

Central Leader

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Body art champion defends her title

By EMMA WHITTAKER

New Zealand's reigning body art champion is getting ready to defend her title at the 2011 New Zealand Body Art Awards tomorrow.

Body painter Erin Harrison had only entered the awards twice when her giant box turtle creation won the special effects category and overall supreme award at last year's event.

Miss Harrison is also entering the special effects category this year.

In keeping with the Land of The Long White Cloud theme Miss Harrison plans to show the journey of a caterpillar from a chrysalis to a butterfly, but with a twist, she says.

As a student the Mt Roskill resident started a face painting business and in 2009 attended a workshop held by the New Zealand Body Art Awards which sparked her interest in body painting.

"If you can paint a face you can paint a body," she says.

Good people skills and the right model are a must for any body painter, Miss Harrison says.

"It's a very personal kind of art and we're up there painting everywhere and anywhere, so it helps if you can talk to the model.

"The options are totally limitless in terms of what you can do with body art and my model



Watch it on our website

Go to www.centralleader.co.nz and click on Latest Edition to see a video about body painter Erin Harrison

Living art: Body painter Erin Harrison will compete in the sixth annual New Zealand Body Art Awards tomorrow.

Photo: BEN CAMPBELL

body painting is one of the aspects that attract Miss Harrison to the art.

"Sometimes you can spend eight hours doing it and then it just gets washed off, which I find quite cool because only

the people there on the day get to see it and then it's gone.

"You can never really make a mistake, because if you do you just wipe it off and do some more," she says.

The New Zealand Body Art

Awards is now in its sixth year and its growing popularity sees it held at the Aotea Centre this year.

■ Tickets are still available through The Edge. Visit www.the-edge.co.nz for details.

is amazing – she just brings it alive," she says.

The temporary nature of