

## MEDIA RELEASE

13 October 2020

### Celebrating First Nations arts and culture in regional Western Australia

*First Nations arts and culture projects will receive an investment of up to \$15,000 each through the Regional Arts Resilience Grants program, funded through the State Government's Regional Arts and Culture Investment Program (RACIP) and delivered by Regional Arts WA.*

The delivery of these projects will provide immediate support to regional communities throughout WA in their recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, re-engaging people through arts and culture activities.

- **FIFO - the play. Production premiere in Broome at Goolarri Media's Gimme Venue** - A co-production between Goolarri Media and Yirra Yaakin to develop and premiere the production of the contemporary new Indigenous play 'FIFO - Fit in or F...k Off!' by Melody Dia and directed by Yirra Yaakin Theatre Company's Artistic Director, Eva Grace Mullaley.
- **The Memory of Forgetting (previously known as 'Scones with Nanna')** - Gwendolyn Knox will complete story boarding, script development of at least 3 drafts of a script for a theatre work titled 'The Memory of Forgetting'.
- **'Guddir Guddir' at Shinju Matsuri** - Marrugeku launched its pivot to COVID-19 recovery with a presentation of its new multichannel 15 minute dance video installation, "Gudirr Gudirr." At Shinju Matsuri Festival in Broome.
- **Contemporary Aboriginal designs to be reproduced on clothing and accessories range** - Kimberley artist, Bianca Crake, will be supported to convert her artworks onto printed fabrics and launch her own fashion range.

Kimberley artist Bianca Crake will be supported to launch her own fashion range, the Jaru Girl Fashion collection, as part of her creative recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. The project facilitates involvement from a wide range of local community members: Local photographer Sarah Duguid will conduct a photo shoot featuring young First Nations models on country. The models and hairdresser will also be sourced from the East Kimberley, and Bianca plans to invite the Wyndham and Kununurra communities to witness the collection's debut fashion show.

Bianca says this project will enhance her own professional skills and development as an emerging Aboriginal artist; "Jaru is my identity, I feel it is very important that I stay strong to my identity as an Aboriginal woman."

"This project has been my dream for many years and now it is coming true thanks to [the Regional Arts Resilience Grants]."

The Regional Arts Resilience Grants program is now open until 26 November, or until funding is exhausted. The grants offer up to \$15,000 to support creative development, community engagement and capacity building activities which will sustain creative practises in the wake of COVID-19.

To view the full list of successful applicants thus far or to apply for the next rounds of the Regional Arts Resilience Grants program, please head to our website: [www.regionalartswa.org.au/funding](http://www.regionalartswa.org.au/funding)

The RACIP is administered by the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries.

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Department of **Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries**

Department of **Primary Industries and Regional Development**

## **SUPPORT MATERIAL**

### **Regional Arts Resilience Grants Round 1 Grants Recipients**

#### **Artzability Short Film Festival | South West | Funding Allocated: \$13,120**

Artzability will employ eight local artists to support Artzability participants to develop up to 8 short films over 18 weeks of 4-hour workshops. Outcome will be to host a Short Film Festival, exploring the theme of inclusivity, presented for the community at the Margaret River HEART. Local groups, artists and schools will also be invited to create and submit short films for the festival, promoting local artists, engaging wider community and encouraging people to explore disabilities and inclusivity.

#### **Contemporary Aboriginal designs to be reproduced on clothing and accessories range | Kimberley | Funding Allocated: \$15,000**

Kimberley artist, Bianca Crake, will be supported to convert her artworks onto printed fabrics and launch her own fashion range. Bianca will work with Linda Molendijk in the creation of the printed fabric and will engage a professional photographer to conduct a photo shoot featuring young Aboriginal models on country.

#### **Community Painting and Art Workshops | South West | Funding Allocated: \$12,475**

Carmen McFaull will deliver community painting and art workshops to provide a comprehensive guide to creating specific themed paintings on paper, canvas or boards. Each project will include reference material discussion, include practice studies and some may involve "plein air" activities. The timeframe varies, depending on each specific program and personnel from the community; Programme allows for a thorough exploration of painting methods and processes in a relaxed environment. There will also be time allocated for evaluation of artwork whilst in progress and at its conclusion. Constructive feedback will be encouraged in a positive affirming manner from both myself and the other participants. Possibilities to exhibit paintings can be available.

#### **Denmark Early Music Summer Workshops | Great Southern | Funding Allocated: \$14,000**

Denmark Baroque Inc will provide an opportunities for 8 local resident (Great Southern) musicians to access the Denmark Early Music Summer Workshops. The workshops consist of masterclasses, ensemble work and live performance with professional tutors. They will support four students between the ages of 18 and 24 and four of working age (25 and 65) with their tuition fees. Two scholarships will be offered in each of the following areas: Strings, Woodwind/Double reed, Keyboard, Voice.

#### **Great Southern Creatives Directory | Great Southern | Funding Allocated: \$15,000**

Emma Davis will be supported in the development and delivery of an artist directory for the Great Southern Region of Western Australia. The directory will provide a comprehensive and searchable database of individuals, collectives, and organisations which are involved in the creative industries. It is the intention of the directory to bridge the gap between creatives and those that would seek to engage them in work both paid and unpaid. Currently no directory exists for the Great Southern Region, however it is a tool that is repeatedly requested by creatives, organisations, and the community.

#### **'Guddir Guddir' at Shinju Matsuri | Kimberley | Funding Allocated: \$15,000**

Marrugeku launched, as a key part of its pivot to COVID-19 recovery, its new multichannel 15 minute dance video installation, "Gudirr Gudirr", directed by Vernon Ah Kee, at Shinju Matsuri in Broome, September 2020. The work features a 3-channel triptych, with stereo sound and additional text panels

on two other walls produced by Felix Media - an independent film production company specialising in exceptional multi-screen installation works with artists.

**JOSHUA Music Artist Creative Development | Great Southern | Funding Allocated: \$14,685**

Singer, songwriter, producer JOSHUA (Joshua Brew) will work on the creative development of five original, release-ready songs that will establish JOSHUA as an emerging WA artist. The development will be a collaboration with MSQUARED (Michael Delorenzis & Michael Paynter, songwriters/producers), Cam Nacson (songwriter/producer) and Rahel Phillips (vocal and artist coach), supporting the music production and mastering of the songs to make them ready for consumption, establishing JOSHUA as an exciting emerging artist.

**Live Streaming Development and Capacity Building | Mid West | Funding Allocated: \$14,990**

Funtavia Inc. will engage an experienced live streaming mentor from Kalgoorlie- Boulder to run, coach, and mentor artists and producers who would normally produce work for the Funtavia Festival in Geraldton. With the aim to effectively COVID-proof the local arts community by teaching and developing skills in the use of online streaming equipment, and creating content to be experienced through this platform reaching audiences regardless of COVID conditions.

**Manjimup Bluegrass & Old Time Music Weekend presented by Act-Belong-Commit | South West | Funding Allocated: \$15,000**

There will be bluegrass jams and buskers and stalls in Brockman Street on Saturday till 2.30pm, followed by a concert featuring Bluegrass Parkway at the Manjimup Town Hall. There'll be music workshops throughout the weekend, a Gospel SingOut on Sunday morning and performances by The Wayward Earls, The Lost Followers and on Sunday night a blackboard concert featuring musicians who have come for the weekend.

**Marri Tree Girl | South West | Funding Allocated: \$14,850**

Three award winning Margaret River artists will engage in a collaborative period of professional development. Puppet maker and writer Sky River proposes working with digital media specialist Danny Jennings and environmental researcher and extraordinary paper cut/collage artist Katarina Meister, to develop a short animation showcasing and exploring the South West Marri and Balga (grass tree). Using the symbolic language of myth, the artists will experiment with unique methods and story to explore Marri Canker disease and the interrelated natural world. Funding would both enable the artists to spend time developing skills and purchase materials.

**Re-write the Book | Kimberley | Funding Allocated: \$7,600**

Re-write the Book is a community art project that asks participants to use a book as the raw material for an artwork that re-imagines their narrative, retells their story and determines how they would like to present their thoughts and ideas. Kimberley Arts Network will engage professional artist and trainer, Jacky Cheng to deliver 9 workshops to the community and the exhibition of the artworks produced at the Broome Public Library during Mental Health Week (10 - 17 October).

**South West Festival of Japan | South West | Funding Allocated: \$15,000**

The South West Festival of Japan is a 10 day festival celebrating the arts and culture of Japan, Bunbury's longstanding relationship with their Sister City in Setagaya, and encourages interaction and engagement so that community members can touch, smell, hear and see Japan. The Festival includes two hanami parties (outdoor picnic) with live entertainment by local and Perth based artists, a number of arts workshops, Japanese food, and a Japanese Film Festival. The funds will be used to engage

regional artists in York, Busselton, Mandurah and Perth, cover their transportation and accommodation cost, project materials, venue and equipment hire.

#### **Studying Art Licensing | South West | Funding Allocated: \$15,000**

Alicia Rogerson will undertake a series professional development opportunities held by experienced art licensing agents or artists to expand her knowledge and ability to engage further in the field of art licensing. It will be a dive into how artwork can be licensed to appear on products including books (botanical illustration, children's books, cover art), magazines (editorial), clothing, surface design (clothing, fabric, homewares) and products (homewares, stationery, wall art, toys). Alicia will engage mentors to review her current portfolio and help form action plans for improvement.

#### **South West jazz album and concert series | South West | Funding Allocated: \$14,994**

Cassandra Charlick will undertake a creative development of a new body of work with local artists culminating in the production of an album in a regional studio. The album will be used to promote their work and provide income now that many of regular gigs have been cancelled for the foreseeable future. It will also be used as the focus and 'hook' for a series of regional jazz concerts to celebrate the launch of the album and new creative work.

#### **The Memory of Forgetting (previously known as 'Scones with Nanna') | Kimberley | Funding Allocated: \$13,090**

Gwendolyn Knox will complete story boarding, script development of at least 3 drafts of a script for a theatre work titled 'The Memory of Forgetting'. Gwen will work with North of Ireland theatre director and dramaturg Paula McFetridge of Kabosh Theatre, Belfast, who specialises helping create positive social change, giving voice to the marginalised through story-gathering and creating provocative participatory projects, in theatres and found spaces. All work will be done online and in isolation of their respective offices on either side of the world.

### **Regional Arts Resilience Grants Round 2 Grants Recipients**

#### **Activating Youth Arts in the Shire of Ravensthorpe | Goldfields-Esperance | Funding Allocated: \$15,000**

The Ravensthorpe Regional Arts Council will run an after school arts activity program for youth to support their development of new skills and encourage participation in creative activities that are not normally offered. Artists will facilitate 3 x 6 week after school workshops in Term 4 of 2020 and Terms 1 & 2 in 2021. Artists will enhance their project management capacity by working with the Rave About Arts Team and participating in Train the Trainer workshops with Euphorium Creative.

#### **Art in the Park (AIP) presented as part of 2021 Ord Valley Muster (OVM) program | Kimberley | Funding Allocated: \$15,000**

Ord Valley Events will coordinate Art In The Park: An open-air gallery, shining a spotlight on 30 Indigenous and non-Indigenous artists from the East Kimberley as part of the 2021 Ord Valley Muster. This is an opportunity for guests to meander through the park and discover arts created with various mediums, including traditional ochres, fabrics, pottery and didgeridoos.

They will have the opportunity to interact with creatives and learn from Indigenous artists, as they reveal strong cultural and spiritual links between people and Country. The evening includes culturally informative stations such as bush medicine, hunting, bushfoods, traditional ochres and dancing. This

will be the first event in the East Kimberley where multiple art centres and galleries work together to showcase the region and bring communities together.

**Capel Makers Trail | South West | Funding Allocated: \$14,900**

The Capel Makers Trail is a local makers and artisans Trail that will run for 3 days from Friday 21 May to Sunday 23 May 2021. The Trail will bring artists and makers together into the heart of their community centres and branch out to include maker businesses and the opportunity to 'visit' with makers in their home studios. Meet the maker, learn their story, be inspired by "Makers Making". Along the Trail there are many opportunities to buy art and artisanal products.

**CovidArt - A Mukinbudin Youth Art Project | Wheatbelt | Funding Allocated: \$14,970**

The Shire of Mukinbudin will engage artist Sioux Tempestt who will work alongside local youth to create public artworks around Mukinbudin. As part of the project Sioux will deliver a Youth Mural Mentorship Program that incorporates creative workshops, education in the design process and elements, teamwork, and onsite installation of collaborative public artworks. The project will culminate in a community celebration at the Mukinbudin Caravan Park.

**FIFO - the play. To premiere its production in Broome at Goolarri Media's Gimme Venue | Kimberley | Funding Allocated: \$14,000**

A co-production between Goolarri Media and Yirra Yaakin to develop and premiere the production of the contemporary new Indigenous play 'FIFO - Fit in or F...k Off!' by Melody Dia and directed by Yirra Yaakin Theatre Company's Artistic Director, Eva Grace Mullaley. The play has emerged out of Goolarri Media's innovative Indigenous Writers Program and is the first Indigenous play to premiere in its own home town since Bran Nu Dae thirty years ago.

**In their footprints: A guide to Noongar bush knowledge | South West | Funding Allocated: \$12,394**

Glen Stringberg will work with a local First Nations Elder Ken Ninyette to create an online bush tucker series with 8 entertaining short online videos on traditional bush skills and food in the Southwest of Western Australia. The videos will showcase cultural knowledge and will be an opportunity to pass on the knowledge of the Noongar people to future generations of Australians.

**Interwoven - Rethreading our social fabric in a time of pandemic | South West | Funding Allocated: \$15,000**

Southern Forest Arts will engage 50+ artists & arts workers to work with the residents in a dynamic series of activities over 9 months to rethread the social fabric of the region in response to the isolating and fragmentary experience of Covid-19. Across five towns, and a range of gathering sizes from intimate to large, Interwoven will support individual and collective exploration of local identity, shared heritage and future dreaming. Over 9 months Southern Forest Arts will deliver 8 exhibitions, 7 performances, 3 film screenings, 10 public artworks and 1 residency.

**'LIFE' - A Collaborative Music for Resilience Project by THE NOMADICS | South West | Funding Allocated: \$14,880**

Rebecca Schofield will engage several key regional artists and her band The Nomadics in a collaborative music project to produce and record a new album titled 'Life'. The project will also consist of producing film clips for online audiences and will engage with mentors to enhance their marketing strategy and social media management plan for the launch of the album.

**'Nugget' - Creative Development 2020/2021 – Design | South West | Funding Allocated: \$14,700**

Anthony Coxeter will develop a stage-work 'Nugget' in collaboration with the grand-daughter of H.C. 'Nugget' Coombs, Susan-Moylan Coombs. Susan is a Gurindji-Woolwonga woman raised on Gaimaragal land as a member of the Stolen Generations. This project will connect the history of the South West to the national conversation of Treaty through the life of Nugget Coombs, whose formative years were spent in Bridgetown and surrounds. Nuggets early experiences as a teacher in the rural South West with its majority of Indigenous students, were often cited as crucial touchstones for his tireless work in Indigenous affairs that would also influence Susan's life profoundly.

**Southwest Filipino Community Arts Festival 2020 | South West | Funding Allocated: \$15,000**

The South West Filipino Community Arts Festival will be a culmination of performances, outdoor exhibition, and Philippine cultural arts from artists from the South West region. The festival will encourage community groups from diverse backgrounds to participate in arts and culture activities that will provide opportunities for social, cultural & economic development.

**The Beauty Index | Peel | Funding Allocated: \$15,000**

The Mandurah Performing Arts Centre will engage Annette Carmichael and soloist/footballer Carl Heslop with the delivery of the Beauty Index working with men in the community to run a series of taster workshops. Participants in the workshops will experience the style of dance and discuss the themes of the project. Annette and Carl will also meet with community groups to talk about the health and social benefits of men dancing. The outcome will be a performance piece to the wider community.

**This is Where | South West | Funding Allocated: \$15,000**

Siobhan Maiden will research and write a script for a site-specific theatrical production about Bunbury. 'This is Where' will celebrate the micro stories of people's relationship to specific places in town. The play will be a verbatim theatre production, where actors will perform the stories shared by locals.

The project will interview fifty people about 'a place' in Bunbury that holds special significance to them because of what occurred there. Siobhan will engage a Dramaturg and Script Editor to adapt interviews into a script of vignettes for actors to perform at the various locations in Bunbury, rather than in a theatre.

**"Wuyurpa" (working title), a multi-sensory exhibition about cultural significance of languages | South West | Funding Allocated: \$14,991**

The project will support Martine Perret with the creative development of a multi-sensory exhibition titled 'Wuyurpa' (meaning 'feelings' in Pitjantjatjarra language). The exhibition will highlight and bring attention to the cultural significance of Australia's Indigenous languages with the upcoming focus on UNESCO's International Decade of Indigenous Languages in 2022.

Martine will collaborate with Indigenous Elder Women (who speak endangered languages in regional and remote communities of Western Australia and Northern Territory), and with respected artists Dalisa Pigram (Choreographer) and Jonathan Mustard (Composer).

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### **About Regional Arts WA**

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](http://www.regionalartswa.org.au)

### **Regional Arts and Culture Investment Program**

Regional Arts Resilience Grants are provided through the Regional Arts and Culture Investment Program with support of the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries, with Royalties for Regions funding from the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development. The purpose of the program is creating jobs, economic development, tourism and improving social cohesion by supporting the creative and cultural industries in regional Western Australia. Through strategic investments, the program aims to build capacity in the regions and contribute to liveability and vibrancy of regional communities.