

June 2025

REGIONAL SA ARTS PROJECTS RECEIVE BOOST WITH OVER \$185,000 IN FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

The Australian Government's Regional Arts Fund has provided \$185,314 to support 10 arts projects across regional South Australia in the first round of Project Grants in 2025.

Australian Government Minister for the Arts, Tony Burke, congratulated the recipients and their contributions to regional Australia's arts scene.

"The government is making this investment because we believe that no matter where you live, the best of the Australian arts should be within reach."

The latest round highlights the breadth of creative talent and community engagement in the regions, with a diverse group of projects ranging from the production of a youth-driven community magazine and the collaborative development of an exhibition by an artist living with an acquired brain injury, to an international partnership and performance of First Nations songs.

With several projects focussing on mentorship and youth participation, this round demonstrates the South Australian arts community's commitment to longevity and sustainability. Recurring themes such as relationship building, skills development and community-capacity building, further underscore the increasing value placed on the regional arts sector.

Country Arts SA Chief Executive Anthony Peluso praised the ambition and diversity of the funded projects and noted the momentum and innovation emerging from South Australia's regional communities

"This round of the Regional Arts Fund supports the development of remarkable new work across community publishing, collaborative exhibitions, international First Nations performances, and public art. There's a strong focus on growing the skills and abilities of the next generation of artists to achieve their artistic and cultural ambitions and showcase their work in their local communities across regional and remote South Australia - and to audiences nationally and internationally. We look forward to seeing the outcomes and wish the applicants well as they grow their practices."

The Regional Arts Fund is an Australian Government program that supports sustainable cultural development in regional and remote communities in Australia. The program is managed by Regional Arts Australia and administered in South Australia by Country Arts SA.

The next funding round will open July 2025 and close mid-August 2025 for projects that commence after January 1, 2026. For more information about the Regional Arts Fund please visit www.countryarts.org.au. A full list of funded projects is below.

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**REGIONAL ARTS FUND – ROUND 1, 2025
LIST OF PROJECTS FUNDED IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

Forest Range

Fleur Elise Noble – Sunshine and the Dark Cloud - A new projection-based performance \$25,640

Sunshine is a new visual-theatre production by Fleur Elise Noble - a continuation of her unique performance-based visual practice developed over the past 25 years, fusing the mediums of drawing, animation, puppetry, film, projection and live performance. With the support of Project Create Community Arts Co-Op in Carey Gully, Fleur and collaborators will design and run a series of workshops with a group of 10 young regional South Australians. The workshops will focus on concept and content development, design, animation, projection mapping and performance, offering a rare opportunity for young creatives to participate in, and learn from world-class artists, performers and animators.

Goolwa

Bunna Lawrie - Song to the Whales Canada and US Tour 2025 featuring Bunna Lawrie in a tri-First-Nations collaboration \$29,008

Bunna Lawrie, Mirning Elder, Whale Dreaming Songman and Jason Lee Scott have been invited to collaborate with Oktoecho (CAN) Corrina Bonshek & Collaborators (AUS) to adapt *Song to the Ocean* and tour to Canada and USA. Bunna and Jason will perform in high profile tri-First-Nations shows *Song to the Whales* and *Song to the Waters* premiering and headlining at the International First Peoples Festival (FIPA), Montreal, Landscape of Nations, Niagara Falls and Lincoln Centre for Performing Arts, New York. Additionally, they will perform *Call to the Deep - a Musical Tribute to Whales* with the AUS/NZ artists in Canada. Bunna and Jason will also perform as a duo at FIPA, Montreal and Tranzac Club, Toronto and will facilitate numerous workshops, discussion circles, film screenings and panel discussions.

Kingston SE

Kingston District Council – Brushstrokes for Better \$24,540

The Brushstrokes for Better Mural Art Project is a community-led initiative aimed at enhancing visible public spaces through vibrant and transformative high-quality visual art in the regional community of Kingston. This project is a collaborative visual arts partnership between the Council as facilitator, the Health Advisory Committee as the place host, community as participants and artist Taylr Jay, who will mentor a local emerging artist.

Normanville

Evette Wolf – Mini Mag Production and Workshops \$30,000

This project will produce three editions of *Mini Mag*, a youth-focussed magazine that will be printed and distributed free to the community. Each edition will feature 30 pages of original content, created by young regional artists aged 15-26. This project will provide paid opportunities for both established and emerging regional artists in editing and design roles. Additionally, free *Mini Mag* workshops will be held for regional youth and families, offering a safe space to explore creative writing and visual art with the aim of encouraging contributions to the magazine.

Victor Harbor

City of Victor Harbor – Studio Sessions

\$28,080

The *Studio Sessions* program offers several young, emerging artists from the southern Fleurieu Peninsula a unique opportunity to professionally record and produce their own music. This initiative provides free studio sessions for artists to create an EP, including professional mixing and mastering. Participants will receive mentorship from local industry professionals, gaining practical insights into music production and the broader industry. *Studio Sessions* aim to nurture artistic growth and help aspiring artists launch their careers in music.

Stansbury

Stansbury Progress Association - Stansbury Hosts Charlee Watt

\$3,600

Stansbury Progress Association will host cabaret artist Charlee Watt's *Beating up the Beatles* show at the Stansbury Institute supported by local artist Karina Voigt. This performance will provide an opportunity to engage the local community with the arts and be part of the broader Grounded Festival.

Warooka

Rachelle Plazeriano – Creative Healing: Karen's Journey After Acquired Brain Injury

\$3,762

Yorke Peninsula artist Rachelle Plazeriano will further collaborate with Karen Brown, who discovered art following an acquired brain injury, to develop new work for an exhibition. Rachelle began working with Karen in 2023 as a support worker and arts mentor. This project will further support Karen's artistic growth, enabling her to share her stories and encourage others. The exhibition will form part of Yorke Peninsula Grounded Festival.

Riverland

Daniel Giles - Mannum Medical Centre Connection to Country Artworks

\$15,500

Renmark-based artist Daniel Giles will create a safe and welcoming environment for First Nations people attending the new Mannum Medical Centre. Drawing on traditional knowledge and cultural history, Daniel's work will support a spiritual connection to Country as a pathway to healing. His artworks will feature in the centre, with additional spaces curated to showcase works by other artists.

Littlehampton

Wendy Dixon-Whiley – Earth Oddities

\$16,277

A natural evolution of the artist's practice, this project explores sculpture as a means to bring their drawing practice into the three-dimensional. Incorporating techniques and materials commonly used in character development on film, Wendy will experiment with texture, shape, scale and composition to create detailed, uncanny characters who appear as though they exist in their own strange worlds.

Goolwa

Courtney Mason - Professional development in support of Average Intelligence manuscript

\$8,907.79

This project will support the secondary edit of the artist's debut novel with the goal of elevating the manuscript to a publishable standard. Courtney will attend The Island View Residency, hosted by Heather Taylor-Johnson, where they will engage in the practice of writing, refine editing and prose skills, and receive personalised guidance.

End.