



**MEDIA RELEASE**

*Monday May 9, 2011*

## **Arts OutWest congratulates local councils on winning cultural awards**

**Bathurst Regional, Cowra and Parkes councils are amongst 17 local governments to win at the 2011 Local Government Cultural Awards.**

The annual awards were announced in Sydney on Friday night (May 6).

More than 100 projects across 54 councils were nominated for the annual awards - organised by the Local Government and Shires Associations of NSW.

In the Programs, Projects and Partnerships category, both Cowra Shire Council and Bathurst Regional Council were winners in their divisions.

Cowra Shire Council won for the Shibori Textiles Residency and Exhibition at Cowra Regional Art Gallery. The project consisted of a residency/workshop and survey exhibition of Shibori textiles by Sydney based textile artist and tutor Barbara Schey. The residency/workshop component included the artist presenting workshops at two local high schools and a two day adults workshop.

Bathurst Regional Council won for the innovative Scattered Bones project. The project at the Australian Fossil and Mineral Museum connects classrooms using video conference technology to deliver dinosaur themed writing workshops to regionally isolated schools across NSW. It is a fun and interactive combination of palaeontology and creative narrative writing using the spectacular Somerville Collection and hosted by Paul Stafford, author and literacy consultant.

Parkes Shire Council won their division in the Cultural Infrastructure category for the Henry Parkes Centre.

The Henry Parkes Centre, a cultural tourism precinct incorporating the Parkes Visitor Information Centre and four collections including The King's Castle Elvis Exhibit, Parkes Motor Museum, Parkes Museum and Antique Machinery collection, was completed and opened in 2010.

Orange and Forbes councils were also in the running for awards.

For details about individual council projects, please visit the 2011 Local Government Cultural Awards website, <http://culturalawards2011.lgsa.org.au>.

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## **Winning councils in the Central West: 2011 Local Government Cultural Awards**

Division A: population less than 20,000

Division B: population 20,000 - 60,000

Division C: population over 60,000

### **Cultural Infrastructure:**

#### **Division A - Winner**

Parkes Shire Council - Henry Parkes Centre

### **Programs Projects and Partnerships:**

#### **Division A - Winner**

Cowra Shire Council - Shibori Textiles Residency and Exhibition

#### **Division B - Winner**

Bathurst Regional Council - Scattered Bones