

MEDIA RELEASE

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Regional WA gets a creative boost through the legacy arts grants

Country Arts WA is excited to announce the final six recipients of the Regional Arts Legacy Grants (RALG) for 2017.

More than \$173,000 will be invested into arts projects and programs over the next two years in the regions of the Kimberley, South West and Goldfields-Esperance.

A total of 16 submissions were received from across seven WA regions requesting a total of \$622,973.

RALG is made possible by the State Governments' Royalties for Regions Creative Regions \$24 million investment in culture and the arts.

Country Arts WA announced today that the following arts organisations and artists would receive funding from the 2017 RALG round:

- **Kimberley Aboriginal Law and Cultural Centre (KALACC)** will receive \$35,000 for its program of culture camps. The program centres on intergenerational transference of cultural knowledge around 'wangga' cultural performance through dance and song, at the Tjurabalan remote desert country in East Kimberley. The outcomes of the program will be performed at the upcoming 2017 KALACC and Mowanjum Festivals.
- **Puranyangu-Rangka Kerrem Aboriginal Corp** in the Kimberley will receive \$20,500 to bring a music producer to Halls Creek for a series of music events with local bands as the headline act. The bands' performances will be filmed and live audio tracks produced.
- **Waringarri Aboriginal Arts** in the Kimberley will receive a grant of \$23,960 for community engagement initiatives in the remote community of Kalumburu. The Kira Kiro Arts Legacy Project will deliver a series of community engagement activities, skills development workshops and targeted arts-worker training.
- **Sculptor Alex Mickle** from the South West will receive \$48,750 over two years. The grant is for creative, technical and professional development including the creation of 12 new medium scale sculptures and the establishment of a working relationship with a new foundry in Jakarta.
- **Laverton Leonora Cross Cultural Association (LLCCA)** in the Goldfields-Esperance region will receive \$33,300. LLCCA will employ a Music Project Facilitator to develop and facilitate music projects in Laverton and surrounding communities.

- **Esperance Community Arts**, also in the Goldfields-Esperance region, will receive \$12,358 for the development of a three-year year strategic plan, a one year marketing plan, governance training, re-branding and development of policies and procedures to increase sustainability and maximise effectiveness of the peak arts body in Esperance

Country Arts WA's Executive Director Paul MacPhail said the Regional Arts Legacy Grants had built vital capacity within WA's regional centres, increasing social and cultural activity and contributed significantly to the wellbeing and resilience of remote communities.

"Since 2015, the RALG program has injected more than 2 million dollars into regional organisations and projects, creating hundreds of employment opportunities for artists and arts workers right across the State," Mr MacPhail said."

"RALG has benefited every region of WA with more than 30 individuals, arts organisations and projects from the Kimberley to Great Southern regions."

"Royalties for Regions funded Creative Regions Program has delivered real and measurable results with a significant increase in the number of participants and audiences involved in regional arts projects and programs, ensuring regional communities are creative, vibrant places to live."

"There is a demonstrable need for continued and ongoing funding so we can continue to build on the great results achieved so far and further nurture the wealth of creativity and unmet need within our regions, as evidenced by the consistently high number of applications received for each RALG funding round."

Mr MacPhail said initiatives like RALG were made possible through successful partnerships with State Government through the Department of Culture and the Arts and Department of Regional Development.

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Department of **Culture and the Arts**
 Department of **Regional Development**



SUPPORTING MATERIAL

Royalties for Region Creative Regions - Regional Arts Legacy Grants Successful Recipients

Kimberley Aboriginal Law and Cultural Centre | \$35,000 (Kimberley)

The program centres on intergenerational transference of cultural knowledge around 'wangga' (cultural performance through dance and song) at the Tjurabalan, remote desert country in East Kimberley. At the camps, to be held on-country in the right context, young people will learn from old. The outcomes of the program will be performed at the upcoming 2017 KALACC and Mowanjum Festivals.

Puranyangu-Rangka Kerrem Aboriginal Corp | \$20,500 (Kimberley)

The organisation will be bringing a music producer to Halls Creek for a series of music events with local bands as the headline act. The band's performances will be filmed and live audio tracks produced. The events will be a platform for music development in a social context in collaboration with local organisations.

Waringarri Aboriginal Arts | \$23,960 (Kimberley)

Community engagement initiatives in the remote community of Kalumburu like the Kira Kiro Arts Legacy Project will deliver a series of community engagement activities, skills development workshops and targeted arts-worker training underpinned by a key strategy to enable community re-engagement with cultural materials. Project funds will contribute to facilitator travel costs and fees.

Sculptor Alex Mickle | \$48,750 (South West)

The grant is for Creative, Technical and Professional Development including a review and assessment of existing body of work; studio-based experimentation & concept development; foundry and engineering collaboration focusing on new process; the creation of 12 new medium scale sculptures; establishment of a working relationship with a new foundry (Jakarta); and creation of a website for networking purposes.

Laverton Leonora Cross Cultural Association | \$33,300 (Goldfields-Esperance)

The Laverton Leonora Cross Cultural Association's (LLCCA) will create role for a Music Project Facilitator Position to develop and facilitate music projects in Laverton and surrounding communities. Seven days per month will be allocated to this role; duties including music skills trainer, community liaison, program delivery, equipment maintenance, and administration.

Esperance Community Arts | \$12,358 (Goldfields-Esperance)

For the development of a three-year strategic plan, a one year marketing plan, governance training, re-branding and development of policies and procedures to increase sustainability and maximise effectiveness of the peak arts body in Esperance – in response to the outcomes of the 2016 Esperance Arts Review, conducted in 2016.

Gascoyne in May | \$105,000 (Gascoyne)

Established in 2010, *Gascoyne in May* is a circuit of festivals held on consecutive weekends across the region. It includes Burringurrah Festival of Fire, Barefoot Black Tie (Denham), Gascoyne River Music Festival (Gascoyne Junction), Festival of the Reef (Coral Bay), Ningaloo Whaleshark Festival (Exmouth) and TropiCOOL Festival (Carnarvon). It is coordinated by Gascoyne In May Inc, who is dedicated to developing the capacity, resources and infrastructure required to deliver a sustainable, dynamic festival culture unique to the Gascoyne region. Mostly free to attend, each festival is

themed to reflect its diverse and individual locations; each celebrating and sharing local culture in their own Gascoyne style. The funding will secure an Executive Officer and Artistic Director for the *Gascoyne in May* for the next three years.

Wilurarra Creative | \$130,500 (Goldfields-Esperance)

Wilurarra Creative will employ a Project Manager for three years to establish *Alanya Projects*, as a creative industry stream of Wilurarra Creative. Through professionally facilitated practice-based workshops, *Alanya Projects* will enable a new, contemporary expression of Ngaanyatjarra youth culture. The projects will fuse tradition and technology; through digital fine arts, photography, illustration and design. The legacy will continue through a new creative enterprise; providing a space for young Ngaanyatjarra artists to produce and promote contemporary creative works.

Tjuma Pulka Media Aboriginal Corporation | \$170,808 (Goldfields-Esperance)

The Creative Producer will implement priorities from the Goldfields-Esperance Arts and Culture Framework, along with recommendations from the Artful Leadership group, in collaboration with stakeholders, cultural institutions, and artists to engage in an interactive, creative process of developing and maintaining an annual *Karlkurla Festival* over 2016-2019 for the region, which extends to Tjuntjuntjara in the east and the Ngaanyatjarra Lands in the far-east of the state.

Laverton Leonora Cross Cultural Association Inc | \$24,030 (Goldfields-Esperance)

This project builds on the LA Unplugged program piloted January-June 2016; a Laverton-based program exploring, practicing and pursuing music aspirations. Committed musicians will develop further professional skills; making music videos; connecting with WAM (West Australian Music); and travel to Kalgoorlie for recording at Tjuma Pulka Media Aboriginal Corporation.

Esperance Community Arts | \$20,000 (Goldfield-Esperance)

Esperance Community Arts and key stakeholders will review arts funding; governance and service delivery; including arts programming, human resources and built infrastructure; in Esperance in order to establish a plan to support current and long-term arts and cultural activities within the region.

Southern Edge Arts | \$104,000 (Great Southern)

Southern Edge Arts (SEA) will devise and implement community cultural development, and youth at risk engagement programs; through the re-establishment of a strong administrative team that secures a three-year contracted Artistic Director and General Manager to deliver SEA's core programs and new directions program. SEA received funding for the first two years of *New Directions*, a three-year project.

Annette Carmichael | \$29,000 (Great Southern)

Funding will be provided for year one of a four-part project extending over 2016-2019, created by choreographer Annette Carmichael and local artists within the Great Southern, *The Beauty Index*. Within a context of unpredictable violence and acts of terrorism what role does beauty play? Can moments of profound and extraordinary beauty counter the extremities of human behaviour?

Theatre Kimberley | \$110,000 (Kimberley)

Theatre Kimberley has been in operation for 20 years, providing quality theatre programs to the remote and very remote Kimberley region of Western Australia. Long-term Chief Executive Officer/Artistic Director will finish-up at the end of 2016. The funding will assist in succession

planning and the continuous provision of programs ensuring a seamless transition period. *The Last Hurrah* will be funded for two years, of a three-year project.

Marrugeku | \$64,000 (Kimberley)

One year of funding will be provided for *Watch this Space*, a three-year mentorship program for emerging artistic leaders in remote Western Australian communities. The program includes local and international trans-Indigenous choreographic exchange in Broome, Fitzroy Crossing, Nouméa New Caledonia, and Toronto Canada; along with master-classes and new works for participants produced by Marrugeku.

Bundiyarra Aboriginal Community Aboriginal Corporation | \$38,750 (Mid West)

Nganang Badimaya Wangga: Stories by Uncle Ollie George, the last living fluent-speaker of the Badimaya language, is a collaborative project encompassing literature, visual arts and filmmaking. Outcomes of the project will include the publication of a book and short films/documentary, culminating in an art exhibition, film screening and book launch.

Juluwarlu Group Aboriginal Corporation | \$25,000 (Pilbara)

Juluwarlu will create a new custom-built, multi-purpose website that promotes and extends community, along with national and international access to their Yindjibarndi Cultural Archive and Research; their many bi-lingual cultural and environmental publications, documentaries and language learning resources; fresh digital-media stories, and Nyinyart Yinda inter-cultural arts exchange practices and outcomes.

Southern Forest Arts | \$20,000 over two years (South West)

The intent of the organisation is to explore and celebrate contemporary identity and the unique environmental, social and cultural heritage of the Southern Forest region through a range of cultural activities. The funds have contributed to projects such as: *Rising from the Ashes* a long-term project throughout 2016 with artist Kim Perrier for the communities of Northcliffe and Windy Harbour in commemoration of the 2015 bush fire; and hosting launch of the novel *Bloodlines* by local writer Nicole Sinclair.

Arts and Cultural Development Council (ACDC) | \$70,000 over two years (Mid West)

ACDC is dedicated to promoting, facilitating and supporting community engagement in the arts and cultural events. Through the funds they have delivered: *Repentance of the Easily Amused*, an endurance dance performance by two visiting American artists; exhibition *Double Disillusion* featuring politically related work from 12 Geraldton artists; four events during Festivals on the Foreshore 2016 which saw the emergence of *Hard Pressed* an experimental community woodcut print project.

Community First International | \$40,000 over two years (Peel)

Through the organisations Ability Arts program for those living with disability to enable them to socially engage with friends and community, the funds have been utilised towards Community First's Poles Apart Theatre Community presenting a season of *The Good, the Bad and the Ugly*; and the inclusion of work from artists in the pottery program into Contemporary Art Space Mandurah's annual Tiny Treasure Exhibition.

Beverley Station Arts | \$10,000 over one-year (Wheatbelt)

The organisation provides the opportunity for the community and regional neighbours to enjoy the arts in an active and immediate manner that would otherwise not be accessible. Without these

funds they would be severely handicapped in providing: the annual artist-in-residence program which delivers visual arts workshops; and the summer season program at the Platform Theatre.

Boddington Community Resource Centre | \$10,000 over one-year (Peel)

The Centre is committed to creating a sustainable community centre which provides quality opportunities for all users. The funds have supported the following in their annual program: Kidz Art Club school holiday program; presenting *Trash Test Dummies* with Country Arts WA; and Friday Night Festival featuring a street parade, rides, music and food.

Kambalda Cultural and Arts Group | \$10,000 over one-year (Goldfields-Esperance)

The Group endeavours to stimulate creative and cultural interest in the town, with particular focus on growing community spirit and pride, and encouraging cultural tourism. With the injection of the funds the organisation was able to provide pottery workshops with tutor Len Harmalin travelling from Kalgoorlie; and continue the Unity Mural Project to stage two.

Northampton Old School Community Initiative* | \$40,000 over four years (Mid West)

These funds have enabled the organisation to deliver a range of arts and cultural projects with strong Indigenous ownership. Among them: *Tulips and Everlasting Unity* installation at the Kalbarri Zest Festival 2016; Nhanda Message Sticks installation for the Welcome to Country for Kalbarri Zest Festival; and junior artists and the womens' textile team participating in a painting workshop with Helen Ansell and Peta Riley of Mulla Mulla Designs.

Vancouver Arts Centre* | \$52,000 over four years (Great Southern)

The art centre's program allows for participation in the arts for people of all ages and creative ability. With the assistance of the funding program they have made available to their community through the annual program events such as: The Futures Project, a contemporary theatre development project, connected a scriptwriter with local artists; The Big Draw Festival 2016 delivered a range of drawing and arts activities for the school holidays; and partnered with FORM WA to deliver professional development for artists engaged in the development of public art

Country Music Club of Boyup Brook* | \$40,000 over four years (South West)

The Club is recognised for organising one of the top four country music festivals in Australia. But in addition, the organisation provides a program of events covering diverse art-forms. Some of their activities include: Country Music Bootcamp for regular and advanced musicians, singers and songwriters; partnering with the local Community Resource Centre to hold *Boyup's Got Talent*; delivered *Under a Chandelier of Stars*, a five-day festival in the township of Boyup Brook.

Denmark Arts Council* | \$146,816 over four years (Great Southern)

The Council's overarching commitment is the arts belong with everyone, and they work diligently to foster strong community participation. To this end the following provide examples of events in which the funds have been utilised: performance *Living Testament* part of Brave New Works #23 3-6 November 2016, which was the outcome of a two-year community process; and Denmark Festival of Voice 2016 featuring two interstate choirs *Central Australian Aboriginal Women's Choir* and *Poco Tutti*.

Theatre Kimberley* | \$120,000 over four years (Kimberley)

The organisation uses arts as a platform to teach highly transferable skills to help improve the lives of the whole-of-Kimberley community, and these funds assist them to make it happen. Throughout their annual program are the common threads of sharing local stories, such as *Worn Art Revamped*:

Poppy Child of the Lane; and providing a supportive environment for young people to participate through remote outreach, regular theatre, dance, and circus training via the Sandfly Circus.

Esperance Community Arts* | \$146,816 over four years (Goldfields-Esperance)

The organisation supports community development through arts participation by working in partnership with individuals, community agencies, business and government to ensure availability of multiple art-forms. The funds assist the organisation to deliver projects such as: Esperance Song-writing to Recording Project featuring 20 local musicians and songwriters; Act-Belong-Commit Hip Hop Project with Indigenous artists; and the Nyungar Doll-Making project with local Noongar artists.

Ravensthorpe Regional Arts Council* | \$100,000 over four years (Goldfields-Esperance) The Council's purpose is to develop arts and cultural initiatives by, for and with the community, its artists, and arts and cultural groups. This is evident in the community driven *Rags to Riches* project and the *Tepees of Hope: The Mystery Community Project* involving the donation of a once-loved piece of fabric. The funds greatly assist the organisation to continue to provide such opportunities.

Arts Narrogin* | \$116,000 over four years (Wheatbelt)

The inaugural exhibition from the Carol and Peter Taylor collection, *Landscapes from a Locked Room*; presenting *Trash Test Dummies* with Country Arts WA; and partnering with Vancouver Arts Centre to bring the *Bella Kelly Retrospective* exhibition to their community, are examples of the events the organisation makes possible in the Narrogin regional community. The funds allow these opportunities.

Arts Margaret River* | \$78,412 over four years (South West)

The organisation delivers an annual program encompassing multi-art-forms for all sectors of the resident community, with the funds contributing to present events such as: *Aboriginal Comedy All Stars* performance and workshop; the annual Margaret River Readers & Writers Festival; and *The Moon's a Balloon* by Patch Theatre Company SA.

Exmouth Cultural Arts Centre* | \$40,000 over four years (Gascoyne)

The Centre positions itself as a peak body for arts and cultural development in the Exmouth region, and as such provides opportunities to attend painting workshops delivered by artist Leon Holmes; along with community focused activities such as *Yarn Bomb* where ball after ball was knitted and crocheted to transform Federation Park into a woolly wonderland.

Nannup Music Club* | \$40,000 over four years (South West)

As an organisation that delivers music focused arts-based events annually the funds are a welcome addition to enable the delivery of the annual Nannup Music Festival in March; along with participation in the *Nannup Flower & Garden Festival*; and workshops available through their artist-in-residence program.

**Organisations also in receipt of the Core Arts Fund which is supported by the State Government through the Department of Culture and the Arts and Lotterywest.*

About Country Arts WA

Country Arts WA is an independent, not-for-profit, membership based organisation. The role of Country Arts WA is to build creativity, capacity and connection in and between regional communities to further develop Western Australia's regional arts sector. Country Arts WA works with all nine regions to ensure arts and culture is woven into the fabric of life in every regional community in Western Australia. www.countryartswa.asn.au