



East Torrens Messenger

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Art a weight off her shoulders

Daniela Abbracciavento

THE pressure of Year 12 can weigh heavy on some, but Ella Michele found a way to lighten the load.

The Saint Ignatius' College graduate used the stress experienced by students completing their final year of high school as inspiration for her major assessment piece for her Year 12 visual arts studies.

Her oil painting, *The Lacking*, is now part of this year's South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE) Art Show.

Ella says the artwork represents the weight that drags some students down during Year 12.

"It's just my friend with wet hair and wet uniform, and I painted her after blowing up photos of her in the pose," Ella, 18, says.

"It's supposed to be a representation of keeping your head above water and the physical weight of Year 12 with the wet uniform.

"It's the whole feeling of putting your life on hold and all the pressures you face to succeed in school."

Ella's painting will be exhibited alongside works by other recent Year 12 Visual Art graduates including Sally Mitchell and Leah Mazzone-Brown, both of Athelstone, Elise Bennett, of Campbelltown, Yoon So Jang, of Magill, Lauren Allison, of Newton, and Matthew Furina, of Paradise.

SACE Board chief executive Neil McGoran says the show is designed to inspire and encourage current and future art and design stu-

dents.

The six-week event is at Light Square Gallery until April 29.



Budding artist and St Ignatius' College graduate Ella Michele is exhibiting her oil painting, *The Lacking*, in this year's SACE Art Show.

Picture: SIMON CROSS