

MEDIA RELEASE

Monday, 28 July 2008



Regional Arts Funding Closes August 14

Applications for the Australian Government's Regional Arts Fund (NSW) close on Thursday August 14, 2008.

The Regional Arts Fund is one of the key funding sources for arts and cultural activities in regional, rural and remote communities of NSW. It supports arts and cultural activities that have long term cultural, economic and social benefits, promote partnerships and cultural networks, and provide skills development opportunities.

In 2008 the Central West received a record \$73,000 from the Regional Arts Fund. Projects supported include the experimental highland dance piece 'Needfire', which premiered at the Bathurst Memorial Entertainment Centre; Bathurst Theatre Company's YOUtheatre drama workshops in Oberon, Cullen Bullen and Lithgow; the new Bathurst Art and Health Program; Mitchell Conservatorium's Living Sound Festivals in Bathurst, Lithgow and Forbes; and Oberon Arts Council's Terrazzo Tapestry project which turned the Oberon Bicentennial Tapestries into large floor mosaics for the Oberon Common Rotunda.

Funding is available for projects commencing after 1 January 2009 in the categories of New Initiatives, Partnerships and Residencies & Mentorships. Multiple year funding and grants of more than \$20,000 per year are available but must be discussed with Regional Arts NSW prior to applying.

It is strongly recommended that applicants contact their local Arts Board, Arts OutWest, to discuss projects before applying.

For funding application details go to www.regionalartsnsw.com.au or call Regional Arts NSW on **9270 2502**. To discuss your application and project ideas contact Hannah Semler at Arts OutWest on **6338 4657**.

ENDS

*Released by Maryanne Jaques, Arts OutWest
Phone: 02 6338 4657 / email: artsoutwest@csu.edu.au*

Images (available at higher print size/ resolution):

File name: NEEDFIRE

Caption: 'Needfire', an exciting new dance project created by the Oz Scot Dancers and Bathurst's Local Stages program. Photo: Peter grumpet

File name: OBERON

Caption: The Oberon Community works on the Oberon Terrazzo Tapestries, large scale mosaics that will be installed at the Oberon Common. Photo: Oberon Arts Council