

Wednesday February 2, 2011

Minister to launch regional youth media program

A new regional youth media program will give young people opportunities to tell their stories and develop media skills.

NSW Minister for Disability Services, Ageing, Youth and Volunteering, **Peter Primrose MLC**, will officially launch Arts OutWest's regional youth media program at **11am on Wednesday February 9 in Bathurst.**

Minister Primrose will hand over a cheque for \$22,685 for the project from the NSW Government's Better Futures Enhancement Package. Local state Member of Parliament Gerard Martin will also attend the launch.

The new youth media program has emerged from Arts OutWest's Young Consultants, a team of young people established in 2010 to feed into the programming of the regional arts organisation.

"The Young Consultants project offers some really exciting prospects to young people right across the Central West region of NSW," said Arts OutWest's Youth Development Officer Zoe Rodwell.

"By linking young people with their local media and developing skills in film, radio, writing, social media and event management the Young Consultants project aims to promote a loud youth voice that will play an active role in shaping future community arts opportunities," Ms Rodwell said.

The launch will be held at 2MCE community radio station and the neighbouring Ponton Theatre on the Charles Sturt University Bathurst campus.

Arts NSW have also funded the project with a grant of \$27,055.

Throughout 2011 Arts OutWest will work with local media companies and outlets to set up workshops and opportunities for young people.

The Better Futures Enhancement Package funds areas of high need that support local community programs and engage young people in activities that help build social, communication and leadership skills.

Media event details

When: **Wednesday February 9**
Time: **11am sharp** (approx. 30 minute event)
Venue: **2MCE radio studio & Ponton Theatre, Charles Sturt University Bathurst**
(on Orchard Circuit, off Research Station Drive
Building N3 on map at www.artsoutwest.org.au/downloads/csu_bathurst.pdf)
Includes: Photo and interview opportunities
Short films by project partner Desert Pea Media
Tea, coffee and refreshments.

Media contact:
Communications Officer, Arts OutWest: Marianne Jaques
Youth Development Officer: Zoe Rodwell
Phone: 02 6338 4657
Email: artsoutwest@csu.edu.au