

**MEDIA RELEASE****3 January 2018****Five Regional WA Organisations Receive Federal Funding**

*The Australian Government's Regional Arts Fund will provide more than \$113,000 for regional Western Australian arts projects; this funding is managed in Western Australia by Country Arts WA.*

The crucial injection of arts funding will be delivered in regional and remote Western Australian locations transforming community lives in the Kimberley, South-West, Wheatbelt, Goldfields-Esperance, and Pilbara regions.

The Regional Arts Fund will support a total of five community-based projects and provide job opportunities for an estimated 177 artists in paid work and bring in an estimated audience of over 35,000 people.

The projects funded celebrate local regional artists, Indigenous arts, professional development opportunities, and arts activities whilst promoting community connections and collaborations.

Country Arts WA's Executive Director Paul MacPhail says, "The funded projects in this latest round demonstrate the value of partnerships for regional community arts projects. The ability of arts projects to create connections and collaborations is apparent, from the state-wide network involved in Southern Forest Art's *Connect the Creative Grid* to the investment of local businesses in Kalgoorlie-Boulder's *Heartwalk* project."

The applications are selected by a panel of arts and culture community leaders, Chair of the Regional Arts Fund WA Panel Alex Mickle says "This was a very competitive round, and due to the high demand, many deserving projects were unable to be funded this time. The hard work of all applicants and their ongoing commitment to their arts practice is to be commended, and congratulations are extended to those successful applications which met the criteria to a very high degree."

The Regional Arts Fund is one way the Australian Government supports regional artists and arts organisations to develop their artistic practice and produce works and experiences to benefit their local communities. The Regional Arts Fund is administered on behalf of the Australian Government by Regional Arts Australia and its member organisations which include Country Arts WA.

Country Arts WA offers a variety of funding programs to support regional arts projects across Western Australia. For more information, visit [www.countryartswa.asn.au](http://www.countryartswa.asn.au) or call regional freecall 1800 811 883.

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## Media Contact

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## SUPPORT MATERIAL

### PROJECT FUND SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS

#### **Artgold | \$24,000 | Goldfields-Esperance**

##### ***Heartwalk 2018: Art in the Heart of the Kalgoorlie CBD***

*Heartwalk* is a week-long mural festival in the heart of the Kalgoorlie-Boulder community, engaging local, visiting and Indigenous professional artists to transform blank walls and empty shop windows into works of public art. *Heartwalk 2018* will run from 30th April - 5th May 2018, transforming the struggling CBD into a vibrant arts and cultural precinct. Festivities will include workshops, an artist Q&A night, a community colour-in mural, free walking tours, and a ticketed finale celebration in a reactivated urban space.

#### **Marrugeku | \$21,113 | Kimberley**

##### ***Ngarlimbah***

*Ngarlimbah* (You are as much a part of me as I am of you) is a spoken word, dance and animated video work conceived by Walmajarri/Nyikina painter and poet, Edwin Lee Mulligan and created in collaboration with award-winning new media artist Sohan Ariel Hayes. *Ngarlimbah* is the essence of reciprocity, expressing the interconnected nature of human, spirit and environmental realms. *Ngarlimbah* is also about Indigenous cultural reciprocity that embodies notions of reconciliation. This funding will support the final rehearsal, animation and design development of *Ngarlimbah* and presentation of the world-premiere in Perth and Broome.

#### **Southern Forest Arts | \$30,000 | South West**

##### ***Connect the Creative Grid***

*Connect to the Creative Grid* is the pilot project of an unprecedented collaboration between forty WA regional arts organisations, eight Peak Arts service organisations and one industry advocacy body to build capacity across the regional visual arts sector. The project focuses upon the development of diverse, inclusive and expanded audiences for artists, arts-workers and organisations and active engagement of communities. The project enhances social, cultural and economic vibrancy in regional communities by increasing choice and availability of arts and cultural activity, industry networking and professional development. This funding will support 70 mentorships within the overall project.

#### **Shire of East Pilbara | \$11,250 | Pilbara**

##### ***New Arts and Culture Programming for the East Pilbara Community***

The Shire of East Pilbara aims to extend active community involvement in local arts programs by creating a calendar of arts and cultural programs in which the general community can participate, learn new skills and strengthen friendship circles. Partnering with Martumili Artists and building on the existing *Art at the Heart* contemporary arts program, the 2018 program will offer five workshops encompassing felting, traditional Martu basket weaving, screen printing and cloth dyeing.

## **Shire of Perenjori | \$27,150 | Wheatbelt**

### ***Flash Flock***

Flash Flock is a large scale community engagement project designed to inspire, up-skill, empower and bond the communities of Perenjori and surrounds. The project will feature the creation of a number of artworks designed by community members, including a young producers clinic creating a short film festival, curating an in situ visual art exhibition & festival set design and production, children's circus performance, Hip Hop song writing workshops, swing dance workshops, sculpture making and more - all culminating in a free community celebration at Charles Darwin Reserve at the Blues for the Bush Open Day 2018.

### **ABOUT COUNTRY ARTS WA**

Country Arts WA is an independent not-for-profit organisation governed by our regional membership as the only arts body with a state-wide arts and cultural brief driven by the needs of all regional communities in Western Australia. We build the creativity, connection and capacity of these regional communities to further develop WA's regional arts sector to be even more diverse, sustainable, relevant, and celebrated.

Our services are aimed at coordinating and linking the regional arts sector in a state-wide network of upskilled and resourced artists and organisations sharing their collective and individual success to lead WA's narrative.

[www.countryartswa.asn.au](http://www.countryartswa.asn.au)

The Australian Government's Regional Arts Fund is provided through Regional Arts Australia



**Australian Government**  
**Regional Arts Fund**