

MEDIA RELEASE

May, 2017

Community arts projects funded statewide Regional Arts Fund supports 14 arts projects across regional SA

Today, Senator the Hon Mitch Fifield, Minister for the Arts, has announced \$175,992 from the Australian Government's Regional Arts Fund to support 14 new community arts projects right across regional South Australia.

Commencing after **1 July 2017**, the themes for some of the applications includes stories drawn from regional men working in isolation along the Coorong, an exciting mentorship opportunity for an emerging Aboriginal arts leader in the Far West and igniting the small community of Gumeracha with unique art experiences.

Country Arts SA Chief Executive Officer Steve Saffell said: "The community arts projects selected for commencement in July showcase how rich and diverse the artistic talent is across regional South Australia. The support provided through the Regional Arts Fund enables South Australian artists from regional and remote communities to turn their artistic dreams into a reality which in turn creates a stronger sense of community and helps to inspire fellow artists to reach their potential. This year's Regional Arts Fund supports projects from Mount Gambier to Ceduna."

Ten first-time applicants were successful in this round of funding that will employ up to forty artists and arts workers from around the state. Four exciting projects will provide dynamic skills and professional development opportunities for Aboriginal artists and their communities.

Successful initiatives in the latest round of funding include:

Coorong Suicide Prevention Network – Long Story Short

D'faces of youth arts Inc. – Area 53

Ceduna Aboriginal Corporation for Arts Ceduna - Illumine Far West Artists

The Australian Government shows its support for regional artists and arts organisations to develop their artistic practice through the Regional Arts Fund, which has an emphasis on youth, the disadvantaged, remote and Indigenous communities.

Funding targets activities that will have long term cultural, economic and social benefits for both individuals and communities. Regional Arts Funding will assist communities and individuals through the development of partnerships and cultural networks, by providing artists with professional development and employment opportunities, and by supporting arts and community development projects that provide local communities with opportunities to participate in, and access cultural activities.

The Regional Arts Fund is administered on behalf of the Australian Government by Regional Arts Australia and its member organisations which include Country Arts SA.

The next funding round closes on 15 August 2017 for projects commencing after 1 January 2018. More information about the Regional Arts Fund is available from Country Arts SA on 08 8723 8763 or at www.countryarts.org.au.

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REGIONAL ARTS FUND – LIST OF PROJECTS FUNDED – MARCH 2017

Pangula Mannamurna Aboriginal Corporation – MOUNT GAMBIER \$19,857

Boandik Fish Trap

Sculptor Craig MacDonald will work with the Cultural Advisory Committee and volunteers, to create a bronze fish trap representing traditional freshwater fishing as practiced by Boandik ancestors. The final work to be installed in the wetlands of Pangula Mannamurna: final stage in the Healing Circles project.

Gener8 Theatre – MOUNT GAMBIER \$13,591

Cold As Ice – Stage 3

Created by Gener8 Theatre, Cold as Ice is a new form of immersive storytelling incorporating Virtual Reality technology to explore the social issues around the use of amphetamines. Stage three will see 11 artists coming together in an extensive creative development to finalise the third stage of development.

Kimba Community Development Group Inc. – KIMBA \$18,000

Igniting Kimba Arts Program

Large scale mural artist Cam Scale will work with the community of Kimba to create an artwork on Kimba's grain silos capturing characters, stories and values of the Kimba community. The project is the pinnacle of a much broader community public arts program, 'Igniting Kimba.'

Ninkowar – MURRAY BRIDGE \$17,000

Kaiki & Taralyi

Visual Artist Damien Shen and Photographer James Tylor, whose practice examines concepts around cultural identity, will present workshops for Indigenous artists living in the Coorong region. The work created will be exhibited in conjunction with Tarnanthi Festival of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Contemporary Art in October 2017.

Milang and District Community Association Inc. – MILANG \$17,854

Culture and Habitat Connected

Mosaic artist Michael Tye will mentor Ngarrindjeri artist Cedric Varcoe to develop techniques and extend skills and knowledge in the art of design, mosaic and wood carving to create panels that will be installed in the Milang Wetland and Snipe Sanctuary with the participation of community members and the Lakeside Men's Shed.

D'faces of youth arts Inc. – WHYALLA \$ 10,700

Area 53

Professional theatre practitioners Claire Glenn and Antony Kelly, together with a local sound and animation expert, will work with members of D'faces Youth Arts to develop an interactive immersive theatre experience using puppetry, animation, photography and soundscapes.

Berri Barmera Council – BERRI \$ 12,800

Berri Riverbank Revitalisation

Community artists Mike Tye and Aurelia Carbone will lead this revitalisation project to activate the former wharf area on the Berri Riverbank.

Streaky Bay Tourist Promotions Inc. - STREAKY BAY

\$20,000

'Visible' Artists Residency

Six South Australian artists will be in residence to provide interactive art experiences that aim to connect artists and communities through making and creating together as part of the week-long Streaks Ahead Festival in Streaky Bay.

Gumeracha Main Street Project – GUMERACHA

\$8,700

I Met Gumeracha

This innovative theatre performance and visual arts installation project developed by ABW (the Australian Bureau of Worthiness) will engage members of the Gumeracha community during an intensive residency over ten days. The project aims to ensure that art is at the forefront of public thinking regarding the future of the Main Street.

Ninuku Arts – KALKA

\$20,000

Young Blood

Ninuku Arts will launch a series of workshops in print making, botanic art, iPad art and photography to engage young people and further develop emerging artist's techniques and practice on the APY Lands.

Coorong Suicide Prevention Network - COORONG

\$5,000

Long Story Short

With a focus on regional men, Arts Facilitator Mark Tompson will lead artists to create contemporary narratives that tell the regions stories through site specific artworks, signage and digital pathways along the Mallee, Princess and Dukes Highways.

Ceduna Aboriginal Corporation for Arts Ceduna – YALATA/OAK VALLEY

\$4,950

Illumine Far West Artists

Far West Indigenous arts communities Maralinga Yalata and Maralinga Tjarutja (Oak Valley) will engage in a series of skills development workshops with the aim to prepare artists for state-wide presentation and marketing of their art for key exhibitions.

Tony Hannan – HAHNDORF

\$2,700

Natural Materials Mentorship

A unique professional development for Tony Hannan to work with master Fibre Artist Deborah Cantrill to acquire skills and techniques for harvesting, treating and using various plant species traditionally used in basketry and applying them to larger sculptural works.

Sherrie Jones – CEDUNA/ADELAIDE

\$4,840

Winarn

Award winning artist Amanda Radomi will mentor emerging artist Sherrie Jones to expand both their networks and build connections through a residential exchange. Working together between regional Ceduna and Adelaide, both artists will produce new work to be exhibited at Arts Ceduna in 2018.