

MEDIA RELEASE



Thursday November 17, 2011

2012 Country Arts Support Program funding open

Arts OutWest is encouraging local community groups with arts projects in mind to apply for the 2012 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 10, 2012,

"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 <http://www.regionalartsnsw.com.au/grants/casp.html> and contact Arts OutWest on 02 6338 4657 or email artsoutwest@csu.edu.au

Closing date 10 February 2012

For projects occurring between April 9, 2012 and April 7, 2013.



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Media contact:

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Tracey will be available for media interviews from Monday November 21

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For a list of local projects funded by CASP in Central West NSW in 2009, 2010 and 2011 go to:

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