

Together We Shine

Organisation: Supporting Heroes

Project:

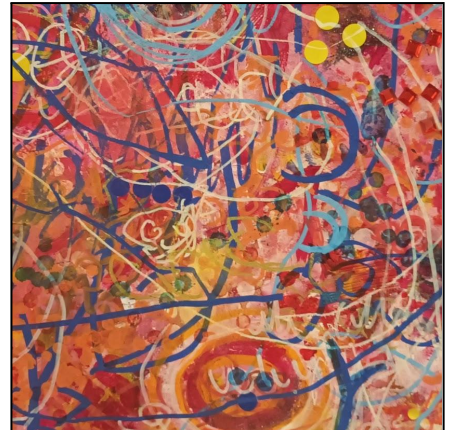
Supporting Heroes invited me to facilitate a collaborative art project as part of their holiday care program for young people living with intellectual disability. Over three two-hour sessions, participants created a collaborative painting while exploring a wide range of creative techniques.



Messy Playing

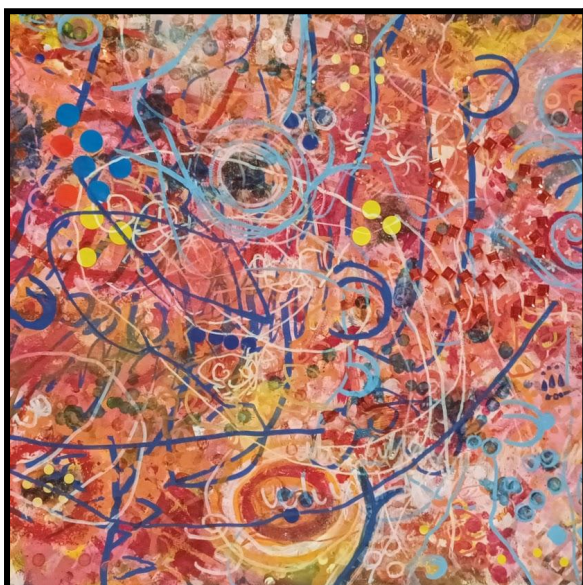


Exploring



Bling!

The project followed the three stages of the Pattern Play Collaborative Art methodology. During **Messy Playing**, participants explored broad mark-making using sponges, brushes, masks, sgraffito, stamping and a limited warm colour palette over a blue background. **Exploring** added layers through brushwork, stencils, sponging, smaller brushes and stamps. Finally, **Bling!** brought the artwork to life with paint pens, nail polish dots, bingo dotters, dot stickers, chalk rubbing, paint sticks and glitter glue. Activities changed frequently to maintain engagement, and the artwork was regularly rotated so everyone could work from different angles while creating a richly layered collaborative painting.



Results:

The varied activities kept participants engaged across all three sessions, with each person contributing in ways that suited their interests and abilities. The process encouraged experimentation, resulting in a vibrant artwork full of colour, texture and individual expression.

Most importantly, participants developed a genuine sense of pride in what they had created together.

The Project was a Success!