



Special Guest Inspires Guides to Be Their Best!

30 August 2011

Over 150 members and supporters of Girl Guides NSW & ACT attended the annual Parliament House Lunch in Sydney yesterday. The event was hosted by the Hon. Pru Goward MP, Minister for Family and Community Services and Minister for Women. The special Guest Speaker was highly acclaimed artist and conservationist Nafisa Naomi.

The multitalented Nafisa is Co-founder and Director of conservation organisation Animal Works and her artwork, which celebrates the beauty of our fragile world, has earned her over 50 awards including the Packers Prize for the Archibald 2010. She shared with the audience some of her most outstanding drawings. Some served to illustrate moving stories about the plight of orphaned elephants, victims of human-elephant conflict. Part of what Animal Works strives to do is nurse these elephants back to health.

“It was a great privilege, and particularly fitting since Nafisa was once a Girl Guide herself. Nafisa shares our commitment to wildlife conservation, and is concerned about habitat destruction in particular,” Belinda Allen said.

“Nafisa is a truly inspirational woman and a great role model. Her statement that we must share and value each other as much as we care for the other species on our planet really resonates with Girl Guides,” Belinda Allen said.

Staff members from Taronga Zoo were among special guests at the Lunch as Girl Guides prepare for the annual Great Guide Sleepover this weekend. The Sleepover, which sees over 1000 girls and their volunteer Leaders camp overnight at the Zoo, will raise funds for Taronga Zoo Conservation programs, particularly one in support of the threatened Corroboree Frog.

-----ENDS-----

For further information, interviews or photo opportunities, please contact:

Brittany Kenaly | Media Liaison

Girl Guides NSW & ACT

Phone: 02 8396 5200 | Mobile: 0488 098 708 | Mail to: media@girlguides-nswact.org.au