



COUNTRY
ARTS
SA

2026 Education Program







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The Arts' Role in Education

The Arts help us tell stories, raise awareness, and understand perspectives. They are a powerful tool in understanding ourselves, others, and the world around us. Stories can inspire, motivate, and help us articulate thoughts and feelings.

The 2026 Country Arts SA Education Program is designed to inspire, enrich imaginations, and prompt explorative questions. Through attending performances and exhibitions, students are encouraged to not only think about artworks, but also to make their own using personal reflection, collaboration and experimentation.

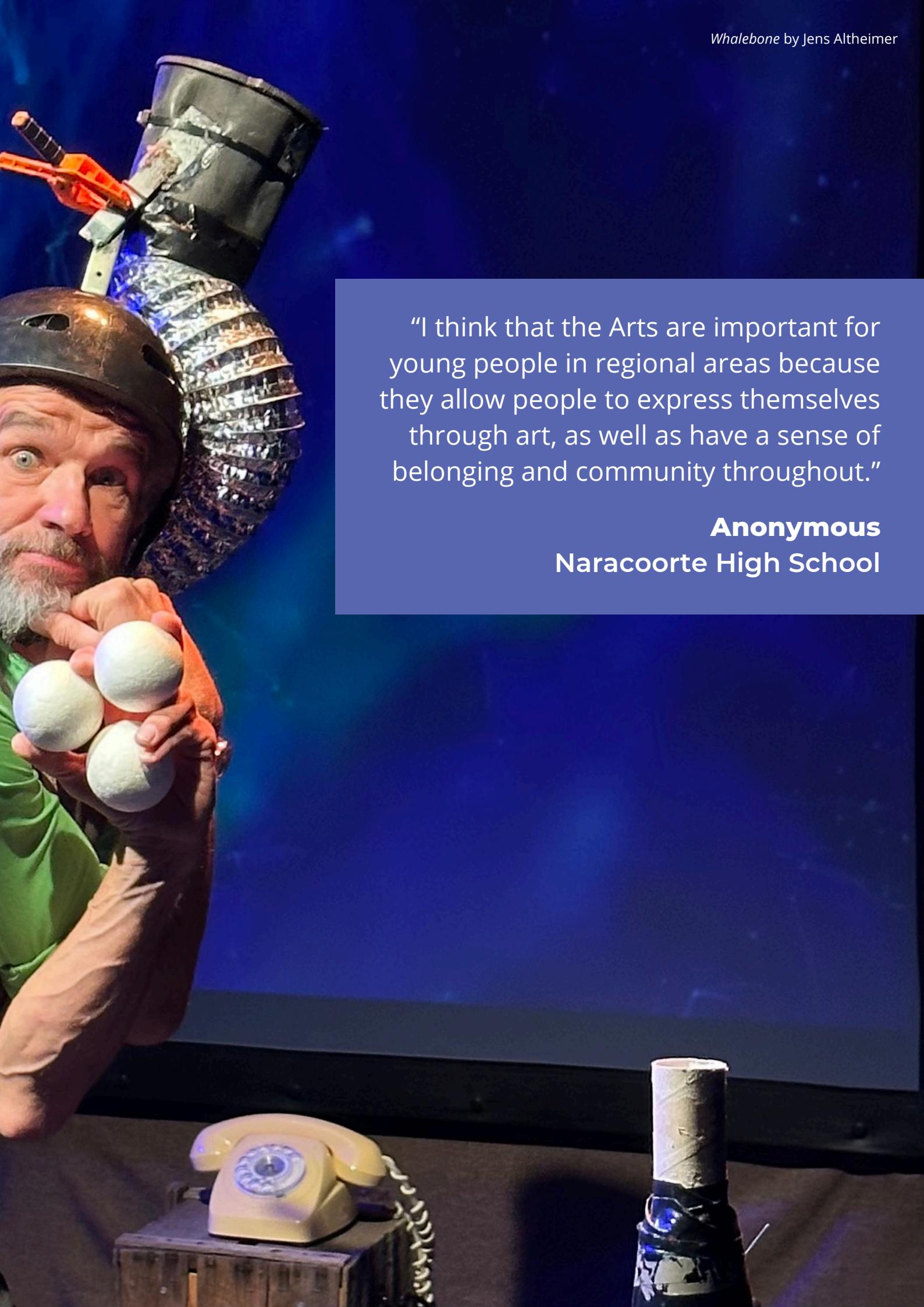
The Education Resources and workshops, which sit alongside a performance or exhibition, have been designed to:

- build background knowledge and context
- introduce keywords, concepts, themes and technical terms
- foster curiosity and ideas for exploration.

“...by seeing all the different genres of performing arts we can be inspired in our own journeys and works creation.”

Rachel
Port Augusta Secondary



A photograph of a man with a beard and a dark helmet. He is holding three white, textured balls in his hands. The background is a dark blue stage. On the right side of the image, there is a white text box containing a quote.

"I think that the Arts are important for young people in regional areas because they allow people to express themselves through art, as well as have a sense of belonging and community throughout."

Anonymous
Naracoorte High School

Education program

2026 Song Writing

MID NORTH

Term 1 - Week 2 - 11

Saltbush Country

Roxby Downs

Broken Hill

Term 1 - Week 5

Trophy Boys

Port Pirie

Term 2 - Week 5

Nunga Screen

Port Augusta

Port Pirie

Term 3 - Week 6

Whalebone

Port Pirie

Term 4 - Week 2

Stories in Song

Port Pirie

RIVERLAND & MURRAYLANDS

Term 2 - Week 5

Nunga Screen

Renmark

Term 3 - Week 7

Whalebone

Renmark

Term 4 - Week 2

Stories in Song

Renmark

Term 4 - Week 4 - 6

Finite Bounty

Renmark

EYRE PENINSULA

Term 1 - Week 6

Trophy Boys

Port Lincoln

Whyalla

Term 2 - Week 5

Nunga Screen

Whyalla

Port Lincoln

Term 2 - Week 6 & 7

A Concise Compendium of Wonder

- The Childhood of the World

- The Giant's Garden

- The Tree of Light

Whyalla

Term 3 - Week 7

Whalebone

Whyalla

Term 4 - Week 2

Stories in Song

Whyalla

LIMESTONE COAST

Term 1 - Week 1

Finite Bounty

Walkway Gallery

Bordertown

Term 1 - Week 7

Trophy Boys

Mount Gambier

Term 2 - Week 5 - 10

Finite Bounty

Naracoorte

Term 2 - Week 5

Nunga Screen

Mount Gambier

Term 3 - Week 8

Whalebone

Mount Gambier

Term 4 - Week 2

Stories in Song

Mount Gambier

ADELAIDE HILLS

Term 1 - Week 1 - 6

Woven within Stars: Regional Tarnanthi

Lobethal

Term 2 - Week 5

Nunga Screen

Murray Bridge

KANGAROO ISLAND

Term 3 - Week 5

Whalebone

Kingscote

BAROSSA & CLARE VALLEY

Term 3 - Week 3

Saltbush Country

Burra

Term 3 - Week 4 - 6

Finite Bounty

Kapunda



The Time is Now by Sandra Saunders
Photo: Sam Roberts

VISUAL ARTS

Saltbush Country

Tarnanthi & Art Gallery of South Australia

Saltbush Country provides a rare opportunity for audiences to experience the works and worldviews of Aboriginal women artists practicing independently in the state. In this statewide touring exhibition, seven regional artists tell stories of their culture, community and connection to Country.

Often personal and occasionally raw, their work reflects the world as seen through their eyes – a contemporary articulation of Aboriginal life in regional South Australia.

Quick reference:

Year Level guide:
Years 3-12

Learning Areas:
The Arts, Visual Arts

Locations:
Mount Gambier, Roxby Downs,
Broken Hill, Burra, Lobethal

Dates:
Terms 1 - 3



**Education resource
available**

Bookings: <https://www.countryarts.org.au/events/saltbush-country/>



Message Stick by Donny McKenzie

Photo: Alison Titchener

VISUAL ARTS

Woven

Within Stars

Tarnanthi & Art Gallery of South Australia

Woven within Stars considers how, from childhood, we carry stories that connect Country and Culture, then retell them as adults. Yet often as we age, the meanings of those stories develop, and we start to understand them differently. Their works speak to the power, resistance and resilience of First Nations communities.

Featuring new and existing works by nine First Nations artists from regional South Australia, including Roy Coulthard, Sonja (Jonas) Dare, Reginald Dodd, Patricia Fatt, Donny McKenzie, Regina McKenzie, Lavinia Richards, Jenna Richards and Vera Richards.

Bookings: <https://www.countryarts.org.au/events/woven-within-stars/>

Quick reference:

Year Level Guide:
Years 3-12

Learning Areas:
The Arts, Visual Arts

Locations:
Lobethal

Dates:
Term 1



Education resource available



The soul of my shoe, Dan Withey

VISUAL ARTS

Dan Withey: Finite Bounty

Presented by Country Arts SA

Finite Bounty is an exhibition of paintings by Adelaide-based artist Dan Withey exploring the theme of animism (the belief that objects, sacred places, animals, and natural phenomena possess a distinct spiritual essence).

His worlds are imbued with a magic that asks us to consider what unknown secrets a mountain or a flower or a spider's web might know that we don't. Visual metaphor, puns, and absurd scenes point to the strangeness of contemporary life, as a way for Withey to poke fun at his own existential angst through a humorous irreverent attitude.

Quick reference:

Year Levels:

Years R-12

Learning Areas:

The Arts, Visual Arts

Locations:

Bordertown, Naracoorte, Kapunda, Renmark

Dates:

Terms 1 - 4



Education resource available



Workshop available

Bookings: <https://www.countryarts.org.au/events/dan-withey-finite-bounty/>



The great weaver, Dan Withey



THEATRE

Whalebone

By Jens Altheimer

Whalebone is filled with eccentric contraptions, strange machinery and clunky inventions, including the world's first half-human juggling machine! Nestled in the mysterious 'Depository', meet a lone worker with a mission. In a world where AI and machines are going rogue and making more and more decisions for us, he tries to safeguard human stories, memories and emotions. Laugh out loud, gasp in awe, and let your imagination soar. Whalebone will ignite the curiosity of young aspiring inventors, as well as everyone who loves stories and wonders. It invites audiences to ponder the role of technology in our lives, sparking conversations about what really defines us as humans.

Quick reference:

Year Level Guide:

Years R-12

Learning Areas:

The Arts, English, Science, Design and Digital Technologies

Locations:

Port Pirie, Whyalla, Renmark, Mount Gambier, Noarlunga

Dates:

Term 3



Education resource available



Workshops available

Bookings: <https://www.countryarts.org.au/events/whalebone/>



THEATRE

Lose To Win

Belvoir St Theatre

From South Sudan to Egypt to our stage, this is the extraordinary journey of Mandela Mathia. Fleeing his war-torn home as a child, Mandela spent many years journeying, searching, and eventually finding his way to our stage. This is a joyful, poignant solo show, straight from the man who lived it.

A celebration of the South Sudanese community, of resilience, and the power of imagination, *Lose To Win* is an astonishing modern Australian story.

This performance contains includes references to death and violence, the use of strobe lighting, haze and loud sounds.

Special Schools Offer

Though there are no daytime performances, schools can receive discounted rates by emailing Country Arts SA directly at education@countryarts.org.au

Bookings: <https://www.countryarts.org.au/events/lose-to-win/>

Quick reference:

Year Level Guide:

Years 6-12

Learning Areas:

Theatre, Civics and Citizenship

Locations:

Renmark, Mount Gambier

Dates:

Term 2



THEATRE

Trophy Boys

State Theatre Company South Australia

It is the biggest night of Melbourne's high school academic calendar, the Grand Finale of the Year 12 Inter-school Debating Tournament. The all-boys team from the elite St Imperium college are ready to totally annihilate their sister school – until things take a dark turn...

Played in real-time as the St Imperium team prepare their case, Trophy Boys is a satire comedy about power, privilege and high school debating. Using a winning combination of satire and camp, Trophy Boys interrogates the well-documented toxic masculinity, misogyny and homophobia of our elite private boys' schools, and their prevalence in the backgrounds of those holding the highest offices in the country.

Bookings: <https://www.countryarts.org.au/events/trophy-boys/>

Quick reference:

Year Level Guide:

Years 10-12

Learning Areas:

The Arts, English, Humanities and Social Sciences

Locations:

Port Pirie, Port Lincoln, Whyalla, Mount Gambier

Dates:

Term 1



Education resource available



Photo: Ben Andrews



Photo: Alex Frayne

THEATRE

A Concise Compendium

of Wonder

Slingsby Theatre Company

Step inside The Wandering Hall of Possibility to discover a trio of imaginative worlds, each containing a timely and timeless tale. This compendium of new Australian stories, inspired by classic fairytales, intertwines to form an unforgettable triptych.

Experience each story individually or immerse yourself in an epic journey through the complete collection — all bound in one evolving wooden building that continually reveals new surprises.

Using Slingsby's internationally renowned theatre techniques — shadow, light-play, miniatures, and original music — this magical theatre experience will transport you through time and space on a voyage that explores humanity's shifting relationship with nature.

The recommended order to view the triptych is: The Childhood of the World, The Giant's Garden then The Tree of Light.

Bookings: <https://www.countryarts.org.au/events/the-childhood-of-the-world/>

Quick reference:

Year Level Guide:
Years 3-12

Learning Areas:
The Arts, English, Geography, Science, Civics and Citizenship

Locations:
Whyalla

Dates:
Term 2

 **Education resource available**

 **Workshops available**



The Childhood of the World



The Giant's Garden



The Tree of Light



MUSIC

Soundworks: Stories in Song

By Nathan May

Singer-songwriter Nathan May draws on country and folk influences to share songs that reflect on family, connection to country, and truth-telling. Violinist Julian Ferraretto teams up with May for the performance, and the night is opened by Katie Aspel.

Workshops with Nathan May, Julian Ferraretto, & Katie Aspel are offered as an incursion to schools. Further information on the details of the workshops is to be announced.

Teachers should note that there are no exclusive school performances for this show.

Bookings: <https://www.countryarts.org.au/events/soundworks-stories-in-song/>

Quick reference:

Year Level Guide:

Years 3-12

Learning Areas:

Music, English

Locations:

Renmark, Whyalla, Port Pirie

Dates:

Term 4



Workshop available



MUSIC

Skinny

By Michelle Pearson

Step into the absurd world of shakes, shapewear, and shifty surgeons. Society is obsessed with achieving the 'ideal' body size. Michelle Pearson, award winning vocalist and cabaret performer, calls time on this societal chokehold in her bod and empowering cabaret theatre piece, Skinny.

A masterful blend of storytelling and comedy, with a soundtrack from power ballads to reimagined pop songs.

Special Schools Offer

Though there are no daytime performances, schools can receive discounted rates by emailing Country Arts SA directly at education@countryarts.org.au

Quick reference:

Year Level Guide:

Years 6-12

Learning Areas:

Music, Theatre, Health and PE

Locations:

Port Pirie

Dates:

Term 2

Bookings: <https://www.countryarts.org.au/events/skinny/>



Photo: Anangu Way

FILM

Nunga Screen

Country Arts SA

2026 marks the 15th year of Nunga (formerly known as Black Screen) — a 90-minute short film program from First Nations filmmakers, screened annually during NAIDOC and Reconciliation Week.

Over the 15 years of Nunga Screen the event that screens across the state at cinemas, community halls and schools. Each year the event has seen remarkable growth.

Quick reference:

Year Level Guide:
Years R-12

Learning Areas:
Humanities and Social Sciences,
Media Arts

Locations:
Online

Dates:
Term 2

Bookings: <https://www.countryarts.org.au/discover/first-nations-program/nunga-screen/>



Education resource available



Photo: Anangu Way



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Cover artwork:
Co workers, Dan Withey