

19 November 2025

REGIONAL ARTS PROJECTS CREATE PATHWAYS FOR YOUNG ARTISTS AND SHOWCASE UNIQUELY SOUTH AUSTRALIAN STORIES

The Australian Government's Regional Arts Fund awarded \$198,299 in support of 8 arts projects across regional South Australia in the August 2025 round of Project Grants.

The latest Project Grant round supports a diverse range of projects, including a book showcasing Pitjantjatjara artists of the remote APY Lands, a sharing of the Nharangga story of *Winda the Owl* featuring fire, lanterns and live narration by Elders, and youth-focused capacity building projects across circus performance, filmmaking and mural painting. Several projects feature cross-artform and multidisciplinary collaborations which highlight the depth of artistic talent and reinforce the vitality and resilience within the South Australian arts community.

Australian Government Minister for the Arts, the Hon Tony Burke MP said,

"Where you live, shouldn't dictate your level of involvement within Australia's art sector. This funding will create over 850 jobs for regional artists and arts workers across Australia.

"From Mullumbimby, to Emerald, Warrnambool and Rapid Creek, audiences will get to experience some incredible projects across a range of different mediums.

"We know there's a story for every place and a place for every story and this funding only further supports that."

Country Arts SA Chief Executive Anthony Peluso said, *"The well-spring of creativity and artistic expression evident in the projects funded in this round is testament to the crucial role the Regional Arts Fund plays in developing pathways for young artists, highlighting issues regional communities in SA face and celebrating significant First Nations stories and achievements."*

Successful initiatives in this round include:

Amata, APY Lands

Tjala Arts - Updated edition of Tjala Arts book: *Nganampa Kampatjangka Unngu* \$30,000

This project involves the creation of an updated edition of the Tjala Arts Book *Nganampa Kampatjangka Unngu: Beneath the Canvas - The Lives and Stories of the Tjala Artists* (published in 2015). Through critical essays, photography and first-person narratives, this edition will include 10 new artists whose practices have flourished over the past decade, alongside emerging voices and will showcase extraordinary achievements from the past decade. With these updates, *Nganampa Kampatjangka Unngu* will provide a significant record of artistic innovation and cultural resilience from Tjala Arts and the wider APY Lands.

Port Lincoln

Southern Eyre Arts - Our Place, Our Future \$30,000

This film and multi arts presentation will unite community, industry and artists to tell a powerful story about our deep connection and respect for the ocean as a direct response to the algal bloom currently impacting South Australian waters. Working with regional communities, filmmakers, marine scientists, composers, designers and visual artists, the project will translate complex environmental concepts into a compelling film work to be premiered with live musical accompaniment at a multi-screen outdoor event during SALT Festival 2026 before being screened digitally and across regional SA.

A full list of projects funded follows.

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 February 2026 and close mid-March 2026 for projects that commence after 1 July 2026. For more information about the Regional Arts Fund please visit www.countryarts.org.au.

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REGIONAL ARTS FUND – ROUND 2, 2025
LIST OF PROJECTS FUNDED IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Port Lincoln

Charlee Grace Watt – SALT Festival contribution 2026 **\$15,600**

Rolling the Stones and *Aftertaste* are two performance projects created by award-winning Port Lincoln artist Charlee Watt for the 2026 SALT Festival. *Rolling the Stones* reimagines iconic Rolling Stones songs featuring a powerhouse band alongside mentored local youth musicians. *Aftertaste: The Late Night Variety* is a bold, community-led cabaret event that spotlights local singers, dancers, and performers supported by professional musicians. Both shows will be staged at the Nautilus Theatre as part of the SALT Festival 2026 program.

Moonta Bay

Nharangga Warra – Winda the Owl: Stories in Fire and Lanterns **\$30,000**

A community event will bring to life the Nharangga story of *Winda the Owl* through fire, lanterns and storytelling. Held on Country and guided by Narungga Elders, this immersive experience invites participants to gather and share in cultural knowledge, language and connection. Handcrafted lanterns inspired by the Winda Dreaming Story will illuminate the night, accompanied by a powerful soundscape. Through storytelling, workshops and creative expression, the project celebrates Nharangga Elders, cultural continuity and the shared power of coming together in light and story.

Berri

Anglican Community Care Ltd (Accare) - Berri Community Centre Water tank mural project **\$17,800**

This project provides an opportunity for users of Berri Community Centre to create a mural for a currently blank water tank. Through story-sharing, design and spray-art workshops led by local Riverland artist Jarrod Loxton, participants will co-design an artwork celebrating Berri's creativity, resilience and community spirit. Once completed, the water tank mural will be visible to the 4000+ annual visitors and participants who make use of the Centre.

Whyalla Norrie

D'faces of Youth Arts – Regional Flying Monster Service **\$19,980**

A film project borne between Riverland Youth Theatre and D'faces of Youth Art designed to breach the geographical distance between regional young people through making films with lasting community impact. Collaboration and mentorship in Whyalla under lead artists Michal Hughes, Sam Wannan and Stu Nankivell will support young creatives from both regions to write, direct and shoot two short films as part of a six-part web series. The groups will then return to their communities and use their new skills to produce another two episodes each, before distributing all six episodes together as a series.

Amata, APY Lands

Tjala Arts - Updated edition of Tjala Arts book: *Nganampa Kampatjangka Unngu* **\$30,000**

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Paringa

Riverland Youth Theatre – They Sing to the Waters of Now

\$29,918

Teen members of Ramble Arts (formerly Riverland Youth Theatre) will be mentored by professional film creatives to complete pre-production and production of writer Alysha Herrmann’s short film *They Sing to the Waters of Now*. Co-produced by Ramble Arts and Alysha, the project will upskill and mentor young Riverland creatives, to bring this unique regional story to life. The film celebrates family and friendship through the story of a non-binary young person and the lake monster they befriend.

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Kingscote

Kangaroo Island Our Town Inc – Island Circus, Magic and Arts

\$25,000

A dynamic youth-focused arts initiative is being developed on Kangaroo Island, blending circus, magic and creativity to inspire skill-building and community connection. The program will offer hands-on workshops, creative development and performances designed to spark collaboration across local music and arts events. With new circus and magic equipment and specialised training for young performers and mentors, the project will build toward a sustainable, Youth Circus Club, featuring live performances at community events.

End.