

MEDIA RELEASE

27 April 2021

Regional Arts Network launches state-driven residency and touring project

Regional Arts WA is proud to see a major milestone for its Regional Arts Network initiative through the development of a new Residency and Touring Project, *Ebb+Flow*.

Ebb+Flow will see ten artists from across each of the WA regions undertake a four-week residency with North Midlands Project in Carnamah (Mid West) to deliver community workshops and a solo exhibition.

Regional Arts WA CEO Paul MacPhail is excited to see the Network drive such a large-scale program that spans over a three year framework.

“The Regional Arts Network has given organisations from all corners of the State the ability to work together to strengthen the regional arts sector. This particular collaborative project will result in over 130 activities activating the arts and culture of regional communities. We can’t wait to see the culmination of these activities driven by our Regional Arts Network, whose role is to connect, collaborate and share information through mechanisms such the Network Residency and Touring Project.”

Residency artists will explore the theme of *Ebb+Flow* with the community, including how periods of decline and growth, drought and rain, hardship and prosperity are all factors that ebb and flow in the regions.

Artists involved in the project include multi-artform artist Lynda Howitt from the Mid West region, writer Sarah-Jayne Eeles from the Goldfields and photographer Martine Perret from the South West.

Ebb+Flow artist Martine Perret says her residency has been a rewarding experience.

“In the wake of the global pandemic and recent environmental disasters across WA, the theme of ebb and flow is more relevant now than it ever has been. It is an honour to be part of this State-wide program and to connect with the North Midlands community during this time.”

The *Ebb+Flow* project has been made possible by a grant awarded to North Midlands Project by the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries and Lotterywest Creative Communities COVID-19 Recovery Program.

With support from Minderoo Foundation through the Regional Arts Network initiative, the Network will support skills development and travel expenses for artists throughout the project.

For more information on the Regional Arts Network visit regionalartswa.org.au/programs/regional-arts-network/

For more information on Ebb+Flow visit northmidlands.org.au/ebbflow

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Australian Government
Regional Arts Fund



The Regional Arts Network is proudly supported by Munderoo Foundation and The Ian Potter Foundation, and with funding from the Australian Government's Regional Arts Fund.

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SUPPORT MATERIAL

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

Looking to change the way the regional arts sector talks 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 the Network Residency and Touring Project

The Network Residency and Touring Project is an outcome of the Regional Arts Network, an initiative driven by Regional Arts WA. *Ebb+Flow* was formed through North Midlands Project, and adopted by the Regional Arts Network. The inaugural theme is *Ebb+Flow* and is based in the Mid West. During 2021, ten artists from around the state will be undertaking a four week residency in the North Midlands exploring the theme "ebb and flow". Each residency will include seven community workshops to be held in different towns, schools, hospitals and at *Culture + Arts Community Days*. www.northmidlands.org.au/ebflow

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

Minderoo Foundation is a modern philanthropic organisation that takes on tough, persistent issues with the potential to drive massive change. Minderoo is independent, forward thinking and seeks effective, scalable solutions. The Foundation is proudly Australian, and one of Asia's largest philanthropies, with AUD \$1.5 billion committed to a range of global initiatives. Our team comprises over 75 employees across seven locations.

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/