

MEDIA RELEASE



Friday December 3, 2010

Country Arts Support Program funding now available

Arts OutWest is encouraging local community groups with arts projects in mind to apply for the 2011 round of Country Arts Support Program funding.

The State Government's Country Arts Support Program (CASP) provides small grants to arts and community organisations in regional NSW for locally initiated projects.

Applications for 2011 funding close February 11, 2011.

"Whilst the pool of funding is a small one, the funds are a valuable way to kick start exciting local, on-the-ground arts projects," says Arts OutWest Executive Officer Tracey Callinan.

"The program aims to increase access for regional people to a diverse range of arts programs, for communities to work together to explore and express their cultural identities, and to bring social and economic benefits to the community through training, employment and promotion," says Ms Callinan.

CASP grants are for small amounts of money - typically \$500 to \$1500 - and are available primarily to cover professional artist's fees, travel and accommodation.

Some of the projects funded in the past have included drama workshops, community sculpture making classes, tours of local theatre shows, artist-in-residence programs, exhibitions and other local arts initiatives.

Groups in Central West NSW wishing to apply for the funding should read the guidelines carefully and *must* discuss their project with Arts OutWest before submitting an application.

The Country Arts Support Program of Regional Arts NSW is funded by the NSW Government through Arts NSW.

Download the funding criteria from www.regionalartsnsw.com.au/grants/grants.htm and contact Arts OutWest on 02 6338 4657 or email artsoutwest@csu.edu.au

**Closing date 11 February 2011
For projects starting on or after April 11, 2011**



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For a list of local projects funded by CASP in Central West NSW in 2009 and 2010 go to:

<http://www.artsoutwest.org.au/funding/CASP.php>