

Media Release

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3 pages (including full list of successful applicants)

Country Arts Support Program funds nine new local arts projects

The NSW government has announced \$16,088 in small projects funding to the Central West through the Country Arts Support Program (CASP).

Yet again there was a huge demand from the Central West region for the funding, with 22 applicants requesting more than \$42,000 in funds. Nine applications from the Central West region were successful in the 2011 round, with projects spread across the region.

CASP is a key regional arts funding program for NSW which provides support to employ artists in locally initiated arts and cultural projects. The aim is to provide access to arts activities for small communities, to encourage communities to work together on cultural projects, to foster cultural diversity in the region and to ensure that regional and rural areas have an artistic voice.

The grants of between \$200 and \$3000 are distributed by Regional Arts NSW.

Arts OutWest Executive Officer Tracey Callinan said “these nine diverse projects offer exciting new opportunities to communities, arts makers and audiences in the region. They also offer genuine employment opportunities to local artists and arts workers.”

Some of the projects receiving funding include:

- Miles Merrill poetry workshops and a poetry slam in Grenfell
- Community lantern workshops ahead of the new Kalari-Lachlan River Arts Festival in Forbes
- A ceramic workshop for clients of the O'Brien Centre in Orange
- Two projects in the Wellington area, including assistance towards The Man From Ironbark Festival at Stuart Town in April and a series of arts and crafts workshops ran over the six weeks leading up to the Wellington Show.

Other CASP funded activities will be held in Condobolin, Cowra, Yetholme and Parkes.

Across the state this year there were 176 applications received with a total request of over \$380,000. 134 grants were approved, and many of these were first-time applicants.

CASP is managed by Regional Arts NSW with Arts OutWest coordinating the application process locally in the Central West.

As the Regional Arts Board, Arts OutWest services the 12 local government areas of Bathurst Region, Blayney, Cabonne, Cowra, Forbes, Lachlan, Lithgow, Oberon, Orange, Parkes and Weddin and Wellington.

See the full list of all 134 NSW projects at www.regionalartsnsw.com.au

Successful 2011 Central West Country Arts Support Program projects

- \$1,500.00 to **Rogue Sculptors Group** for *Two Day Specialist Sculpture Skills Development Programme*. An intensive two-day workshop/symposium for members of Rogues Sculptors in the techniques of stone-carving conducted by experienced stone carver and educator Ken Hutchinson at his studio at Wattamondara, (Cowra). COWRA
- \$1,400.00 to **Bathurst Memorial Entertainment Centre (Bathurst Regional Council)** for the *Yetholme Arts Workshops*. Art, music and theatre workshops with artists Cate McCarthy, Kate Holmes and Keith Manning to be held in Yetholme. Workshop participants will be involved in the site-specific performance of 'On Becoming a Witch' in April 2011. YETHOLME
- \$2,980.00 to **Grenfell Henry Lawson Festival of Arts Inc** for *Miles Merrill Poetry Workshops and Poetry Slam*. Performance poet Miles Merrill will conduct workshops with primary and secondary school students as well as host the Poetry Slam at the annual Henry Lawson Festival of Arts in Grenfell. GRENFELL
- \$3,000.00 to **Central West Arts Group** for *Kalari-Lachlan Arts Festival Community Lantern Workshops*. Artist Jyllie Jackson, of Lismore's Lighten Up Inc, will facilitate 'train the trainer' lantern-making workshops in Forbes. Schools, community groups and individuals will be invited to create lanterns for the Lantern Parade at the inaugural Kalari-Lachlan Arts Festival in September. FORBES
- \$1,500.00 to **Parkes Under The Stars Inc.** for *Masterclasses for student Choral Group*. Professional soprano Helen Barnett will conduct four masterclasses in vocal technique with a group of students from combined Parkes schools. This choral group will perform Holst's 'Neptune: The mystic', with the Macquarie Philharmonia Orchestra and professional soloists at 'Opera at The Dish' in October 2011. PARKES
- \$3,000.00 to **The Papillon Foundation Ltd** for *Extensive Hidden Talent Unveiled Wellington Show 2011*. Series of arts and crafts workshops run in the six weeks leading up to the local Wellington Show, themed around the categories for the arts and crafts sections, targeting local children and teenagers and promoting entry of work into the Show. WELLINGTON
- \$708.00 to **Lachlan Arts Council** for *Lachlan Identity*. Forbes-based artist Jane Rennie will conduct four workshops throughout the year with a newly formed Condobolin art group to develop skills and produce artworks for local exhibitions. CONDOBOLIN

- \$1,500.00 to **Mid Western Consumer Advisory Group Inc** for *Fired Up – Moulds*. A ceramic instructor will be engaged to run a series of workshops with volunteers who run programs at the O'Brien Centre. ORANGE
- \$500.00 to **Stuart Town Advancement Association** for *The Man From Ironbark Festival*. Assistance towards arts and creative activities at The Man From Ironbark Festival in April 2011 which will promote the culture of the area and its historical connection with Banjo Paterson who wrote the poem 'The Man from Ironbark' when Stuart Town was known as Ironbark. STUART TOWN