

A Model Idea

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Negar Seyfollahy and Alisdair MacRae are the artists behind the design for the Glebe's community art project

It won't be long before people walk through the doors of the Glebe Community Centre on Third Avenue and look up to see a colourful chandelier of artwork hanging from the ceiling.

The artwork is the result of a community project that began in May. Local artists Negar Seyfollahy and Alisdair MacRae are behind the design, but they enlisted the public's help.

The pair took the silhouettes of 24 homes located in the Glebe and made the base of each one using foam boards.

Members of the community finished the models using materials like pipe cleaners, coloured felt and origami paper.

Some of the finished models look like the houses in the Glebe, while others are completely original, Seyfollahy said.

Together, they create a wall of vibrant colours.

"I almost want to keep them," Seyfollahy said laughing.

Seyfollahy and MacRae also constructed a replica of the dome that sits on the community centre's roof.

When the project is installed in the centre's foyer they'll drape a chain from the dome-replica and hang the housing models from the chain.

Seyfollahy and MacRae don't live in the Glebe, but they held three public workshops to get to know the community.

It's clear people enjoy spending time in the neighbourhood, they said.

"People let you stop and cross the street here," MacRae said.

"You go to Centretown and it's not the same thing. I think in that sense the Glebe is quite special," Seyfollahy said.

The finished artwork is scheduled to be installed by the end of December.

-Sherry Aske