educational & interactive workshop:

**\$600**

- 2 x main facilitators
- Collection, cleaning & preparation of plastic waste material
- 10-15 minute educational introduction to plastic pollution (requires slide projector)
- Guided fish-making activity
- Reclaimed\* sewing needles, pins and thread

## Additional costs (if not provided by you):

- Reclaimed\* Stationary \$80
- Hired assistant (per assistant, per workshop) \$80

**Please note:** We have a Covid-19 contingency plan in the form of a series of recorded virtual tutorials, and, in the case of another lockdown the budget can be adjusted accordingly.

*\*we source these materials second-hand from op-shops etc, to avoid buying new products, the world has enough already!*



# The Exhibit

By 2050, scientists have predicted there will be more plastic than fish in our oceans, we are well on our way to becoming witnesses to this scary prediction. Responding to this alarming study, we have created the concept of 'a school of plastic fish' made with 100% soft plastic waste. The fish depict an eerie yet beautiful ocean-scape where they hang from the ceiling, reminding us of a possible future and encouraging us to create positive behaviour change to reimagine a better and more sustainable future.

Screening at one end of the room, Colourful Collective's existing mini doco with the elderly, 'Before Plastic', will shed a positive light on a time before plastic and how people existed before our dependence on the disposable. Screening at the other end of the room; an optional short 5 minute interview series with local youth about their thoughts on the problem of plastic waste. These could be made in the process of conducting the community workshops or at a local event/initiative.

On the centre wall of the space, a short educational animation will act as a backdrop to the installation. This animation depicts the complexities of how waste enters the stormwater system and ends up in natural water sources and ultimately the ocean.



# Budget

## **Sopf Installation includes:** **\$4,105**

- Ceiling installation of plastic fish, our short animation 'Plastic Fish' and our mini-doco 'Before Plastic'
- Installation and de-installation fees
- Gallery text printing (sustainably printed)

## **OPTIONAL EXTRA: Mini-doco Feature** **\$1,350**

Add to the installation a community mini-doco featuring local students (as featured in Hume City Council Exhibit) see example here.

- 5hrs filming and liaising with school or community (e.g. permission slips, coordinating the film day, meetings, travel)
- ~20 hours editing

**Please note:** we have a Covid-19 contingency plan in the form of a virtual exhibition platform, and, in the case of another lockdown the budget can be adjusted accordingly.

**IMPORTANT:** Currently, exhibition is available from late July. Dates and duration of exhibition are negotiable.

