

A quarterly e-newsletter from Arts OutWest for those working in the Creative Industries in the Central West
issue 1 - March 2011

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What are the 'Creative Industries'?

The creative industries are the parts of our economy where creative skills are at the fore:

- visual arts, design and architecture
- film, TV and radio
- advertising and marketing
- music and performing arts
- writing, publishing and print media
- digital media
- heritage and culture
- community festivals and events.

See more on Arts OutWest's work in developing the Creative Industries at:
www.artsoutwest.org.au/projects/creative_industries.php

Hot connections at Speed Dating 4 Visual Artists



On Valentine's Day, 24 Central West and Orana region visual artists got a 'date' with 12 metropolitan and regional gallery directors. Artists from Bathurst, Canowindra, Geurie, Gilgandra, Mudgee, Dunedoo, Yetholme, Cumnock, Hill End, Blayney, Peel, Millthorpe and Dubbo were teamed up with directors Rex Irwin, Barry Keldoulis, Damien Minton, Charles Hewitt, Maria and Ray Aitken of Wentworth Galleries, Janet Clayton of Wilson Street Gallery plus the directors of Orange Regional Gallery, Bathurst Regional Gallery, Cowra Regional Gallery, Dubbo Regional Gallery, Jayes Gallery and Cudgegong Gallery.

It was a professional development opportunity for participants to present themselves as an artist, the get feedback from industry experts, and, for some, it has led to potential new exhibitions.

The event was presented by Arts Northern Rivers, in partnership with Arts OutWest, Orana Arts and Industry & Investment NSW.

Full story at: www.artsoutwest.org.au/news/aow_news.php

RECAP: Creative Industries Forum

Arts OutWest's ongoing focus on the Creative Industries brought experts from the Creative Industries Innovation Centre (CIIC) at UTS to Bathurst for a public forum in November 2010.

Tony Shannon and David Sharpe from CIIC also offered free one-on-one one-hour business consultations for 10 creative industries based businesses from the region. The feedback from participants in the consultations was that these were hugely valuable conversations that instigated new ideas and thoughts about how they run their businesses.

Businesses represented at the forum included graphic design, photography, textile design and production, music education, performance venues, architecture and creative metalwork from Bathurst, Lithgow, Orange, Cowra and Wellington.

Other presenters at the forum included Peter Morris, Business Advisor from the Bathurst regional branch of Enterprise Connect, Peter Simmons from the School of Communication and Creative Industries at Charles Sturt University and Ian Millis who is currently consulting Lithgow City Council on creative industries development.

This was the second annual Creative Industries forum hosted by Arts OutWest, 2009 guest was Marcus Westbury speaking about the Renew Newcastle project.

Image: Tracey Callinan (Arts OutWest), Tony Shannon (CIIC), Peter Simmons (CSU), Peter Morris (Enterprise Connect, Bathurst), Ian Millis (consultant) and David Sharpe (CIIC) at the forum in Bathurst.



Australia Council's 'Arts & Creative Industries' report

Australia should seek new and liberating ways to bring together the arts, popular culture and the creative industries, according to an Australia Council report on the Arts and creative industries.

The report, funded by the Australia Council for the Arts and prepared by Professor Justin O'Connor of the Creative Industries Faculty at Queensland University of Technology, looks at ways in which the policy relationship between these often polarised sectors of arts and creative industries might be re-thought and approached more productively. He suggests that there is no dividing line between publicly-funded arts, popular culture and the blossoming businesses of the creative sector – and national policy should reflect this.

Read the full report at: www.australiancouncil.gov.au/research/arts_sector/reports_and_publications/arts_and_creative_industries

Read a review of this report by Crikey: www.crikey.com.au/2011/02/04/the-arts-report-that-will-provoke-a-profound-shake-up-in-the-status-quo/

Mentorships

Through a small amount of funding from Arts Training NSW in 2010, Arts OutWest was able to offer three people involved in the arts from the Central West the opportunity to be mentored by an expert in their field.

The program began with the first three participants attending a training day with Tracey Callinan in Orange in November 2010. Aida Pottinger (Orange), Jane Bennie (Forbes) and Christine Weston (Cumnock) will now be

matched with industry mentors. The three mentees will also work as a kind of collegiate network, supporting each other.

The huge number of applications to this new mentorship program has encouraged Arts OutWest to seek further funding to run something similar in 2011. We'll keep you posted.

Whilst the funding for this first round of the program is small, it will cover costs such as the mentor's travel and some of the participant's travel costs as well as a fee for the mentor's time.

Read more at: www.artsoutwest.org.au/training/Mentorships.php



Creative Industries news

Georgeous cards from Hil End Press in T2 stores nationally from mid March.
<http://hillendpress.blogspot.com>

Any other news to share from your business? Email artsoutwest@csu.edu.au

Keep in the network: Keep the conversation going

How should a network of creative industries people work? What would it achieve? What are your needs? We'd love to hear your feedback. And thanks to those who have already put in their suggestions.

At the moment we plan to put out this newsletter 3 times a year – more frequently if things significantly ramp up – but it would be great to start and continue conversations across the region between like minded people, people experiencing the same challenges or exploring similar directions. Let us know your thoughts: artsoutwest@csu.edu.au

If you're not already receiving Arts OutWest e-alerts and the monthly Artspeak newsletter, subscribe to these via the front page of www.artsoutwest.org.au

Creative Industries links

Arts OutWest www.artsoutwest.org.au

Creative Industries Innovation Centre:

www.apo.org.au/research/creative-industries-innovation-centre-ciic

Renew Australia – the national movement that has grown from Renew Newcastle:

www.tacsi.org.au/renew-australia/

Arts OutWest | Promoting, facilitating, educating and advocating for arts and cultural development for Central West NSW

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