

MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday 11 February 2021

Regional communities generating Creative Leaders across WA

After a successful run of the Creative Leadership Program in Port Hedland and Tom Price last year, Regional Arts WA, through the Regional Arts Network initiative, continues to deliver this empowering hands-on program across regional WA in 2021.

Regional Arts WA has collaborated with registered psychologist Dr Shona Erskine, to design the Creative Leadership program in response to feedback from regional artists and arts workers who are seeking leadership development in regional communities.

This year, the much-anticipated Creative Leadership Program will kick off in Busselton, hosted by local Hub organisation, Creative Corner. The program will be presented in the ArtGeo Cultural Complex, a unique heritage precinct in the centre of Busselton which has been provided by the City of Busselton.

Stuart McMillan, Creative Corner Hub Manager says the opportunity will support community leaders of all backgrounds to work together to produce creative solutions, "We are very excited to be able to offer the Creative Leadership Program to our South West community, with the support of City of Busselton.

Creative thinking is a valuable skill for those working in any kind of industry. For our region to thrive, we understand that these skills are vital to work together and build a stronger, more vibrant community."

Creative Leadership Program – March and April dates:

- **Busselton (South West)** Tuesday 9 March and Wednesday 10 March 2021, 9am – 4pm each day at ArtGeo.
[Further details and bookings here.](#) Hosted by local Hub, [Creative Corner](#).
- **Hopetoun (Goldfields-Esperance)** Tuesday 23 March and Wednesday 24 March 2021, 9am – 4pm each day.
Further details and bookings to come. Hosted by local Hub, [Rave About Arts](#).
- **Geraldton (Mid West)** Tuesday 13 April and Wednesday 14 April 2021, 9am – 4pm each day.
Venue TBC.
[Further details and bookings here.](#) Hosted by the North Midland Project, through [MID WEST ARTS](#).

For more information, please head to www.regionalartswa.org.au/programs/creative-leadership-program/

End.

Media Contact

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Australian Government
Regional Arts Fund



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About Regional Arts WA

Established in 1994, Regional Arts WA (formerly Country Arts WA) is the state's only multi-arts organisation with a purely regional focus. As an independent, membership-based, not-for-profit organisation our purpose is to celebrate and strengthen a powerful regional arts sector to contribute to connected and creative regional communities. www.regionalartswa.org.au

About the Regional Arts Network

The Creative Leadership program is part of the [Regional Arts Network](#) - proudly supported by the Minderoo Foundation and The Ian Potter Foundation, and with funding from the Australian Government's Regional Arts Fund.

Looking to change the way the regional arts sector talk to each other, Regional Arts WA has partnered with strategically aligned local organisations to grow a Network of Hubs across the state. The Hubs themselves engage and respond directly to their local communities by providing on-ground support for their needs. Their role is to increase local decision making, strengthening relationships with local governments and stakeholders, whilst seeking development opportunities for artists and arts workers within their communities.

About Creative Corner

Creative Corner is the peak body for creative industries in the South West. Connecting individuals, community, organisations, and businesses, to services, events, and opportunity within and outside the region.

www.thecreativecorner.com.au

About Rave About Arts

Formerly known as the Ravensthorpe Regional Arts Council (RRAC), Rave About Arts is a not-for-profit organisation that builds excellence through artistic programming for vibrant liveability and wellbeing across their region. They have a thirty-year presenting history, with the reputation of presenting high quality events, encouraging the development of audiences and participation, at the same time building community cohesion and identity.

<http://www.raveaboutarts.com>

About MID WEST ARTS

MID WEST ARTS provide connections and resources to build capacity in the creative industries in Western Australia's Mid West region. Initiatives are designed to empower strong, connected, and creative communities. MID WEST ARTS is an outcome of North Midlands Project and The Geraldton Project, who work to strengthen regional communities through high-quality and engaging arts, culture, and heritage experiences.

www.midwestarts.org.au

About Dr Shona Erskine

Dr Shona Erskine is a registered psychologist in private practice. She is a graduate of the Victorian College of the Arts and retrained as a psychologist through Deakin University and The University of Melbourne following an extensive career as a contemporary dancer.

Shona has expertise in delivering psychology for performing artists through professional companies, universities, and in private practice. Dr Erskine has developed curriculum in areas of mental wellbeing and creativity with interest in disseminating best practice models to performing artists, teachers, and directors.

Shona has dedicated her work as an organisational psychologist to understanding creativity and innovation. She leads workshops on the neuropsychology of creative practice and runs facilitation processes that attend to complexity and perspective. In particular, she coaches artists and directors in thinking processes for their artistic endeavours.

www.shonaerskine.com

About Regional Arts Fund

The Australian Government's Regional Arts Fund supports sustainable cultural development in regional and remote communities. This program is managed by Regional Arts Australia and, in Western Australia, by Regional Arts WA. The program provides funding for grants, including quick response and community grants for arts projects, professional development for artists and arts workers, and community capacity building projects.

www.arts.gov.au/funding-and-support/regional-arts-fund

About Minderoo Foundation

Established by Andrew and Nicola Forrest in 2001, Minderoo Foundation is a modern philanthropic organisation seeking to break down barriers, innovate and drive positive, lasting change. Minderoo Foundation is proudly Australian, with key initiatives spanning from ocean research and ending slavery, to collaboration in cancer and community projects.

www.minderoo.com.au

About The Ian Potter Foundation

The Ian Potter Foundation is one of Australia's major philanthropic foundations. The Foundation makes grants nationally to support charitable organisations working to benefit the community across a wide range of sectors including the arts, environment, science, medical research, health, education and community wellbeing. The Ian Potter Foundation aims to support and promote a vibrant, healthy, fair and sustainable Australia.

www.ianpotter.org.au